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First name: Trent

Last name: Brooks

Organization: Pokonobe Lodge & Marina

Title: Owner

Comments: As a business owner and home owner in Mammoth Lakes for over 30 years I am acutely aware of how fragile our local environs are, both economically and ecologically. We are very dependent upon visitors to the Eastern Sierra who come to recreate, enjoy the beautiful surroundings and spend money at local businesses. Every effort must be made to ensure that these visitors choose to become repeat generational Visitors to the region. In addition to violating the special landscape around Hot Creek, allowing any form of strip mining near this location would be an incremental disincentive for visitors to return to the area. The Hot Creek area is a valuable asset that must be protected for the public's enjoyment of fishing, hiking and sightseeing. If such a project is approved, it cannot be reversed and this beautiful section of the Eastern Sierra will be damaged forever. Please don't let this happen. People need nature in its purest form, not a mining project.