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Comments: To even consider mining in this area in the midst of a drought year, in an area so rich in natural beauty, but a long history of mismanagement of water, is unconscionable. My family history in Owens valley goes back several generations, from my grandfather who helped build the Dow Villa hotel in the 30's, my father who was a close personal friend of Rev John J Crowley in the 40's. I now have family members living in Bishop. I've personally spent countless hours in the valley and canyons east and west of Hot Creek. This place is sacred. PLEASE nip this idea in the bud! There is no place in this environment for speculative drilling to determine if there are any minerals worth exploiting. Stop it now!