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Organization:

Title:

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Inyo National Forest

To Whom It May Concern,

As a resident of Inyo County and frequent visitor to Mono County, I'm writing to voice my opposition to the categorical exclusion for this Long Valley mining exploration project! The construction of fourteen drilling pads, 30 by 50 feet in size, along with access road construction is unacceptable in this scenic area, home to the at-risk sage grouse, mule deer and many other wild and amazing flora and fauna! This proposed project will produce noise pollution, dust, air pollution and decimate habitat.

Because Mono County's main source of income is tourism, this seems to me to be an especially crazy project to allow. This would scar the land and cause a huge number of tourists, including the many who fish here, to go elsewhere rather than enjoying the quiet beauty Hot Creek offers.

If a sufficient amount of gold IS discovered here, the destruction of this scenic area by a large scale mining operation would be even more devastating than the drilling project. In addition to noise and air pollution, water quality would be compromised as well! In an area already struggling to have sufficient water for existing purposes and needs (which climate change will only exacerbate), sacrificing our precious water resource would be unwise

I implore you to stop this project and preserve the high quality of life we all know and love. Thank you,

Coral Henderson