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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Coronado National Forest:

The sale of this ecologically sensitive land on Coronado NF to a mining company should be stopped. Mining in this region has already irreversibly effected the water, community, and some habitats (including that of the Mexican Spotted Owl). The Patagonia Mountains are home to many threatened and endangered species and the Forest Service needs to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding the potential sale's impacts on all affected threatened and endangered species and their designated critical habitats before the sale is to be approved.

Further, if this proposed Small Tracts Act sale were to go through, access to, use, and enjoyment of National Forest land by the general public will be unduly impeded and restricted. The Patagonia Mountains have long been used for public recreation by residents from all over Arizona and many people also travel from far and wide to enjoy the natural beauty, star gazing, wildlife, hiking, mountain biking, off-roading, and camping that the area has to offer.

In addition, the Patagonia Mountains have been home to multiple Indigenous people groups for thousands of years, and the Forest Service should first consult with any Indian Tribes that attach religious or cultural significance to the sites prior to approving the proposed sale.

I hereby reference comments filed by Patagonia Resource Alliance and include those comments as issues of concern for me individually.

Thank you for your consideration,
Maura Buckley