Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/27/2022 12:06:20 PM
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Comments: As a forestry professional and an avid outdoors person, I am completely opposed to the use of Public Lands as a depository for mining tailings or on any lands where such activities or storage could result in contamination of land or water resources.

The by-products of mining are well known for their contribution to irreversible environmental destruction. Once these contaminants have entered groundwater, there is little that can be done to eradicate the damage or decontaminate the watershed. Such activities are therefore incompatible with the management intent of our treasured public lands as well as the management of our watersheds.