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Comments: "No mining, milling, or processing is proposed as part of this Project" Key words being AS PART OF THIS PROJECT. What happens when they find gold? This is a slippery slope headed right towards stripping of the land and a full scale operation taking place which would have a major impact on our region. Of course there would be positives, but how many of those positives (\$\$\$) would remain here in the Black Hills? My prediction would be a major organization like Barrick Gold would take over after the drilling finds significant enough evidence to make this area worthwhile to mine. They would then run a major marketing campaign announcing how many millions of dollars and jobs this new claim would bring to the area. Locals who don't know any better, and the major land owners in the surrounding area would see paychecks in front of their eyes and go along with the plan. 15 years later we would be left with a polluted water supply, destroyed a beautiful part of the Black Hills, and Barrick will have moved on to their next site. Maybe that is an exaggeration, but it's not impossible right? The USFS and BHNF would be much better off finding sustainable ways to bring tourism here, building trails, maintaining trails, trying to compete with major areas like Grand Junction, Durango, Moab etc. We should not be selling off our precious land to the highest bidder to do with what they please, we should be capitalizing on what we have and making it more beautiful.

Thank you.