Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/1/2023 1:59:54 PM
First name: River
Last name: Junge
Organization:
Title:
Comments: This and any other mining, or "mining exploration" projects will always be an absolute no for me. I cannot see any reason why in this day and age that we live in that we would allow things like this to continue to be done to the earth. There are so many reasons not to allow more damage to be done to the Black Hills than is already being done with over use of OHVs and over logging, and now the consideration of mining that would undoubtedly damage land and water. The risks to the people and animals that live in this area when the water and land become contaminated from this or any other mining project is enough to put a stop to it in my opinion. This would affect the drinking water for communities in the Black Hills, and why we would ever risk damaging our clean water for the possible extraction of gold is beyond me. You can't drink gold. You don't need it to survive. We don't need this here in the Black Hills. Aside from the water issue, tourism is the life blood of every community in this area, who is going to want to come visit when the water is polluted, and the land destroyed?! Take away tourism and this area becomes even more strained for economic resources than it already is. If the people who live in the communities of the Black Hills having clean water isn't a big enough reason to say no to this project, perhaps the one thing that seems to matter most to people (the economy) is. Part of what makes living here, and visiting here so special is the clean and beautiful water and land for recreation. Please do not risk these things for the communities it will affect simply for the sake of money and gold. The Black Hills are a sacred, precious, and beautiful area. Preserving places like this from further destruction and damage should be priority number one for the Forest Service. After all what is the Forest Service, if it's not here to serve the forest, to protect and preserve it? Less damage, less impact, less greed, more quiet, more care, more connection to wild places is what this world needs right now. Please act on behalf of the people of this area, the people who's land was stolen from them, and the land and water itself. Say no to all mining, or mining exploration projects in the the Black Hills.