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Comments: Thank you so much for initiating this proposal to withdrawal National Forest System Lands in the Pactola Reservoir - Rapid Creek Watershed from the adverse impacts of minerals exploration and development. This is a small step towards greater resilience and sustainability of Black Hills resources. Unfortunately, the reach of mining will extend well past the proposed area, and additional action is required to fully protect this vital resource and the people who use it. The Rapid Creek watershed extends approximately 198,000 acres from its dual headwaters on tributaries of the North Fork of Rapid Creek and tributaries of the South Fork of Castle Creek above Deerfield Reservoir. This proposal only extends protection to 20,574 acres, a mere 10% of the watershed. Leaving upstream water unprotected will defeat the purpose when those headwaters end up carrying mining runoff into Jenny Gulch and ultimately into Pactola Reservoir. Dangerous mining exploration is already taking place near Rochford where a crystal clear Rapid Creek flows through with small wild brown trout and the Mickelson Trail running alongside. With gold prices on the rise, it is only a matter of time before additional companies join the fray of claim activity. If we want to protect Pactola Reservoir and the Rapid Creek watershed, we need to extend those protection upstream! Protecting Pactola is a great place to start, but it will never accomplish the goals stated in the withdrawal proposal. This is our water and our fisheries. People rely on this watershed for drinking water and wildlife rely on it for habitat. Mining does not belong in the Black Hills. Water is more valuable than gold. Thank you.