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Comments: The public interest in clean water must take precedence over the profit interests of mining companies. The public needs real mining reform to prevent degradation of clean water by mining operations past, present, and future. Has had a documented history of contaminating drinking water and destroying pristine environments, endangering the health of people and ecosystems. Over the years, in challenges to mining permits, the courts have repeatedly said that the 1872 General Mining Law makes hardrock mining the highest and best use of the public land not explicitly reserved for another purpose. While there is a collaborative effort involving representatives from States, Tribes, the Mining Industry, Environmental Groups, Legal Experts, and the current White House Administration to discuss much-needed reform to outdated 1872 mining law the much-needed changes will take time. Therefore, protecting an area around Lake Pactola from exploration and mining for the next 20 years is essential. The profit interests of corporations cannot be allowed to take precedence over the interests the critical needs of the public.