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Comments: I do not feel that the drainage above Pactola Reservoir needs to be protected as there are already a multitude of laws and regulations to protect it. I worked with Homestake Mining Company when we were diamond drilling around the Standby Mine on Rapid Creek with no issues. In fact, that area has been drilled off and on since 1960 with no issues. This area that is being explored over and over again is all Precambrian rocks which does not contain any aquifers. There is probably a much bigger danger from leaking septic systems as well as drainage of pesticides and fertilizers from yards around new houses.

Please do not close this area off to mineral exploration.