Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/4/2023 12:12:51 PM
First name: David
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: Much like people who like to mountain bike, snowmobile, fish and hunt I like to prospect for gold. I get to explore. I get to spend quality time with my friend. I get plenty of exercise, plenty of fresh air and I have a dream of finding some crevice out there filled with gold that the old timers missed. I dig with a shovel I bought at a hardware store. I have my 4ft sluice box and my gold pan.
I have been prospecting at Silver City for years. I haven't heard or seen anything on the local media about how "that guy" sluicing and gold panning a 5-gallon bucket of material up at Silver City has caused unclean drinking water 23.9 miles away in Rapid City and Ellsworth. In fact, most folks don't even know I'm up there! Realistically I'm thinking mother nature puts more mud and other debris in that creek during one thunderstorm than I can create with my sluice or gold pan. I'm also thinking about all the chemicals and garbage that get washed off the streets and highways that end up in streams and creeks: including Rapid Creek our source of "clean" water. Clean water is important to me.
My concern is the proposed mineral withdrawal. I do not think the answer is to withdraw minerals. I am not in favor of drilling. But I am also not in favor of mineral withdrawal.