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First name: Christine

Last name: McCart

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my concern at proposed locations for exploratory drilling proposed for the Golden Crest Exploration Mining Project on the western Limestone Plateau. It is my understanding that several of the proposed locations are in the heart of the main recreational corridor for Spearfish, SD (My former home for 18 years). Specially, I have heard that sites may impact the Tinton Trail and Big Hill Trail Systems.

The Forest Service manages for multiple use. Extractive use has its place, but not at the expense of a well-used, well-loved recreation corridor for locals and, increasingly, tourists. Spearfish's slogan is "naturally inviting." As outdoor recreation use of natural lands increase, as documented by the Outdoor Industry annual reports, so does the economic impact of these activities. Impacts to the northern hills recreation corridor would have detrimental impacts to the local economy. Mining typically has a short-term economic gain for a few. Further, this recreation corridor has already been heavily impacted by timber and weather events.

If I had more time I'd write more eloquently. Thank you for listening to my concerns about the Golden Crest Exploration Mining Project.

Chris McCart

Former Assistant Professor of Outdoor Education

Black Hills State University

Current Assistant Professor of Interpretation

University of Wisconsin Stevens Point