

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/25/2023 2:25:47 AM

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Organization:

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Comments: My husband and I are from the area and moved back home after school because of the great outdoor activities and clean "hidden gems" Spearfish is unlike any of the numerous areas we've traveled, we've hiked and biked all over the United States from the east coast to Colorado, California, and Oregon. Spearfish has consistently been the area you can get away from civilization and see clean natural beauty that hasn't been defiled. Even as close as Wyoming and Colorado you consistently see graffiti on rocks, trash along paths and construction and power lines and hear the hustle and bustle of cities that are constantly infringing on natural areas. Spearfish and the Big Hill trail system are clean, gorgeous and still maintain their natural beauty, while I'm told the mining would not directly affect the trails, the mining and road infrastructure would be seen and heard and affect the natural isolated feel. Even if no mining ends up happening the exploration would be highly detrimental to the beauty. In addition there is the issue of affecting water supply. I am honestly shocked that Spearfish Canyon and it's surrounding areas are not protected/part of a conservation unit. "Unique and unparalleled elsewhere in our country" were the words used by America's greatest architect, Frank Lloyd Wright, when he visited Spearfish Canyon in September 1935. It is an area of great tourism attraction and the number one thing people comment on when they state their reason for moving to the area. Allowing this project to move forward would be detrimental to the beauty, the tourism, the future growth and potentially to the safety of our town and should not be allowed to happen.