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First name: Don Last name: Nelson Organization:

Title:

Comments: I oppose all mining including the Solitario Zinc gold exploration drilling project that may take place in and above Spearfish Canyon.

I have hiked, fished, and hunted in the Canyon and on those tributaries running into Spearfish Creek. Spending days and evenings at Iron Creek Lake since the late 1950s remain some of my best memories.

This scenic area and the water it provides to communities is critical to the economy and the well being of those living in the area.

This area deserves a full Environmental Impact Statement on this project hopefully resulting in the rejection of the Solitario proposal.

Once a watershed is destroyed, it is very difficult if not impossible to restore to its pristine place in our environment.