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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a former State Representative I have a good feel for the thoughts and attitudes of residents of District. 31 (Lawrence County). The proposed prospecting area is directly on top of the most heavily used recreation area in the county. To pass this permitting process through without the most rigorous examination would be short sighted and not in the interest of the bulk of the people that live here. Gold extraction is a one time use of our national forest that is constituted to be a land of many uses. This land is already serving our county in valuable and sustainable ways and that is public recreation, watershed acreage, and sustainable forestry. If you compare the present and future value of the current use of this land to the one time extraction of gold for the profit of one company you will find the economic benefits of the current usage far outweigh the dollars a land changing mine might yield over its several year life. Please support an EIS on this precious land.