Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/8/2023 6:35:59 PM First name: Jeff Last name: Young Organization:

Title:

Comments: I think this is deserving of a full NEPA study. It's hard to understate the significance of this area for local recreation, opportunities to experience the unique nature of the northern Black Hills, and it's also a haven for locally important plants, a refuge for migrating and breeding birds, as well important for the local economy through recreation tourism and cattle grazing. Considering the vast range of stakeholders and environmental importance of this area, all due diligence should be completed with the utmost rigor before accepting any impactful action in the area. Additionally, it's worth knowing what impact any mining activity could have on drinking water and/or water for otherwise pristine mountain streams in the Black Hills that are home to locally rare species like the american dipper, as well supporting important species like the bald eagle, as well as supporting trout for recreational fishing.