Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/9/2023 12:20:31 AM First name: Blaithin Last name: Meagher Organization:

Title:

Comments: As we continue to see the impact we as humans have wreaked upon the earth and its natural state, it is incredibly important that we do anything in our power to give back to the earth what it has given to us. I, therefore, ask that you decide to approve, say YES, to the Pactola Reservoir-Rapid Creek Watershed Withdrawal. If this decision is made it will not only positively impact the environment, it will also show to those who would exploit this land that there are those who will fight for it.

I would also encourage the Forest Service to do an Environmental Assessment (EA) and then a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

Mining causes significant environmental impact, not only on aspects such as water pollution, but also on the cultures who are the purveyors of this land. It is important to return these lands not only to their natural state but also back into the hands of those who have cared for them for centuries.

I hope you will take this into consideration.