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First name: Dennis

Last name: Schwarzauer

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I support the Pactola area mineral withdrawal! I also support expanding the area covered by the withdrawal to include all federal lands in the Black Hills. Tell the Forest Service that these sacred lands, which nourish so many Native and non-Native communities downstream with clean water, should be preserved and pristine forever. The Pactola Reservoir provides fresh water and a beautiful place for South Dakotans to experience natural wonders. We have to act now to ensure this area of the sacred He Sapa isn't polluted by mining.

I want the Forest Service to say YES to the Pactola Reservoir-Rapid Creek Watershed Withdrawal.

I want the Forest Service to please do an Environmental Assessment (EA).

I want a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) when the EA has been completed. This is important for water quality and cultural values, such as keeping the water free of toxic pollutants, respecting the sacred lands of the Lakota People, and preserving the site for recreation.

We are NOT asking for a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and instead we want an EA.

Please consider and honor the rights of indigenous peoples who have been marginalized for centuries.

Regards,

Dennis Schwarzauer