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First name: Erin

Last name: Cleere

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I strongly 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. These lands are sacred to the Lakota people and nourish many Native and non-Native communities downstream with clean water. They should be preserved and protected forever - especially in the face of both climate and extinction crises. Specifically, I would like the Forest Service to say YES to the Pactola Reservoir-Rapid Creek Watershed Withdrawal, and to do an Environmental Assessment (EA).

Once the EA has been completed, I ask for a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). Please note that I am not asking for an EIS, but the faster, less laborious process of an EA. These lands and waters must be protected for the environment, communities, to preserve (and improve) water quality and wildlife. Thank you for your consideration of my comments.