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Comments: Please say YES to the Pactola Reservoir-Rapid Creek Watershed Withdrawal. The preservation and livelihood of the plants, animals, and people who depend on the water provided for by these bodies should take precedent over mineral extraction that harms not only the land and those who live upon it, but deprives visitors and future generations from enjoying its natural beauty.

Consider the life living in the lake, the fish people catch, the potential to poison people, to induce sicknesses and cancers. The withdrawal of miners from the area is a matter of public safety.

If this isn't in itself convincing, I urge you to do an Environmental Assessment, even do a Finding of No Significant Impact after to ensure that the withdrawal of miners from the land really has no significant environmental impact.

This is also a matter of justice and respect toward the Lakota people. Its not just that these lands are sacred, its that they're part of their community, their family, in itself deserving of the care and dignity as any one individual.

People grow up here. They live and die and are buried here alongside their families. The Lakota people, and anyone else who's made this area their home, deserve clean water and an environment free of toxic contamination.