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Comments: I am writing to add my support to the voices calling for the US Forest Service to say yes to the Pactola Reservoir-Rapid Creek Watershed Withdrawal. We have so few spaces in our country which are truly preserved from the negative impacts of human-produced waste and development. And as I know you are aware, watersheds are particularly fragile and vulnerable - the contamination or destruction of our waters causes impacts through the area. I've driven through the region before and fallen in love with the beauty and peace that can be found. I want to one day be able to bring my nieces and nephews there as well, and teach them to also honor and respect our lands. Additionally, I believe it is about time we begin to show our Lakota cousins the respect we continually take from them. These lands are sacred to them, and are being well cared for by them. Supporting the preservation of these lands will help heal some of the divides we've created and begin to right some of the wrongs done to our indigenous neighbors.

In addition to agreeing to the withdrawal, I would ask the Forest Service to also do an Environmental Assessment and upon completion, conduct a Finding of No Significant Impact. I also support expanding the area covered by the withdrawal to include all federal lands in the Black Hills.

Thank you for your time.