

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/16/2023 10:00:12 AM

First name: Kristin

Last name: Arioli

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Pactola Reservoir provides fresh water and a beautiful place for South Dakotans and all Americans to experience natural wonders. I believe the Forest Service should say YES to the Pactola Reservoir-Rapid Creek Watershed Withdrawal.

To this end, the Forest Service should do an Environmental Assessment (EA). Upon its completion I encourage the Forest Service to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

I am in support of the mineral withdrawal as doing so will 1) improve water quality by keeping the water free of toxic pollutants, 2) recognize the cultural values of the Lakota People by respecting their sacred lands, and 3) preserve the site for recreation.

I also support expanding the area covered by the withdrawal to include all federal lands in the Black Hills. These are sacred lands, which nourish so many Native and non-Native communities downstream with clean water and should be preserved and pristine forever.

Thank you.