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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a proponent of the proposed Pactola Reservoir / Rapid Creek mineral withdrawal. I attended the public meeting in Rapid City on June 28 and listened to so many like-minded people speaking in favor of this proposal, and so very few opposed. Dozens spoke, and even sang about what the Black Hills and the withdrawal area (and other threatened areas, like Custer and Spearfish) meant to them, their families, and their ancestors. Watching and listening a thought occurred to me that may seem rather unsophisticated or even puerile, but it is genuine and I feel it in my heart, so I decided I would make it the main point of my comment. My home is built in an area downstream from the proposed mining zones, but my home isn't the actual proposed mining zones themselves, as it is for the countless flora and fauna of the area. They have no voice in this matter. Their voice never seems to matter to humans. They have no way to indicate their support of this withdrawal. But I can say with 100% confidence they'd want it so. So my comment is not just for my desire, but for theirs as well. Please approve the withdrawal. I think it should span beyond the 20,000+ acres covered, and show span well beyond 20 years. I think an environmental assessment would be enough, this needs to be approved ASAP.