Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/20/2023 9:06:09 PM

First name: Daniel Last name: Laux Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Bureau of Land Management personnel,

I suggest that you deny the request of withdrawing 20,574 acres of National Forest System lands in the Pactola Reservoir - Rapid Creek Watershed from mineral entry. The area could hold potential for critical minerals associated with Eocene alkalic intrusives and/or Precambrian pegmatites in addition to potential gold mineralization. The United States contains immense potential for mineral resources and they should not be locked up. Modern day mining is held to strict environmental standards which are compatible with other multiple uses of Federal land.

Sincerely,

Daniel P. Laux