

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/20/2023 11:02:03 PM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing in support of the mineral withdrawal around Pactola Reservoir and upper Rapid Creek. I am from Northwest Iowa, but married a native South Dakotan and moved to South Dakota after our wedding. I take great pride in the beautiful, wild places in our state. I also strongly believe that these wild places should stay wild and not be polluted and irreparably damaged by human influence. This mineral withdrawal will protect upper Rapid Creek drainage and ensure safe, clean water for humans and wildlife for decades to come. My wife and I are avid fishers who want to see the natural resources of South Dakota protected for its residents and tourists to enjoy in their natural state, without the toxic pollution and unsightly damage caused by mining. Rapid Creek is particularly important for people like me who enjoy fly fishing. Mining damages not only the land and water and poisons the animals, but it also damages the local economy by making it less desirable for tourism.

I would like to ask the US Forest Service to do an Environmental Assessment (EA) and to award the mineral withdrawal with a result of "Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)" when the EA has been completed. Please help us protect the wild resources of South Dakota to be enjoyed without mining pollution.