

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/21/2023 3:50:38 AM

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Title: Vice President

Comments: The Black Hills Paddlers fully supports the proposed mineral claims withdrawal around portions of Pactola Reservoir in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Being that this action is for conservation and not extraction an EA is adequate. We would like to see an efficient and timely completion of the study. The Rapid Creek Watershed encompasses approximately 198,000 acres and supplies drinking water, a world-class fishery, and substantial outdoor recreation opportunity that is heavily utilized by our organization's members. We support this withdrawal and would like to see it expanded to encompass the entire watershed to ensure it meets the stated goal of protecting the natural and cultural resources in the area. Thank you for your consideration.