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Organization:
Title:
Comments: To: Steve Kozel, District Ranger

I would like to express my objection to the Golden Crest Exploration Drilling Project, located in the Northern Hills Ranger District, Black Hills National Forest.

I object to the NFS's FONSI for the following reasons:
- insufficient information about "environmental justice" as stated in the FONSI.
- possible violations to the Clean Water Act in regard to surface water and /or damage to the Spearfish area watershed.
- no comprehensive plan on protecting threatened/endangered species.
- inadequate protection of Lakota historic and sacred sites and little or no consultation with the tribes.
- negative impact on recreation and tourism in the Spearfish Canyon region. The area in question offers some of the best Nordic skiing, hiking trails, and mountain biking terrain in the region. The native aspen and birch groves offer spectacular birding and photography opportunities.

I do not feel that allowing the Spearfish Canyon region's beauty to be irreversibly damaged by mining is in keeping with the Forest Service's motto:

CARING FOR THE LAND AND SERVING PEOPLE

The solution is simple: turn down the Golden Crest Drilling Project.

Respectfully submitted by Connie Feekes