

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/20/2024 9:25:32 PM

First name: Karin

Last name: Stanley

Organization:

Title:

Comments: It would seem that the State of Arizona is unable to protect its residents, resources, landscape, and wildlife on public lands, so I implore the Forest Service to do the job the state seems unable to address. The environmental concerns, impact of water use, and increased road traffic need to be carefully considered and monitored.

As noted in the Patagonia Times, "The State of Arizona's statutes, and regulations, which should be designed to protect the state's water, natural resources, and the health of state residents, are outdated and wholly inadequate for protecting our precious resources and communities. The 1872 federal law governing mining is wholly inadequate to protect our precious land, water, and communities from 21st Century-scale mining."

In addition South 32 is not an American company and has a bad track record in Australia. Perhaps the mine cannot be stopped, but it is the state, community, and forest service's responsibility to make sure the operation is monitored and held to the highest standards, above and beyond any outdated mining law.