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First name: Riochard Last name: VanDyke

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I OPPOSE any further development on the Coronado National Forest in regard to the South32

mining company.

I only recently found out about the open house the USFS held in Patagonia on May 20th regarding the Hermosa Critical Minerals Project for South32 in the Coronado National Forest within the Patagonia Mountains.

I am sorry I missed the open house but would like to state my Opposition to Any Development or use of the public lands for the Benefit of a Private Company. And to any project that negatively impacts the natural beauty and condition of our Federal Forests that belong to all US citizens.

As a retired geotechnical engineer with the USFS of 26 years, I am aware of the process associated with EIS documents, etc. I feel that the information developed during these processes are very limited in scope pertaining to the unforeseeable future and what the long range impact will be on both the environment and the forest users.

A good example is what happened in the late 1980's and 90's regarding the Spotted Owl and Marbled Murrelet. The information gathered and available was very limited and one sided. Long reaching decisions were made based on that information. Forests were shut down, mills were closed, logging stopped which limited proper management of the forests, and many people were impacted adversely based on limited, poor and misunderstood data.

I don't think the benefits of one company, and the long term affects of our National Forest should be jeopardized by this project!!

Once these type of projects are allowed there will be no stopping, and future generations will not have the opportunities to enjoy our natural forests in their natural conditions.

I Strongly am Opposed to this project, and South32 Hermosa using any Forest Service Land or Mineral, and hope that it is not allowed to go forward.