

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/6/2024 8:32:10 PM

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Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.

Forest Service land is designated for the use of the general public for recreational purposes. The area in question is of extreme Biologically Diverse importance, not only in the US, but is recognised on the World stage. Many groups visit & enjoy this area, Horse riders, hikers, cyclists, campers, hunters, bird watchers, ATV enthusiasts, moth observers, astrologists to name but a few. The unspoken law is "take only photographs & leave only footprints" which leaves this area unspoiled & pristine.

If handed over to the mining company for whatever purpose they have in mind...or claim to....they will be the only people to have access to this land. It will be dumped on, dug up & the damage caused will be irreversible.

So far the reassurances first made by South 32 that there would be little disturbance to the area & most of the work would be conducted underground, have proved false. The comments, little disturbance, may be subject to opinion, but you only have to drive past the Hermosa mine to be horrified at what has been done to the area & environment. They have not even started production yet or embarked on their hoped for/planned expansion plans.

This mine is already raping our Desert area of it's precious & limited water supplies, please do not allow it to further destroy the special area we have here, that is not only enjoyed by many but is also habitat to so many endangered & precious species.

Regards

Dawn Walker