

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/9/2024 5:28:09 PM

First name: Kimberly

Last name: Turner

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The National Forest Service MUST protect the lands of and around the Patagonia Mountains from ruin. It is the job of the Federal Forest Service Executives, board members and staff to protect and keep this area safe from harm. I have not seen, heard or read of adequate safeguards in place (oversight, consistent independent water and soil testing, road safety and flooding prevention to name several areas that are lacking) to ensure that the water supply will not be contaminated and that flooding of this area will not occur causing damage forever to one of the world's most biodiverse regions. It could also affect the water supply to Tucson, the second largest city in AZ. This is huge. This mining project should be stopped until adequate plans, studies and oversight is in place to secure the life in this area. I am a retired medical professional and recently moved to Patagonia for the beauty and wildlife of the area. The Hermosa project threatens vegetation, air quality, wildlife and humans in it's path of uncertain destruction based on a 1800's mining law. I ask that you STOP all mining until you can share your plans to ensure the safety and viability of the National Forest lands and the people of the surrounding communities. As a good human, I also want to decrease our dependence on fossil fuels and stop climate change but NOT at the risk of causing permanent damage to the Sky Islands. As a citizen, I ask you to STOP and DENY PERMITS to proceed until adequate safe guards and studies of the risk/reward are completed and provided to the public from your office.