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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I support the Pactola Reservoir - Rapid Creek Watershed mineral claims withdrawal.

Withdrawing even a limited area around Pactola Reservoir is a good start to protecting the water resource critical for the lives, livelihoods, and cultural practices of all inhabitants of the region from potentially catastrophic impacts of mineral exploration and mining.

As a downstream landowner, my well taps into an aquifer recharged by Rapid Creek. This is also the case for our neighbors and for the majority of Rapid City residents who rely on municipal water supplies. I would encourage additional withdrawal proposals by Forest Service and BLM to protect the entirety of public lands in this watershed.

That said, the process for the Pactola Reservoir - Rapid Creek Watershed withdrawal has been thorough, and it should be finalized without further delay. Thank you.