Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/14/2024 7:30:05 PM

First name: Eleanor Last name: Gibbons Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear U.S. Forest Service,

My name is Eleanor and I am 9 years old. I live in Southlake, Texas, but I love learning about nature and want to help keep it safe for everyone.

I heard that the Pactola Reservoir gives a lot of people in South Dakota their drinking water, including the people in Rapid City and at Ellsworth Air Force Base. That's a lot of people! I know that clean water is really important, and if we let mining happen near the reservoir, it might hurt the water and make people sick. I don't want that to happen, and I bet you don't either.

I also learned that a lot of the land in the Black Hills already has mines, and it's not fair that they want to take more. Some of that land belongs to Native Americans, and I think it should be protected and given back to them because it's their home.

Please help us save Pactola and make sure people can have clean water. I think protecting nature is super important, not just for me, but for everyone, now and in the future.

Thank you for reading my letter.