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Title:

Comments: I support the Rapid City Watershed Withdrawal for many reasons stated in the documents presented by the USFS. Additionally, I believe that the watershed area also, to some degree, recharges the aquifers that so many Pennington County residents and businesses draw their water from through wells. Not mentioned to this point is that any exploratory activity within the watershed exposes the forest to a greater chance of wildfire ignition and the potential contamination of the Pactola Reservoir by rain/snow runoff from burned areas. I have seen several Colorado reservoirs damaged by the effects of wildfires. As our potential of wildfires continues to increase, this must be a consideration in all future land uses in the forest and wildland interface areas.