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Comments: I was thrilled to learn that the Forest Service is accepting comments regarding a proposal to withdraw the mining permits in the Pactola Reservoir - Rapid Creek Watershed (Withdrawal #63876). I support this Withdrawal.

While I live in West Virginia, I have and will continue to travel to the Black Hills and other areas of South Dakota. Thankfully, West Virginia does not have to deal with uranium mining, but this area of coal country knows all about coal, oil and gas extraction - and their effects on clean water and the landscape. South Dakota also has many sacred lands which warrant special consideration - and, like areas of West Virginia, a huge economic interest in preserving your recreational areas, your wildlife, your amazing tourism opportunities, your heritage and your future.

But the most important thing to preserve is, of course, your water quality. We ALL need to be Friends of Water.

Please expedite sending the Withdrawal proposal to the Secretary of the Department of Interior.

Thank you so much for considering this important step in protecting the beauty and sustainability of this and every other watershed in South Dakota.