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Comments: I'm in complete agreement with proposals for mining companies to withdraw from the Black Hills based on the fact that the aftermath of mining can be worse than the actual mining. Our western public lands are plagued by after mining problems that would cost a king's ransom to cleanup and as far as I know no one is doing much on that front to date.

The public should not be facing another mining venture with the potential to pollute another body of precious water as our access to freshwater is limited by the fact we can only access 5% or less of the water available. Its not like we lack experience with mining and its aftermath in the west. All mining should be banned unless its a national imperative to proceed and that should only be a last resort.

Having visited the Black Hills and appreciated the grandeur of the place I understand why Native Americans venerate them. There's no other place quite like it. Was especially impressed by the aquatic life in its streams. Allowing mining to scar this place and more than likely pollute it would undoubtedly affect the drawing power of the area costing many people their businesses and the state a bundle of lost money. Its not worth it anyway you try to justify the potential destruction of this sacred place.