Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/24/2024 1:54:29 PM

First name: Mike Last name: Pliss Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my strong support for the Withdrawal proposal that seeks to protect more than 20,000 acres of the sacred He Sapa (Black Hills) and the headlands of the Rapid Creek Watershed from toxic mining operations. This pristine area is not only vital to the health of our environment but also holds immense cultural and spiritual significance.

I urge the U.S. Forest Service to take decisive action by requiring mining companies to withdraw from this region. Protecting these lands is essential to ensuring clean water for future generations, preserving the natural beauty and ecological balance of this sacred area, and maintaining opportunities for recreation and connection with nature in one of our nation's most valued wild places.

Given the time-sensitive nature of this issue, I respectfully request that the Forest Service expedite the Withdrawal proposal and move it forward to the Secretary of the Department of Interior. The preservation of these lands is critical to preventing irreversible damage, and prompt action will demonstrate the Forest Service's commitment to safeguarding our natural resources.

Thank you for considering my comment and for your work to protect the He Sapa. I trust that you will make the right decision in favor of conservation and the wellbeing of our environment and communities.

Sincerely,