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Comments: Please register my (1) opposition to the proposed mineral withdrawal and (2) my support the No Action Alternative provided in the Draft EA. My opposition to the findings of the Draft EA is based in part on the following:

The Purpose and Need must define the scenario(s) that result(s) in the alleged "known and potential adverse environmental impacts that may arise from exploration and development of federally owned minerals."

The environmental consequences of the reasonably foreseeable scenario must include a more robust description and discussion of the mitigation measures required by State and Federal statutes and rules. The boilerplate sentence "Inclusion of Forest Plan standards and guidelines, best management practices, project design features, and mitigation measures assigned during site-specific project planning would reduce the risk of effects from any mineral exploration or development ..." is woefully inadequate to assess impacts to the specified resources.

The proposed withdrawal conflicts with the administration policy of critical minerals.

The comment period should be extended to allow the National Forest Advisory Board to discuss the proposed withdrawal and the draft EA at their regular meeting and provide input which would conform with precedent.