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Comments: I fully support the proposed withdrawal of Forest System lands for the preservation of cultural and natural resources. These lands are sacred to the Indigenous People of the Oceti Sakowin who stewarded them long before they were touched by settlers and pillaged for resources. As such, they must be protected. This is a welcome step towards achieving that goal.

While I am not a South Dakota resident, I have visited the sacred Black Hills/He Sapa dozens of times and will continue to do so in the future. I have experienced the beauty and wonder of Lake Pactola and the surrounding area, and I believe we owe it to future generations to preserve it so that they, too, can experience it.