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First name: Mary Last name: Howard Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am counting on our Forest Service to preserve the pristine lands of the Black Hills, to require mining companies to withdraw from these sacred lands - over 20,000 acres of unspoiled land at the headlands of the Rapid Creek watershed. Mining in this area would have devastating consequences. Life here depends on access to clean, safe drinking water which will be compromised by the toxicity of mining operations.

I support the USFS requiring withdrawal of mining companies from this area. I kindly urge the USFS to recognize the urgency of this matter and fast-track this Withdrawal proposal to the Secretary of the Department of Interior.

Thank you