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Organization:

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Comments: I would like to register my strong support of this Mineral Withdrawal proposal to protect the sensitive riparian lands and waters of Jenny Gulch, the Pactola Reservoir and surrounding watershed. Protecting fresh clean water for both humans and the more than human world, is of utmost importance as we face an unknown future marked by increasing human caused climate disruption. With less than 1% of our planetary water supplies being fresh and clean (97% is held by oceans, and a dwindling 2% held in ice caps and glaciers), we must start thinking clearly and rationally about how to safeguard this most precious and essential resource. Making any minerals in these sensitive areas off-limits to developers or mining companies, is an important step toward halting business-as-usual extract-and-pollute practices. I would also like to request that all stakeholders and decision makers give greater weight and priority to indigenous voices on this issue; as indigenous people are the true heirs and stewards of the Black Hills.