Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/29/2024 12:34:00 AM
First name: Lund
Last name: Seelig
Organization:
Title:
Comments: To the U.S. Forest Service and the Secretary of the Department of Interior,

I have visited this area of the country several times in my life. This region, and much of the Western U.S. has had a deep impact on my respect for this country and the indigenous people who are part of this special land.

Please consider this my support of this Withdrawal from the Pactola Reservoir - Rapid Creek Watershed. I believe there is too much focus on the short term gains to be taken from stripping this land of its resources. We are only just realizing the destruction we have created during the past century and a half, turning pristine and sacred lands, filled with wildlife, beauty, and most importantly life supporting water, into scarred, polluted and poisonous areas that we think should provide solitude and life supporting resources. We struggle now to find either solitude in nature or life giving water. The lands, rivers, lakes and reservoirs are drying up and unreliable. Waters are tainted where once they ran pure. And the once natural landscapes we now find unnaturally molded to fit convenience and profit of a few powerful organizations, not native to the lands, run by people who do not have to live with the aftermath of their exploration and excavation.

Please consider the withdrawal as if it were your own land, your own "backyard" you are reviewing. Pause any further mining interests as if they would impact your own daily life, expedite the Withdrawal to the Secretary of the Department of Interior, and consider the true benefits the Earth can provide all of us over the limited profit a few might try to take from it.

Thank you.