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First name: Julie Last name: Bender Organization:

Title:

Comments: January 11th, 2025

I am writing to you to express my support for the Mineral Withdrawal of the Hassayampa River Riparian area. I live in Prescott, AZ.

I frequent the area included in the Mineral Withdrawal often with hiking, camping, mountain biking and photography. This area is home to many sensitive wildlife species, contains critical habitat for the Mexican spotted owl and contains the only known location of the Lancelet Cottonwood and Arroyo Willow in the Prescott National Forest

This area was heavily mined in the past and the area is showing healthy regrowth. The requested 20 year withdrawal would protect the area and its unique natural resources from new mining, oil and gas and geothermal development, subject to valid existing rights.

Please support the Mineral Withdrawal for this 3,739 acres of the Hassayampa River Riparian area. It is a valuable resource for the people of Prescott and the animal and plant species which grow there.