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First name: Robert

Last name: Ellis

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a 28 year resident of Prescott, AZ. I am emailing to register my support for the proposed mineral withdrawal on the upper Hassayampa River watershed.

My wife and I have raised our two children in Prescott with many days spent on the Hassayampa - from "Froggy Falls" all the way down and through the Hassayampa River Canyon Wilderness. There they learned the plants and animals of the Mogollon Highlands and the remarkable beauty of a riparian forest wonderland. I can still hear their squeals of delight as they played in perfectly sized pools for little ones. I can also hear their adolescent shouts of joy as they and their friends jumped into cool, clear pools from rocky ledges.

As a biologist I could wax on about the ecological importance of this corridor. I could cite the stunning species diversity. I could point out the irreparable damage done by miners - even today with their portable dredges. I believe this sort of information is all on record. The thing you can't see or hear are my children as they played in the river. That is priceless. And I encourage you to consider future children who might grow and learn in this special place.

Thank you for your consideration.