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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hi , my name is John .W. Newland a long time resident of the Black Hills. I literally fell in love with the Hills in the Spring of 73 while on break from studies at South Dakota State University where I majored in Wildlife and Journalism. Staying overnight in Mystic in a cabin long since removed I was overwhelmed by the beauty of it all and couldn't believe my eyes on seeing a "Dipper" bobbing on Castle Creek then submerging in search of food.

In 74 a friend needed help in working a pre-commercial tree thinning project up China Gulch which was my entry into working in the woods here and neighboring states for 3 years. I've fished and hiked these Hills especially around the Deerfield Lake and Gillette Prairie area so keeping this area such as PE'SLA as free of human encroachment like exploratory mining is paramount to me as well as our Native Americans. The area may no longer be as pristine as I remember it but the water and air are still fairly clean and need to remain so for our future generations and respect the sacred Black Hills.

Thank you for your time and consideration.