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Comments: In the US and the world at large, we are seeing the catastrophic impacts of climate change. At the heart of our climate crisis are extractive industries and environmental degradation. As a nation, we should be actively protecting as much land as possible from those industries that cause the most harm - mining and oil extraction chief among these. Certainly we should be conducting a thorough environmental review and create an Environmental Impact Statement for such a project as this, but even if findings do not seem catastrophic (and that appears to be the bar we have set, sadly), as a nation we must seriously consider whether expanding mining operations is in our collective best interest. On top of this, the Ponderosa gold mining project also threatens Native ceremonial practice and sovereignty. It is dishonorable for us to continue placing our most polluting, disruptive and dangerous extraction sites on or adjacent to Native land.

Thank you for taking our objections into consideration.