

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/20/2025 2:30:49 AM

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Organization:

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Comments:

I am writing in opposition to the proposed Ponderosa Exploration Drilling Project. This project would cause permanent damage to a natural treasure and threaten the future of Spearfish Canyon as a place for outdoor recreation and tourism, which is vital to the local economy.

The potential health impacts from air and water pollution combined with noise and light disturbances from around the clock drilling operations put nearby communities and visitors at risk.

Gold is not a critical resource and this project offers few economic benefits compared to the long-term harm it would cause.

Given the scale and sensitivity of this area, I urge the Forest Service to reject the project or at the very least require a full Environmental Impact Statement and extend the public comment period to allow for thorough review.