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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I was born and raised in Spearfish, and the Canyon holds a special place in my heart. I just returned from a visit home to the Hills to see family, and the most magical day of my trip was spent in Spearfish Canyon. I camped with my goddaughter, marveled at the evening songs of the Swainson Thrush, photographed wildflowers, viewed 3 waterfalls, waded in the crystal clear waters of Spearfish Creek to beat the heat, and hiked two trails. Most states don't get a place this beautiful to share with each other. It deserves our respect and protection -- for the flora and fauna that call it home. For those who recreate in it. For the cool, clean water that passes through it. For the Indigenous communities who are the original stewards of this land and hold ceremonies near the proposed project site. For our children and all future generations.

The Forest Service owes the local community a thorough review (I would love to see the completion of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project) -- as well as more time to submit public comment. People deserve a voice in this. At least an additional month or two is warranted to gather concerns.

Help us protect this place. There is no amount of money that is worth destroying this canyon. None. Not a single acre of it. We choose our natural spaces over these unnecessary projects. Please stand with us to say no.