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Organization:

Title:

Comments: While I no longer live in Arkansas, I was born and raised in the Natural State, and I lived there most of my adult life until a couple of years ago. Arkansas is a beautiful state, and one of the things I miss most are the parks. I don't see how Arkansas can call itself the natural state if it sells off public land for mining, which will gravely affect not only the usability of the park, but the surrounding environment. Having spent a lot of my time hiking and kayaking in the state, from the Caddo to the Eleven Point, to beautiful Village Creek, sell to this land would be devastating for tourism within the state. People don't come to Arkansas for its booming metropolis and city life. They come to Arkansas for a nice dip in a cold creek on a hot summer day. They come for the mountains, the rivers, fishing and kayaking. They come to hike our beautiful mountains and trails. They come for the birds and the lakes. We are stewards of this beautiful place and all the creatures that live in it, from the beautiful pines to the prothonotary warblers, and we have to take care of it. Please keep the Natural State beautiful, and keep Arkansas' parks as they are. Please do not sell for mining.