



STATE OF
COLORADO

Cazier - DNR, Tim <tim.cazier@state.co.us>

Comments on permit #P2013002 - Zephyr Minerals

1 message

curtis Nimz <curtisnimz@gmail.com>
To: tim.cazier@state.co.us

Fri, Apr 10, 2020 at 2:43 PM

Members of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (DRMS),

Please do not approve permit #P2013002 which would allow Zephyr Minerals to expand gold mining exploration onto BLM's Grape Creek Wilderness Study Area.

Allowing drilling exploration, drill pads, and piping water out of Grape Creek within the proposed Wilderness will forever destroy the natural and wild character of the area.

The area is currently managed by the BLM as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) because of the significant natural character with unique high desert riparian resources, scenic and visual qualities, flora, and fauna values. The area is home to Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep and peregrine falcon nesting areas. All other local wildlife species will be adversely affected by the mining exploration activities.

BLM sums up the values of this area well in their description of the Grape Creek ACEC, "as a corridor of significant natural character with unique desert riparian resources, scenic and visual qualities."

The Grape Creek watershed and contiguous lands are some of the most intact wild and scenic public lands in the region, and provide habitat and range to numerous wildlife species, as well as providing a number of backcountry recreational opportunities for residents and tourists.

Since this is an area where I like to hike, the mining exploration would certainly disrupt my outdoor activities in the area.

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