



Crescent City & Del Norte County Chamber
of Commerce

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September 28, 2015

Bureau of Land Management
Oregon State Office
P.O. Box 2965
Portland, Oregon 97208-2965
BLM_OR_WA_WITHDRAWALS@blm.gov

RE: Comments in Support of Proposed Mineral Withdrawal

On behalf of the Crescent City/Del Norte County Visitor's Bureau, we provide the following comments in support of a 5 year mineral withdrawal. We also support a 20-year or permanent mineral withdrawal in order to preserve our drinking water supply and the health of our coastal community.

The Smith River provides drinking water to thousands of people in Del Norte County. Proposed mining activity by a foreign-owned corporation would be located upstream of the water supply intakes for residents and businesses in numerous communities. The single-largest component of our local economy is travel and tourism. To state the obvious, to locate and allow for strip mining in the headwaters of the Smith River will put our community at risk and is entirely unacceptable.

Recent mine accidents in British Columbia and Colorado have polluted rivers that used to provide clean drinking water to downstream communities. Please do not allow such a tragedy to happen here. We urge you to move forward with the proposed 5-year or longer mineral withdrawal and to work towards securing a permanent mineral withdrawal for the North Fork Smith River and surrounding watersheds described in the proposed mineral withdrawal.

Sincerely,
Jeff Parmer
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeff Parmer".

Crescent City/Del Norte County Visitor's Bureau
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