

Resolution #9  
Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs

**SUPPORT NEPA REQUIREMENT FOR MINING EXPLORATION ON FOREST SERVICE ROADLESS AREAS**

Submitted by: Toiyabe Chapter, Sierra Club and Friends of Nevada Wilderness

**Background:** With the price of gold now greater than \$1700.00 per ounce, there is a growing demand to conduct mining exploration on public lands in Nevada under the authority of the 1872 mining law. Many of these applications have been made on inventoried roadless lands managed by the US Forest Service.

In some cases, permission to mine has been granted by the Forest Service under a categorical exclusion. No Environmental Assessment has been prepared, although certain restrictions as to activities and reclamation have been required by the District Ranger. If reclamation does not occur, these activities could have a detrimental effect on roadless lands that could be avoided if appropriate environmental studies are prepared.

**Resolution: The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs supports the preparation of an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement for all mining exploration of US Forest Service inventoried roadless lands.**

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