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BLM Carson City District
Attention: CCD RMP
5665 Morgan Mill Rd.
Carson City, NV 89701

To all concerned,

I write my following comments in strong opposition of the restrictive and economically destructive Resource Management Plan (RMA), western Nevada withdrawals, proposed by the Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management.

I am a highly trained, broadly experienced, exploration geologist that has conducted exploration work for a large number of mining/exploration companies, including my own, throughout the state of Nevada. I have worked in the State of Nevada since the early 1970's. And, as a knowledgeable and hands-on experienced geo-scientist and citizen of Nevada for over 35 years, I am telling you, and the public in general, in strong terms that these withdrawals are superfluous, and unwarranted, and serve no essential purpose. And further, these withdrawals will be economically harmful to all Nevadans.

Exploration and mining is very important to the economic well-being of Nevada. The future of the mining business in Nevada depends upon the availability of access to the lands that have the potential for mineral exploration and development. And even adjacent and nearby mineral prospective lands to those placed in "wilderness" categories, will be limited and sometimes prohibited from mineral development. Mining jobs and the revenues provided by the mineral industry within the State of Nevada have been, remain, and will potentially always be very important. These revenues must be encouraged and be protected from those who people and organizations that literally spend time, effort, and money to stop mining.

Over a period of many years, I have spent much time and much money doing exploration within and around some of these lands exhibited on the BLM map exhibiting areas now proposed to be "managed to maintain wilderness characteristics." As recently as 2013, as Vice President of Exploration for Gold Standard Ventures (NYSE: GSV), we spent over \$1.5 million conducting exploration drilling in an area immediately adjacent to these lands in a locality just to the west

of Mina Nevada, specifically the Excelsior North designate. These investment monies came into Nevada from outside and served to provide many direct and indirect jobs to Nevadans, and in particular to Mina area residents. If these lands had been placed in a "manage as wilderness category" this exploration work would not have been undertaken, because of the likely futile future of developing mines.

Wording and regulations such as the following within the prescribed BLM Manual for "management" (RMA) of land withdrawals such as the following (pg. 7, pt 2, ii & pt 2 , iii) is very concerning and disconcerting: "...some human works are 'acceptable' so long as they are substantially unnoticeable"... and where "outside impact exists...(they will be)...evaluated for its direct effects on the area."

I am in support of plan "A" basically the "No Action Alternative" plan to manage the lands. There really seems to be no logic in any of the more restrictive plans, except perhaps, if this is logical at all, to serve some person's or groups' political and financial benefit. I urge the use of reason and thoughtfulness in making these important decisions.

Sincerely submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David C. Mathewson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

David C. Mathewson
Geologist/ owner of Nevada Gold Ventures, LLC
Elko, Nevada

Cc:

Senator: Dean Heller

Senator: Harry Reid

Representative: Mark Amodei

Representative: Crescent Hardy

Governor: Brian Sandoval

Nevada Mineral Exploration Coalition