

# **WE THE PEOPLE**

## **OF 2019 ARE BEING GREATLY HARMED BY THE ANTIQUATED 1872 MINING LAW**

### **We the People**

of 2019 have no voice to speak for the ecosystem that is in harm's way if a mining company "owns" 450 acres of patented, private land on which it can mount an underground mine with the intention to blast large tunnels under 23,000 acres of unpatented claims on Forest Service public lands through a highly fractured hydrogeology in a global biodiversity hotspot identified as one of the top five places in the world MOST IN NEED OF RESEARCH and PROTECTION.

Notes 1, 2, & 3

### **We the People**

of 2019 and the next seven generations are being robbed of an abundant future which we define as a healthy planet and nutritious foods for all.

### **We the People**

of 2019 recognize that as the anthropocene unfolds, it is vital to protect and foster the resilience of the ecosystem and to allow for the possibility that the highest value is that the materials should be left in the ground.

### **We the People**

of 2019 continue to be financially impoverished by the environmental damages of legacy mining as we, the taxpayers, bear the economic and social cost of restoration.

### **We the People**

of 2019 suffer the health damages of legacy mining and 21st century industrialized mining.

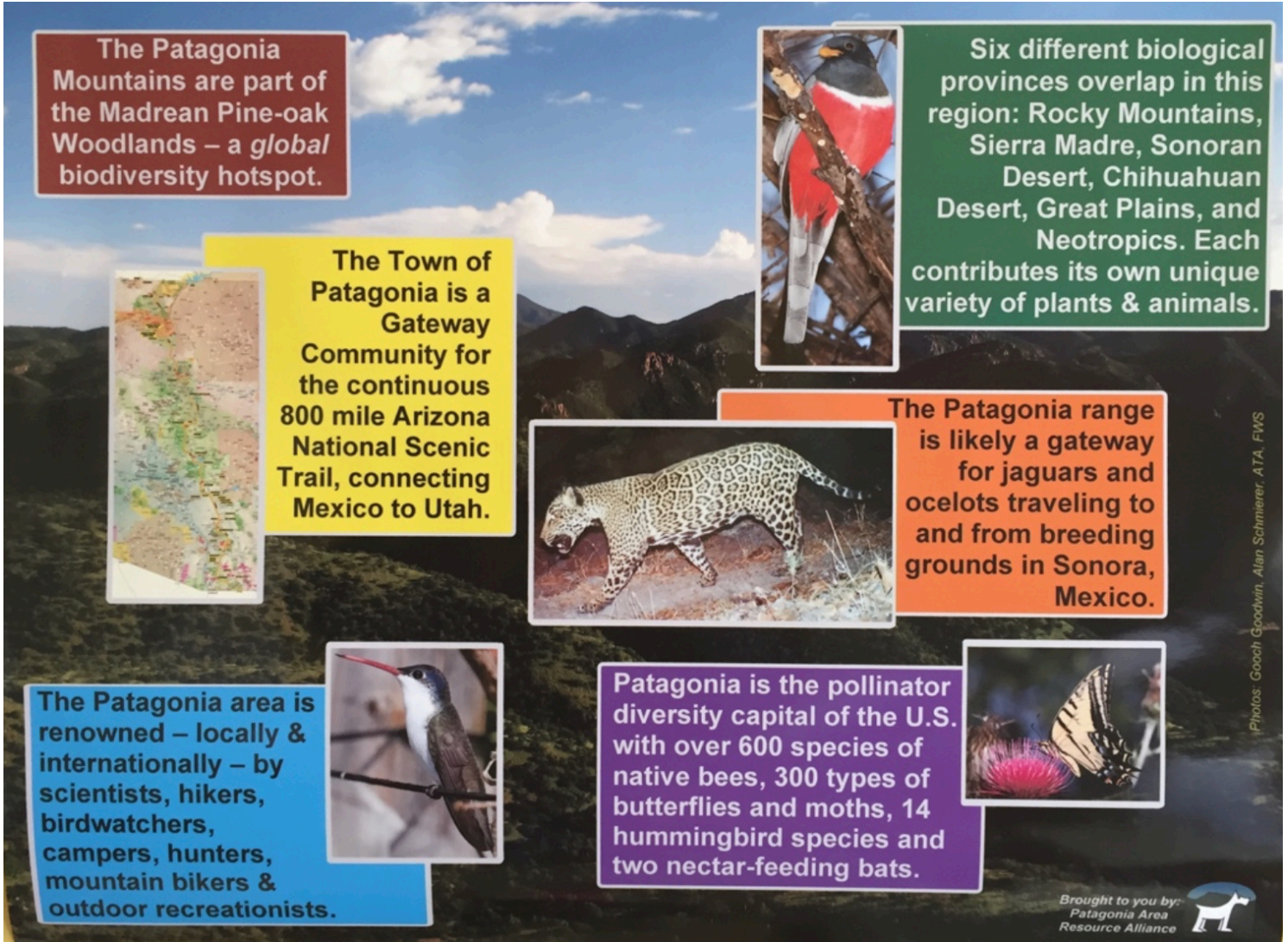
### **We the People**

of 2019 are puzzled that the government is giving away extracted materials for free to the mining companies.

### **We the People**

of 2019 living in the Patagonia Mountains and Sonoita Creek watershed in Southern Arizona implore our elected federal officials to support **===bill**  
**#====** to stop the infringement of the rights of **WE THE PEOPLE of 2019**.

# NOTE 1



**The Patagonia Mountains are part of the Madrean Pine-oak Woodlands – a global biodiversity hotspot.**




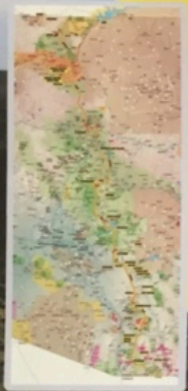

**The Town of Patagonia is a Gateway Community for the continuous 800 mile Arizona National Scenic Trail, connecting Mexico to Utah.**

**The Patagonia range is likely a gateway for jaguars and ocelots traveling to and from breeding grounds in Sonora, Mexico.**

**Patagonia is the pollinator diversity capital of the U.S. with over 600 species of native bees, 300 types of butterflies and moths, 14 hummingbird species and two nectar-feeding bats.**


**The Patagonia area is renowned – locally & internationally – by scientists, hikers, birdwatchers, campers, hunters, mountain bikers & outdoor recreationists.**

**Six different biological provinces overlap in this region: Rocky Mountains, Sierra Madre, Sonoran Desert, Chihuahuan Desert, Great Plains, and Neotropics. Each contributes its own unique variety of plants & animals.**

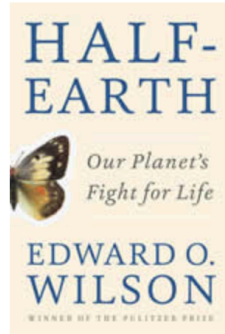


Photos: Gooch Goodwin, Allan Schmeier, ATA, FWS

Brought to you by:  
Patagonia Area  
Resource Alliance



## NOTE 2



*Half-Earth* proposes an achievable plan to save our imperiled biosphere: devote half the surface of the Earth to nature.

In order to stave off the mass extinction of species, including our own, we must move swiftly to preserve the biodiversity of our planet, says Edward O. Wilson in his most impassioned book to date. *Half-Earth* argues that the situation facing us is too large to be solved piecemeal and proposes a solution commensurate with the magnitude of the problem: dedicate fully half the surface of the Earth to nature.

If we are to undertake such an ambitious endeavor, we first must understand just what the biosphere is, why it's essential to our survival, and the manifold threats now facing it. In doing so, Wilson describes how our species, in only a mere blink of geological time, became the architects and rulers of this epoch and outlines the consequences of this that will affect all of life, both ours and the natural world, far into the future.

The Patagonia Mountains and Sonoita Creek Watershed are part of the Madrean mountain chains of Mexico and the Sky Islands heights of the southwestern US. The world's senior naturalists (each with international expertise in biodiversity and ecology) include the Patagonia Mountains as “. . . one to five places in the world. . .” considered best on the basis of richness, uniqueness, and **MOST IN NEED OF RESEARCH and PROTECTION.**

## NOTE 3

# PARA Watchdogs

Patagonia Area Resource Alliance (PARA) is a grassroots, non-profit community alliance committed to preserving and protecting the Patagonia, Arizona area. We are a citizen watchdog organization that monitors the activities of mining companies, as well as ensures government agencies' due diligence, to make sure their actions have long-term, sustainable benefits to our public lands, our water, and the ecosystem.

PARA Watchdogs recognize that the health and economic prosperity of our region are tied deeply to the well-being of the Patagonia Mountains and the Harshaw/Sonoita Creek watershed. They are the source of our drinking water, clean air, and the biological wealth that drives our regional economy.



**Our Quality of Life, Our Community,  
Our Future, Our Economy**

**Don't Mine Our Mountains!**

**Water Matters More!**



*PatagoniaAlliance.org*