From: Wayne Hecker

To: <u>FS-comments-intermtn-payette</u>

Subject: Plans for the Stibnite Gold project need to protect water quality and restore habitat

**Date:** Thursday, June 15, 2017 8:05:14 PM

Dear Payette Forest Supervisor Keith Lannom and staff,

Having floated the Salmon River below the South Fork many times, I am concerned about the Stibnite Gold mining proposal. Clean, unpolluted water is one of the highest priorities during and after this project. Living near the Blackbird Mine and its resultant long term pollution in Panther Creek on the Salmon-Challis National Forest has shown the results of unanticipated impacts from mining. I anticipate you will require a sufficient bond to restore the site and any potential pollution should the project go awry. I am also concerned about the impact to fish and wildlife from the proposed project. These effects need to be examined carefully and displayed to the public. Minimal disturbance and progressive restoration should also be considered. The impacts from the haul and access road also need to be carefully considered and erosion and dust control measures strictly enforced.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

Mr. Wayne Hecker

