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First name: Nickolas

Last name: Kunath

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Payette Forest Supervisor Keith Lannom and staff, I sincerely hope that you will do everything in your power to ensure that the proposed Midas Gold project only moves forward when all conceivable environmental threats to our natural environment are considered and will be dealt with accordingly.

I worry that this proposal, while having many "benefits" to our community, will just be another opportunity for a Canadian mining company to make a profit at the expense of our natural resources and sustainable economy that is built around it.

I am a recent transplant to this area moving from Wisconsin and have been completely blown away by the natural beauty and opportunities for recreation that would be at risk if this project moves forward.

As a kayaker, the South Fork of the Salmon River (SF), as well as the East Fork of the South Fork (EFSF), provide a river experience that is hard to find, if not impossible, other places in the United States. Every year there are hundreds of kayakers and rafters who travel to this area to see these rivers, spend money in our community, and return home to tell stories of the Idaho wilderness that they were able to experience and be a part of.

This past weekend I spent part of my 4th of July vacation paddling the SF and was blown away by the number of people from all across the United States who were visiting Yellow Pine for the exact same reason. People from Washington, Utah, Minnesota, and even New Zealand had all made this river a priority and traveled a large distance to be sure that they were able to experience this gem of a river. While it is hard to see the economic impact that the river community brings when it is compared to the large dollars that Midas Gold states will flood into our community, I hope it is not overlooked as a sustainable economy that would be threatened and potentially lost as a result of this mine.

While this area has seen mining in the past and is in no way a fully pristine wilderness, this mine would be a step in the wrong direction and I will do my part to ensure that it does not move forward.