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First name: Stephanie

Last name: Fairchild

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a member of a large extended family which has used a cabin at Warm Lake, Idaho since the 1930's. My grandparents bought a small Cabin and their 8 children, 35 + grandchildren and now numerous great-grandchildren and many friends have all enjoyed time at the Artis Family Cabin. We are not speed-boaters, mostly preferring to row, or canoe and fish from small boats. We have enjoyed a pontoon boat as it supplies lots of people with endless hours of fishing, floating and swimming, as we jump into the quiet water. Hiking is a pleasure. Family fun and quiet rank high on our priority list.

To us Warm Lake is a place to relax and enjoy a slower pace and get in touch with nature in that beautiful setting. We dread the busy, noisy weekends when ATV's and jet-skis and noisy crowds take over. Our Cabin is on the North Shore drive so we see plenty of traffic to and from the Billy Rice Beach and the several campgrounds. When out on the lake, the basin echoes and you can hear voices from the shore across the lake. I cannot imagine what all that truck traffic back and forth on the highway bound to and from Cascade to Stibnite will sound like! And just think of the dust and the wear on the roads!

We plan our trips up Warm Lake highway from Cascade for weekdays, when the road is not so busy. We have encountered many close-calls over the years and dread what this mining project will mean for the area in terms of increased traffic on Highway 55, Warm Lake Road and beyond.

While Midas Mining company talks a good talk, we all know that accidents happen. I cannot imagine an industrial accident in the Yellowpine and Stibnite area! With all the increased traffic on the highways and mountain roads there are bound to be accidents resulting from impatient drivers, inexperienced drivers and less than favorable road conditions!

I am among many who are encouraging the planners of this project to step back and re-think those long hours and months and years of 7 days a week operations! How about using buses to transport the many workers, rather than allowing them to all drive in their individual cars? How about limiting the hours that all that traffic can run up and down the mountains? How about slowing down and taking a good long look on the impact that this project will have on the fragile ecosystem all around this area. I understand that the East and South forks of the Salmon river are important spawning grounds for Chinook Salmon. What is the potential cost to this almost endangered fish if a mining accident happens in that remote area?

It seems that the benefits are all about money! gold mines and industrial boom--important maybe, but limited and the impact on the area must also be considered!

Thanks you taking the time to read my concerns! I am a native Idahoan, transplanted east due to my husband's employment. We visit Idaho and Warm Lake regularly! Please be cautious and careful as this project goes forward!