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First name: Gina

Last name: Visalli

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for taking the time to read my passion and interest in saving this special place from destruction. My name is Gina Visalli, a 35 year old female who is an advocate for protecting lands and especially our rivers. I am a whitewater kayaker who takes refuge in places like this. Having battled recently with breast cancer keeping our environment safe and a place we can all refuge to is close to my heart. Being able to be outside and do what I love has kept my sanity through my treatment and I feel obligated to help protect and save these special places as I feel they have saved me. Letting this project continue will be devastating to the land and everyone who utilizes it for its sheer beauty and fun. Nothing beats a river trip, being in nature, sleeping under the stars, swimming and fishing...its blissful. I am concerned that this will be destructive to the environment and eventually become a public health threat. As an emergency department Registered Nurse, I see every day how threats like this directly impact the health of our public. With rises in cancer rates and destruction of good clean drinking water, this will only increase those public health issues. The south fork salmon is a place I go to set my mind straight, reconnect with nature, and know that there is so much to offer to our future by protecting places as this. People deserve to have a place to refuge and find happiness. Please protect this special place for us. It truly has immeasurable values to the people who journey there.

So I ask the Forest Service to please create a supplemental draft environmental impact statement for the relative agencies and public to review. Give us the opportunity to comment in order to address all of the missing and incomplete information in the current DEIS. There is not enough information, such as water quality and quantity and who is the responsible agency for managing this. Water quality is a huge impact on public health. Please provide this information. Such information is crucial! While I am also writing to support Alternative 5, the No Action Alternative outlined in the existing Stibnite Gold Project's Draft Environmental Impact Statement, the requested Supplemental Draft EIS is necessary for review and consideration.

My concern is protecting the environment and the public health. The Current plan for mining practice could affect up to 3500 acres, only 880 of which are owned mining claims. The rest is PUBLIC LAND! Their plan on utilizing Cyanide leach mining is a practice known to have major negative impacts. This practice was banned completely in the state of Montana, Wisconsin and five of Colorado counties. Many other countries around the world have related to a high affinity for failure and have since banned this practice. So why would we let them do it here? Fiddle creek which is currently unaffected will become non existent as it fill with waste rock and mining ore, and Meadow creek which currently has arsenic and antimony leaching from old mining reclamation attempts will also become more contaminated. The water quality still needs improvement, yet we are thinking of making it worse? Midas also plans to build a 460 ft tall tailing retention dam reservoir which will effectively drown meadow creek into nonexistence. This is immoral and should not happen. This is our world and we should fight to protect it and keep it thriving.

One problem with the DEIS is the mitigation plan for trucking cyanide in along the SFS, Burntlog creek, and Johnson creek. The discussion on single vs double liner on leach vat is that THEY ARE KNOWN TO TEAR. This is very poor planning. "Leave it cleaner" is based on speculation according to the history of this plan. How about we Leave it Alone and restore this beautiful place instead of destroying it. The DEIS clearly states that all of the alternatives presented, apart from

Alternative 5, would adversely affect federally listed endangered fish species, their habitat, and the watershed's water quality and quantity. This further negatively impacts economic vitality related to tourism and recreation of surrounding communities and those in Idaho who depend upon the integrated watershed of Salmon River systems and the hundreds of thousands of visitors each year to our National Forests. This number and economic benefits are growing immensely annually, with a recorded record number of visitors and related economic benefits in summer 2020. I am very concerned that this proposed mining threatens long term public health. Also there is a lack of accountability to maintain environmental and public health measures after the project is complete. Lets be proactive now, instead of trying to clean up the problem later.

Thank you for taking the time to read, please take this information into serious consideration for the sake of our public health and lands.

Gina