Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/18/2017 6:00:00 AM
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: I am writing in hopes to persuade you to abandon your plans of the Midas Gold Project near Warm Lake, Idaho. Warm Lake has been a vacation spot for our family for all the 38 years of our married life. We actually spent our honeymoon there back in 1979. Before our family bought the cabin on the west side of the lake, I had vacationed at my father's friend's cabin in the sixties. So my family and I have experienced and appreciated one of the most serene places on earth for a number of years.

The wildlife around Warm Lake brings fascination and sometimes even annoyance. Every summer we are never disappointed. It is not uncommon to see deer, bear, otter, osprey, heron and some years we have been fortunate enough to see eagles and moose. We almost always see Salmon in the river nearby. (The annoyance has come mostly from chipmunks and mice.)

I have loved watching the sun rise across the lake in the mornings, while mist dissipates as the sun hits it. A person feels like there is hope for our world as we are refreshed and rejuvenated. Waterskiing on the glassy surface before the wind comes up gives you a feeling of sheer happiness. I don't know how many times we have hiked around the lake. Our children learned to waterski there. I have looked forward to our grandchildren doing the same.

Idaho has done such a fine job of protecting this unique environment. Firefighters have put their lives on the line to protect our cabins. The planning has kept building restricted and limited in order to preserve this amazing place. To see it so quickly destroyed is shocking to us. We have read about the number of people who would come to the area. Astonishing! Would it change this place? How could it not? Will it affect the wildlife? I don't think you need a study to show what you could expect. Noise alone will change and rob Warm Lake of its serenity. We hear the logging trucks from across the lake. Because of the acoustics we could hear the camp bell go off in the morning.

In 4th grade I learned Idaho's State song. There is a line that says, "Silver and gold in the sunlight hours and romance lies in her name." I know Idaho is the Gem State. Please do not destroy her romance and beauty for the sake of money. Life is more than silver and gold and Warm Lake is a rare haven of peace, rest, beauty and tranquility.