Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/9/2023 11:53:19 PM
First name: Mackay
Last name: Fitzgerald
Organization:
Title:
Comments: Deat Stibnite,
I am writing to you today in order to oppose your proposition of reopening and revamping the Stibnite mine sight. While this opportunity will create infrastructure, jobs, and economic growth, it does so at the expense of the conservation of the great state of Idaho and the expense of it's aquatic species. While yes the current ecosystem is polluted by historical mine tailings, the reclamation work proposed to occur after your mining operation will disrupt current quality habitat and replace it with a greater abundance of poor quality habitat. The fish and microbiota of the river are currently able to survive, reproduce, and flourish in their aquatic environment. Your EIS statement proposes a series of unnecessary disruptions and risks (trucking, dumping, spills) to this environment that is not worth the financial payout of a cooperate institution. Antimony may be important for national security, but it is undercut by the greed and capitalist gain of almost 4 million dollars a day in gold production. The amount of work, energy, and carbon emitted for the site throughout it's planned upscaling/descaling is complete rejection of climate focused thought and the antithesis of perpetuating of our states natural resources.

As an angler, outdoor recreator, and state resident, I am biased towards the preservation of Stibnite. I don't want more traffic on the roads, I don't want mountains of earth to be moved, I don't want change to occur. Yet it isn't about me, I would stop using this region of central Idaho if it meant it would be saved. It is about keeping Idaho the way (as best as we now can) we found it. Preserving the areas that border our designated wilderness is the best way to buffer and protect our true wilderness. I have watched the world change all around Idaho in my short life, we should protect what makes this state unique.

As an individual who has worked on the Stibnite sight, there are good people employed there. Honest people who believe they are trying do do a good thing by cleaning up the site for historic mining waste and keeping themselves a job. But their hard work is not worth the sacrifice of Idaho's core. We cannot continue to further destroy an ecosystem for the employment of some and the gross economic gain of others. Development is not always a good thing, industry has a tipping point. We as a society must let go of our need for material gain and leave the heart of our ecological framework alone. Say no to Stibnite and preserve our states culture and wilderness.