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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As both an Idaho resident and Warm Lake cabin owner I am commenting on the Midas Gold Stibnite Mine Proposal as being opposed to this project for the following reasons.

1) Burnt log/Thunder Mountain road construction. Existing roads for access to Stibnite exist. Construction of new roads to protect fisheries along Johnson Creek or the Salmon River though important will be countered by negative impacts to land species including but not limited to deer, elk, wolves wolverines, martens, lynx and mountain lions. There will be negative impacts to recreation in the area such as mountain lake fishing, hiking, camping, hunting etc from not only environment changes but the significant increase in traffic and noise. This area lies very close to the border of the Frank Church Wilderness and will affect the serenity of access to the wilderness. I question also whether parts are within the roadless area. The argument that everything will be returned to the way it was after the project is complete is a total fallacy.

2) Construction of a staging area in Scott Valley. Again, the area is a beautiful, quiet valley where deer, elk, and osprey are frequently seen. With this proposal there will be trucks, construction equipment, and buildings. There will be vehicles coming and going likely at all hours of the day. This staging area should be built in Cascade if it has to be built at all.

3) Increased traffic and noise on Warm Lake highway. The Warm Lake area is already seeing some negative impacts because of its increased popularity for recreation. Now with this project traffic will significantly increase. I question whether the existing roads can handle that and am especially concerned with noise and safety. In recent years the Warm Lake road has become popular with bicyclists. As with many areas it will become unsafe to ride. I also have concern about the safety of having large trucks, construction equipment traveling over Warm Lake summit. There is already no margin for error on this road.

Thank you for considering my comments.