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First name: Don Last name: Flickinger

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Kelly Gulch mouth and bar area have for decades been identified as high priority sites for riparian and aquatic habitat restoration, including restoration of the Salmon River SONCC coho salmnon population. This zone has been documented to sustains both coho and spring Chinook salmon, and it has been adversely affected by historic mining and logging practices. These have resulted in severe alteration of a score or more river bars lacking holding, rearing and spawning habitats that benefit salmonids. These river bars, including Kelly Bar, have remained denuded of vegetation cover for decades, contributing to the heating of riparian habitat and stream water. Relying on natural processes to recoup the habitat values of Kelly Bar may take a century...a time frame that will not contribute to or expedite the recovery of SONCC coho salmon. The Kelly Bar Project will guide restoration practitioners in the process of catalyzing river bar restoration in the Salmon River Basin, providing empirical knowledge that can then be adapted to the many other river bar habitats in need of similar restoration. I whole-heartedly support the Kelly Bar Project.