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Comments: I was fortunate to be able to travel the South Salmon river canyon in the late 70's. To say that it had a profound effect on me would be an understatement. The experience of being there changed my life. To understand why people are passionate about this canyon and ecosystem, you don't need to travel the river; the entire watershed is a national treasure. To read that it is under threat of mining development raises many concerns. Keeping the habitat intact is vital for fish as well as other species, both aquatic and terrestrial. The proposed area of the new pit mine is exactly where there are vital spawning habitats for chinook and bull trout. Mining is inherently destructive. The downstream effect on the Main Salmon could do further harm. These are places that make Idaho special and attractive, unlike another open pit mine in a fragile watershed. Please consider the drastic and lifelong damaging effects of this proposal. Now is the time to protect its beauty and habitat for future generations. Thank you