

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/14/2020 3:35:35 AM

First name: Lauren

Last name: Sanders

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Project Officials,

I am writing to you to object to the Stibnite Mining Project on the South Fork of the Salmon River. As one of the largest tributaries to the Main Salmon and a beautiful river in its own right, the South Fork is an extremely valued stretch of whitewater for both humans and wildlife. Beyond just recreation, the South Fork is historically sacred land to the Nez Perce, Shoshone, and Bannock people. Furthermore, it is home to several endangered species, such as the bull trout, steelhead, and Chinook Salmon.

After reading the points outlined in the DEIS for the Stibnite Project, it is apparent that although there are some vague actions to be taken to "reduce environmental impact" and restore fish habitats, it is apparent that regardless, this project will raise water temperatures due to the nature of the mine, machinery, and emissions, and it will release chemical poisoning such as cyanide, mercury, and arsenic into the river. These consequences are inherent impacts of mining and will not be successfully mitigated by Midas Gold, regardless of how many other unrelated deeds they pledge to do.

I implore you to halt this project in the name of preserving the quality of the Salmon River, the habitats of the wildlife residing therein, and the natural beauty enjoyed by so many. I hope you will do the right thing in a time where the world is so desperate for moral goodness.

Sincerely,

Lauren Sanders

Student, hiker, whitewater rafter