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Comments: The South Fork of the Salmon is an incredibly diverse and unique stretch of river. We must realize that free flowing rivers are an asset for biodiversity, recreation, and as a monetary asset to the local communities and the country as a whole. A mine will always have an end date, a time that it will no longer be profitable and may be abandoned. Commonly the detrimental effects of a mining operation result in irreversible ecological damage. The South Fork, if left intact, will only increase in value. Short term profits should never outweigh long term impact.