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First name: Pat Last name: Florence Organization:

Title:

Comments: I recreate on the Salmon River, including the South Fork. I'm against this mining proposal because of its significant impacts on the river as well as on the surrounding lands. I urge the USFS to deny the request to establish this mine because the harm it would cause significantly outweighs any positive consequences. Harmful impacts are obvious: construction and operation of roads as well as the strip mine itself will impact the land and air; water turbidity and flow disruption; and heavy use of fuel and highly toxic chemicals are but a few of the ways such a mine would be hugely detrimental to the region's wildlife, users and general environment (air quality, water quality, scenic beauty, habitat value, biodiversity, etcetra).

The negative impacts of this operation will clearly outweigh its positive benefits. Such benefits would be to produce more mining product (which are not needed at this time), influx of jobs (which are offset by losses to the recreation economy), and profits for large corporations (which go to a foreign corporation). In addition, these weak positive impacts will be highly temporary while the negative impacts will continue long after the mine closes. This is especially true because accidents happen despite anyone's best intentions or promises that they won't.

Again, I urge you to deny this application to harmfully and unnecessarily extract natural resources from this area. Thank you for your consideration.