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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Whomever it May Concern,

I am writing today in concern of the Stibnite Gold Project. This operation is putting the South Fork of the Salmon and its ecosystem in danger. The South Fork of the Salmon is home to the Nez Perce, Shoshone-Bannock, and Shoshone-Paiute tribes along with the modern-day explorers who run the expert-level whitewater. Not only is it considered home to the humans who walk its land and run its waters, but the South Fork is home to a variety of wildlife and lush wilderness. On behalf of my fellow river enthusiasts, the South Fork of the Salmon is one of the few rivers I call home and it needs to be respected and protected at all costs.

The South Fork is a critical habitat for the endangered Chinook Salmon, along with Steelhead and the threatened Bull Trout. This river is also a major tributary to the Wild and Scenic Salmon River, the second-longest free-flowing river in the lower 48. Essentially, this means not only would the mining of the South Fork headwaters affect the South Forks ecosystem immensely but will have threatening impacts on the Wild and Scenic Salmon River as a whole.

The ever-lasting effects this mine will have on this rivers ecosystem plus the ecosystems it contributes to is detrimental. It will change the environment forever- creating irreversible damages due to the arsenic, mercury, and antimony that would be spilled into the South Fork of the Salmon. Contaminated water will directly affect wildlife, cultural importance, and recreational economy.

Thank you for taking the time to work on this project and considering my letter.