

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/15/2020 10:04:10 PM

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Comments: First, I am requesting an extension to the comment period. So much of Valley County has reached out to be, asking what is really going on with Stibnite. Our community doesn't know where to look, when deadlines are, or what is even happening. I would expect that since these are OUR public lands, the Forest Service would provide many more opportunities to educate our community, since we will all be affected. I request more public meetings, signage, and the presentation of research that shows what the outlooks could be if this mine went through. These lands are special to so many people, and in such pristine condition compared to much of the country. We have the largest Wilderness Area in the lower 48, and 2 beautiful rivers that are proposed to be Wild and Scenic...and we are proposing an open pit mine operation that can be allowed directly bordering the wilderness/ alter the watershed?

I believe it is crucial that the concept of wilderness buffer zones is understood and applied to this proposal. Buffer zones can help minimize the effects on the wilderness, and there are many studies on it, especially in riparian zones (since riparian zones are highly dynamic and highly sensitive to operations, such as mining). Also, I would like to know when in history (a scientific study would be wonderful evidence) re-routing a stream, much less a river, has been beneficial or even neutral to a watershed system? Also, what if the plan for the fish doesn't work? What is the plan when its past the point of return for populations of already sensitive species? These fish are important to Idahoans not only ecologically, but economically and culturally. Some are even on the Endangered Species Act, how is that being acknowledged? Please create more alternatives regarding re-routing such a vast amount of water and habitat.

It is important to acknowledge that these effects will not just be at the exact location of the alterations, but miles and miles downstream. Also, with all the new jobs, that will be many vehicles driving roads driven minimally, currently (some that border the river/ streams). How will Stibnite be paying for improvements? Will improvements benefit the ecosystem? Will the Forest Service be maintaining them? Also, economically, will our community receive a cut of profits? How, economically (long term) is this beneficial to our community? What happens when there is a vast amount of clean up and our community/ the Forest Service has to pay for this? Look at other mine operations that have fallen through and the communities that are financially burdened by their actions, with the companies being able to leave without consequence. How will the Forest Service handle this?

Money and Jobs are a short term investment in our community, compared to the ecological costs of this project.