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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a whitewater kayaking and highschool teacher. I am reaching raise my concerns and hopefully voice my opinions in a positive way about the Midas Gold mine on the headwaters of the South Fork of the Salmon. As a whitewater kayaker, I have had many chances to experience this amazing river and have seen the huge impact it has had on the greater community. I am not writing on behalf of anyone else or a special interest group but rather have great concerns about the environmental impact of this project and the societal value of keeping the Salmon River watershed pristine. I am writing to ask the Forest Service to create a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the relative agencies and public to review and have the opportunity to comment on in order to address all of the missing and incomplete information of the current DEIS highlighted below. I noticed there is a lot of missing information, and the best way to capture that is with a supplemental DEIS. So as a responsible agency who is involved with managing public resources, such as water quality and quantity, I ask that you please provide the aforementioned information. While I am also writing to support Alternative 5, the No Action Alternative outlined in the existing Stibnite Gold Project's Draft Environmental Impact Statement, the requested Supplemental Draft EIS is crucial for review and consideration. While I am concerned with the incomplete/unavailable information to evaluate the adverse impact of the mine, I am more concerned with the direct environmental, economic and social impact the mine will have regardless. The DEIS clearly states that all of the alternatives presented, apart from Alternative 5, would adversely affect federally listed endangered fish species, their habitat, and the watershed's water quality and quantity. This further negatively impacts economic vitality related to tourism and recreation of surrounding communities and those in Idaho who depend upon the integrated watershed of Salmon River systems and the hundreds of thousands of visitors each year to our National Forests. This number and economic benefits are growing immensely annually, with a recorded record number of visitors and related economic benefits in summer 2020. Thank you so much for listening.