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Comments: Please do NOT allow this proposal to go forward. The project is WAY too close to the Salmon River, and these mining operations have a well-documented history of environmental catastrophes. You must know this. Your job as a manager in the USFS is to protect our public lands, not sell them to the highest bidder. Please, please, PLEASE: protect OUR public lands (yours and mine) by denying this project. We just don't need any more of these massive resource-extraction operations in our most treasured, untouched wildernesses; the wilderness surrounding this project in particular is like no other in the lower 48, and that is worth protecting!

I am closely familiar with the NEPA process and how this often plays out with big would-be developers of public lands. The public is involved through scoping, sure, but ultimately the developers tend to get their way. You (USFS) may require mitigation with project implemented, and surely a swath of project design criteria (or similar management measures) will be required too. But what does all of this really do in comparison to just DENYING the project? Minimizing the impacts - as compared to avoiding them altogether - is MORE THAN WE CAN ACCEPT in this day and age. Our public lands are being handed out to the wealthiest developers in the world and the only thing folks like me can do to push back is write an impassioned letter like this one. So it is up to you! Just say no to these pushers!