Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/23/2020 3:29:25 AM First name: Madeline Last name: Wettig Organization:

Title:

Comments: As conscious humans, it is our duty to defend the wellbeing of intact ecosystems that have yet to be exploited by extractive industry or have healed over generations from previous extraction. Wild places--which are becoming fewer and further between-- are home to the more-than-human kin, the lives of which create, recycle, and regenerate the quality of life us in the West know and love. These animals and plants, fish and frogs, need our voice to preside over the greed and narrow, profit-focused industries whose only wish is to extract and exit, polluting and degrading what is alive and beautiful. We must speak on their behalf.

I have never experienced in person the South Fork of the Salmon River. I don't know of the stories those waters carry, the bends and canyons. I am not a kayaker, rafter, or fisherwoman. Who I am is an enjoyer of what remains wild and untrammeled. This connection is beyond personal. In preserving wild waters we are preserving our wild blood. We are protecting ourselves. And no gold is worth more than that.

I am in fervent opposition to the Stibnite Gold Project. We just cannot be extracting and destabilizing wild ecosystems at this time. It is time for humans to add to the health and prosperity of the species of the river.