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First name: Denise

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Payette National Forest,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the DEIS for the proposed Stibnite Gold Mine.

I have lived and worked in McCall, Idaho for 17 years and recreate in all the surrounding areas of McCall including the South Fork of the Salmon, East Fork South Fork, the Main Salmon and the areas every direction from Yellow Pine. These areas are highly valued by myself for their unspoiled beauty and remoteness. I have spent time backcountry skiing, backpacking, hiking and biking throughout this beautiful area.

One of my concerns about the impact of the proposed Stibnite Gold Mine stems from the impact it will have on recreation in these areas. The City of McCall is growing. Idaho's outdoor recreation economy generates \$7.8 billion in consumer spending supporting 78,000 jobs with 79% of Idaho residents participating in outdoor recreation (Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2018; Idaho Business for the Outdoors, 2020).

The DEIS (3.19 beginning on page 603) discusses the importance and abundance of recreation in the analysis area but fails to address how recreation will be impacted. I would like to know how these areas will be impacted as well as the economic impact stemming from its draw as a recreational area.

As Idaho is one of the fastest growing states in the nation, I would like to know the value of the area for recreation with an unlimited future versus the value of a short-term extraction of resources that have dire impacts on the ecosystem and negatively affect the very reason we recreate there in the first place.

Thank you for your consideration.