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Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My name is Sarah Rose Brooks; I am the Sales Manager at Cascade River Gear in Boise, Idaho. I am also a recreational kayaker and river rafter. The health of Idaho Rivers is immeasurably value to me both in the sense of supporting my livelihood, my recreational activity time and my spiritual and religious beliefs. For these reasons among others it is of the utmost importance the spectacular value of Idaho's whitewater resources be preserved. As a concerned citizen and stakeholder of these public lands in their current, undiminished sate, lands for which I am an owner of and for which the Forest Service is directed to manage in the public interest. I am a human being and a citizen of the state and country who is concerned about the well being of my fellow citizens in relation to environmental and public health. I am in no way affiliated with or writing on behalf of any public interest group. I am an individual that came to Idaho both to be with my family already living here and also to experience and utilize the wondrous and spectacular natural resources here. Idaho is such a special place because of the amazing network of beautiful rivers full of whitewater and fish. Ever since I got to Idaho I've been hearing stories about the beauty and the challenge of the SF Salmon River. Kayakers from all of the country make their pilgrimage with reverence and respect to Idaho to paddle the south fork. I hope to be able to rise to the challenge within the next couple of years and I hope it is still there for me and for innumerable generations after me. It's a very special and important place and it needs to be preserved.

It is VERY IMPORTANT that the Forest Service draws up both a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement for citizens like me (ie the public) and other agencies to be able to adequately educate themselves on and comment on. This is due to the fact the current DEIS has so many glaring paucities regarding the management of public resources such as water. I believe that a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement if the best way to inform these gaps in information. This is imperative to the public and other related agencies to be able to form a clear picture of the extent of anticipated impacts to our communities and resources.

There are at least a couple of issues I saw for paddlers, fishers, and community members like me in the current DEIS. First of all, the South Fork Salmon has already been found suitable and eligible by the US Forest Service for Wild and Scenic protections. Why has this not come to fruition? This should in and of itself be reason for the project's ineligibility. The South Fork Salmon is a crucial watershed for restoring healthy Salmon and Steelhead populations to the state of Idaho which are crucial to our cultural history, our ecological integrity, and sustainable economic development. The DEIS currently clearly states that any of the proposed options ASIDE for Alternative 5 would be damaging to the endangered species populations and the watershed in general. It is also clear that there seems to be absolutely zero plans for mitigating the hazards of trucking cyanide along South Fork Salmon, Burntlog Creek, and Johnson. Anyone who lives in or has spent any time in the areas knows what the roads and windy and the incidence of trucks coming off the road into waterways is a frequent occurrence and very real risk.

This is also to say that the environmental, social, and economic impacts of this have a) not been thoroughly vetted, explored, made accessible to the public for comment via the current DEIS and b) from what we do know, the proposed project with be disastrous to endangered fish species, tourism and recreation, public trust, and long term public health. Please note my support for Alternative 5, the No Action Alternative outlined in the existing Stibnite Gold Project's Draft Environmental Impact Statement and request for a Supplemental Draft

Environmental Impact Statement.