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First name: Brenden

Last name: Cronin

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Ms. Jackson,

I know in your heart that you don't believe this mine is the right thing to do but I can only imagine the pressure you must feel to approve this project.

As the Forest Service motto states "Caring for the land and serving the people" I ask you to care for and think of people 50 years in the future. The continued molestation of these public lands and rivers does nothing for the generations who have yet to experience them.

For myself as a former Forest Service river ranger on the Salmon and Payette rivers I can tell you first hand the joys that these lands bring to people in their purest forms. The site of pit mines, re-routed rivers and hazardous chemicals do not bring that same type of pure joy. And while the money gained from a project like this may bring people joy in the short term, that money will soon fade. The generations to follow us will only feel anger and sorrow in seeing the mess that may be left behind.

What I enjoyed most in working for the Forest Service was doing my best to help people enjoy the wonders that our public lands can provide to any and all who visit them. I felt I owed it to them to protect them and the land that WE ALL OWN.

In my role now as an avalanche forecaster for a highway system I feel that same sense of pride in knowing that I am doing my best to keep people safe.

I'd ask you to look in your heart and ask yourself am I really doing my best to keep people safe? Are you doing your best to serve ALL AMERICANS who have a stake in this land that we all love so much?

You have an incredibly hard decision to make and it is one that I do not envy. But as a fellow servant of the public I trust that you will do what is best for all, not just those here and now but the best for generations to come.

Sincerely

Brenden F. Cronin