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Comments: As an Idahoan, a public land owner, an avid outdoor recreationist and a scientist passionate about our lands, rivers, and the species dependent upon them, I urge you to support the No Action Alternative and forever halt further mining at Stibnite. Our National Forests and Idaho rivers and our outdoor recreation economy need our protection!

The East Fork/South Fork of the Salmon River provides critical habitat for 3 Endangered Species Act listed fish species: chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout.

According to the USFS website, the South Fork of the Salmon is designated as critical chinook salmon habitat.

"Within critical habitat, an agency must avoid actions that destroy or adversely modify that critical habitat."

Anadromous salmon are a "keystone" species in both aquatic and terrestrial environments, meaning they influence survival or reproduction of other species. Idaho Gov. Little even implemented a Governor's Salmon Workgroup in April 2019 to address salmon and steelhead population collapse and continued substantial decline since the development of dams on the lower Snake River. Gov. Little is even quoted his wish to "develop effective salmon and steelhead policy for Idaho to ensure that abundant and sustainable populations of salmon and steelhead exist for present and future generations to enjoy." How can we continue to endanger habitat for these critical species when they are already facing so many assaults? Unfortunately, not only do the fish have trouble getting to these headwaters, but now we are diminishing their chance for survival by destruction of important habitat and contamination of our water.

Idahoans have protected and restored some of the best habitat for salmon and steelhead anywhere in the world -

- Let's continue to do so! Today, only two percent of historical populations remain - PLEASE HELP PREVENT THE EXTINCTION OF THESE SPECIES AND OTHERS THAT RELY ON THESE SPECIES FOR SURVIVAL!

Anadromous salmon are a "keystone" species in both aquatic and terrestrial environments, meaning they influence survival or reproduction of other species. The Stibnite Gold Project would significantly modify this critical habitat for chinook (and steelhead and bull trout). According to Alternative 2 (Midas Gold's proposal) of the DEIS, this project would destroy 20.8% of chinook salmon critical habitat and 27.5% of bull trout critical habitat in the analysis area. These are unacceptable losses for these already endangered fish and I urge you to protect them. All Action Alternatives in the DEIS would destroy and adversely modify the critical habitat of chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout.

Anadromous salmon are a "keystone" species in both aquatic and terrestrial environments, meaning they influence survival or reproduction of other species, but the impacts of the Stibnite Gold Project would extend beyond fish. The looming risks of large scale mining include acid mine drainage, tailings dams failures, and cyanide spills. Possibilities of contamination from mining activities, which will create 446 million tons of potential acid generating and/or metal leaching materials and 161,095 sq. meters of open pit walls is too risky.

Additionally, mine access roads would cross 71 different streams, exposing each stream to the risk of hazardous material spills and increased sedimentation.

The South Fork Salmon River (and the East Fork South Fork) represent something special to citizens in Idaho and beyond. I am one of the whitewater paddlers and anglers travel whom enjoys this irreplaceable river.

Downstream from the mine site, the South Fork is suitable for Wild & Scenic designation. In addition to restricted tribal and recreational access in the 3,423 acre mine footprint and 13,446 acres of public land within the Operations Area Boundary for 20 years, unforeseen circumstances (mine or dam failures, contamination, etc.) could jeopardize even more river miles and recreational opportunities downstream.

Twenty years of jobs and the greed of a Canadian mining company is NOT worth more than the values that everyday Idahoans hold dear. The price is too much.

Please stop the Stibnite Mine Project.