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First name: Allison

Last name: Dwyer

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a native Idahoan, local healthcare provider, and whitewater kayaker, and I oppose the Stibnite Gold Project. I have paddled the East Fork South Fork and South Fork Salmon every year for the past 7 years. This river corridor is a special place that should not be destroyed by a foreign mining company.

I am writing to ask the Forest Service to create a supplemental DEIS due to the fact that there were several overlooked as well as not clearly or fully addressed issues in the current DEIS. The public should have a full and complete DEIS for review and comment and the current one is inadequate. With its current content I am advocating for Alternative 5, no action.

Midas claims the project will bring many jobs to the area. While this may be true in the short term, the jobs will leave when the mine closes. There is a strong possibility of that happening sooner than anticipated due to a spill based on the fact that Midas plans to use cyanide leach mining which has a known high failure rate. Additionally, the issue of recreational jobs lost due to contamination is not addressed. What jobs are being lost due to this project and more so if/when it fails? Should the water become contaminated, it could affect outfitters for fishing, hunting, and whitewater rafting. This job loss could spread to the Payette River system as well, as mining related traffic will be using the already overburdened Hwy 55 corridor. The narrow, winding, congested roads see numerous accidents, often with road closures and fatalities each year. This is not a safe route for vehicles transporting toxic materials and this issue needs to be further explored.

Midas has laid out an impressive plan for reclamation, as mining companies often do. The plan is very vague with no end date, and this needs to be further addressed. Also at issue is the fact that they recently sued the U.S. government to keep from being held accountable for water pollution on U.S. Forest Service land. This type of action shows they aren't committed to taking full responsibility for the project. If the DEIS takes into account what Midas claims it is going to do, it should also take into account contradictory actions Midas is currently taking.

Thank you for your time.