

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/28/2020 6:50:58 PM

First name: Vail

Last name: Dark

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hi there,

I grew up in Boise, Idaho and am asking you to please say NO to the Stibnite mine proposal. I now study similar ecosystems and am in my senior year of my environmental science degree. There is no doubt in my mind that no matter what "restoration plan" Midas Gold may have proposed, there will be chemical leaching that will destroy these ecosystems, and clean up will fall on the taxpayers in the long-run (as has been the long-running pattern with mines). These chemicals stay in rivers for extended periods of time and cannot be removed. This will kill fish and people. The endangered salmon that call this river home will not survive this. They are a critical resource for folks (especially Indigenous people) in the Pacific Northwest and contribute to local economies via fishing tourism and harvesting. The short-term economic gains made from this mine do not outweigh the danger 1) the cost of clean up from accidents or remediation and 2) the danger of losing the long-term, sustainable economy from tourism and consumption of the fish that rely on this river.

The people of Idaho do not want this mine. They want their rivers to be clean and their fish to be healthy. This mine will make very few people richer, and will decimate the environment we all rely on for survival and the recreation that makes Idaho so special. Vote NO on this proposal. We are all watching, and will see if you listen to the voices of the people. If you do not listen to the voices of the people you supposedly represent, we will not hesitate to remove you from your position of power.

The harm done here if we do not act responsibly now may be irreversible, no matter what Midas Gold tells you.

Listen to our voices and please vote NO for mining, and instead vote YES for protection of the ecosystems we all love and rely on.