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First name: Nate

Last name: Merrill

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

I'm writing today to voice my opposition to the proposed mining development project in the South Fork Salmon drainage by Midas Gold company. Although I'm not an Idaho citizen, I travel from my home state of Oregon to recreate in and around the South Fork Salmon several times each year. I believe the region holds tremendous value as a destination for outdoor enthusiasts due to its beauty and pristine waters. Any development, including mining in the upper reaches of the watershed will adversely impact the wilderness via erosion, pollution, and deforestation, thus diminishing the appeal for tourism and recreation. Each spring and summer, hundreds of outdoor enthusiasts travel from around the world to experience this unique, isolated, rugged landscape, bringing with them travel costs towards fuel, food, permits, groceries, and litany of other money earning services that add to Idaho's economy. I highly encourage the powers that be to consider the impact that mining will have on the intrinsic value of the geography, and by proxy, the recreation economy of Idaho as a whole.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A concerned citizen.

Nate Merrill

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