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Comments: To Whom It May Concern:

I am a student in the environmental science class in Enterprise High School, Oregon. We are currently studying the many effects that mining has on the environment. While there are both positive and negative effects of mining, I don't believe that this Stibnite mine is a good idea because it poses many hazards to the environment. For example, many mining industries in the past have often had cyanide leaks. Cyanide is a deadly toxin that is very harmful to organisms and their habitats. It leaches into the soil, where it can enter the groundwater system and end up in streams and rivers, killing catastrophic amounts of fish, which would pose a hazard to 3 ESA listed fish species. Another reason that this mine is a bad idea is that it requires a substantial amount of public land. For example, it would limit access to at least 75% of public land including 3,400 acres of disturbance and 13,400 acres of restricted areas to the public for a minimum of at least 20 years. The South Fork is known for its abundance in wildlife, and attracts tourists worldwide. The construction of this mine would diminish all ties to the public; not to mention the tribal and cultural loss of the Nez Perce tribe's aboriginal hunting, fishing, and foraging grounds, to which they have treaty rights. We should strive to keep the South Fork a place abundant in wildlife, and a place where the public can enjoy nature.