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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello. Thank you for allowing all of us to comment on this project. I am writing to voice my concerns and objection to the proposed Stibnite Mine. I am not opposed to mining but I am opposed to this mine specifically because of its location. I was born and raised in Idaho and it is the only place I have ever called home. Enlarging the stibnite mine in the headwaters of the Salmon River is too risky. The drainage that consists of the EFSF, SF, and Main Salmon is my favorite place on our planet. I want to see it preserved for many generations to come.

Creating 3 open pit mines at 700 feet deep and a 450 ft dam in the middle of a watershed that has seen a 6.5 earthquake this year and many aftershocks is too dangerous.

Increasing traffic and widening roads in this area will increase erosion and sedimentary impacts on crucial salmon habitat.

The DEIS plan states that 20.8% of chinook salmon and 27.5% of bull trout critical habitat will be destroyed in the project analysis area. There will also be an increase in water temperatures of 4 degrees celsius in the area, having another negative impact on spawning in the fall and summer.

This project will leave behind 100 million tons of contaminated mining waste on public lands. This waste will eventually find its way down the watershed.

This project will disturb 1,991 acres of land 72 percent of that is on public land.  
53% of that is on undisturbed public land.

What will the effects of arsenic and mercury have on migratory and water birds that land in the pit lakes?

How will recreation be affected by this in the area? I see no mention of this in the DEIS. The economic stimulus Midas will bring to the area will be short lived but the economic stimulus Idaho's untouched wilderness draws in through recreation will continue as long as we preserve our wilderness.

Our clean water, the return of our migratory fish, our recreation economy, and our untouched wilderness are too valuable. This project means a temporary financial gain for a few but long term environmental problems for Idaho.

Thank you for your time.