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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing as a former resident of McCall and a current resident of Kellogg, ID. I am a chemist and have worked in environmental laboratories for several years. I have been recreating in the south fork of the salmon river drainage for over ten years and it is a very important place to me where I seek out very unique recreational opportunities and solitude that cannot be found else where. My family paddles the world class white water, we hunt big game animals, camp, and soak in some of the most unique hot springs in the state. I have concerns about a decrease in water quality specifically heavy metals and a decrease in pH. I am concerned a decrease in water quality will have a negative impact on several fish species including chinook salmon. I am also concerned that Stibnite will not take on the financial obligation of treating the mine tailing waste. As a silver valley resident I have seen how we as tax payers have had to foot the bill for a large water treatment facility in Kellogg to treat the mining waste that was left by a foreign company who claimed bankruptcy after the extraction was done and left the state responsible for the clean up. The river in town is still so polluted that there are no fish, there are signs along the river stating to not allow your pets or children in the water because it is dangerously contaminated. I as an Idahoan oppose the south fork of the salmon as a place to take this risk of continued mining pollution due to its unique opportunities and ecosystem. Thank you for your time.