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First name: Tim

Last name: Madison

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello, My name is Tim. I am originally from Georgia. I moved to Oregon six years ago with my wife to live in the "west". We now have a 2yr/old daughter. My wife and I are both work in the medical field and enjoy spending time in the outdoors. We frequently paddle the rivers of Idaho, eastern Oregon, and many other great western rivers. The south fork of the Salmon is just one of the main rivers we enjoy. Every year we send out a large invitation to our friends and family to come out to float one of these rivers with us for a multi day rafting, kayaking, camping, hiking trip. Often our family and friends come out, who previously were unaware of just how magnificent these places really are, and they continue to come out for trips for many years to come. We were fortunate enough to paddle the South Fork over the last several years. Along the way we stop in the local communities. Spending time in local campgrounds, sometimes motels, eating at "mom and pop" cafes, and local stores. It is these local communities and wild lands that drive us to spend our vacation time and money here. We recently heard about the proposed Midas mine. It was with great sadness that we imagined what could happen to the South Fork IF this type of construction took place. Not only the mine itself but the increased road usage, the development of the land, the construction process, the impact goes on and on. And that is if everything goes right. In the instance the mine contaminates the local environment this would inevitably float downstream. Making an impact from the local communities all the way downstream to the coast and everything in between. It would be short sided to allow this mine to come in and take away America's greatest resource, our wild lands. And it was because our fore fathers protected this land a century ago from greedy businessmen that we still have it unspoiled today. Even more reason to continue to protect it for my daughter to enjoy, and hopefully her daughter one day too. Please consider continuing to protect America's greatest resource for all of the people of our great country to enjoy. Thank you for your consideration, Tim