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First name: Chris

Last name: Lambiotte

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Supervisor Jackson,

I am a resident of Eastern Washington and have enjoyed recreating in and around the rivers of Idaho for many years. I am writing to comment on the Stibnite Gold Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) by giving an example of how I have used the river system and the importance of keeping clean or cleaner than it is now. I am a Mechanical Engineer and father of two young boys. My family spends a significant amount of time in and around rivers in the Salmon River watershed. I have kayaked the South Fork Salmon to the Main Salmon in addition to other rivers in the area. The area is unique and a place to get away into the backcountry.

I fear the consequences of having a mine employing 500-1000 people commuting to and from the site and/or living near the site and all that brings to the area to significantly change it. The surrounding area not included in the mine will have much more pressure to be modified. The mountains are rugged and difficult to access in places, providing more opportunity to get away from more populated areas. During my recent kayak trip down the river we saw fresh bear tracks in the sand next to the river and also, I believe wolf and mountain lion tracks. I'm not sure the DEIS evaluates the effect on the larger ecology of the area and its importance.

The water quality of the river system is very important to me. Every year my family raft, kayak and camp on the Lower Salmon from above Riggins to the Snake River. We use boiled and filtered drinking water from the river and play in the river all day for many days. I fear there will be negative effects of the mine to the water quality.

There is risk of accident or changing climate, with more floods and fires.

I supported the no-action alternative.

Sincerely,

Chris Lambiotte

October 2020