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First name: Crista
Last name: Wiles
Organization:
Title:
Comments: Stibnite Gold Project

Hello Victoria,

My name is Crista Wiles, I am a high school teacher and whitewater kayak enthusiast living in British Columbia, Canada. I love spending time on the river and have had the pleasure of spending a significant part of many summers in Idaho. Idaho is a truly special place, specifically because of its rivers. The South Fork of the Salmon River is a place I hope to enjoy and share with others for a lifetime. This section of river has played a huge role in my development as a kayaker and I know I am not alone in this.

I am writing to you today because I am concerned about the future of the South Salmon. I recently heard about the Stibnite Gold Project and wanted to share my concerns and hope to hear more about what is being done to ensure the protection of this special place. Having seen the impact of mines before, I want to ensure that this project is well thought through before it is considered. Today more than ever we have seen the devastating impacts mines can have on sacred areas: rises in stream temperatures for several endangered or threatened species of fish, chemical pollution and bank erosion to name a few. Also, as I develop my understanding of land rights, I believe this is on Public Land that is sacred to the Nez Perce and want to ensure that this has been approved.

I request to please extend the commenting period to the full 120 days in regards to the Midas Mine on the South Fork White Salmon.  It takes a lot of time to get through and understand what is going on here, while I have been learning, I am far from understanding what is available to the public in terms of speaking up and reaching enough people to act and show that we are a community that deeply cares about this environment.

Your help in this matter is appreciated! Please do not hesitate to contact me.

All the best,
Crista Wiles