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Comments: Allowing Midas Gold to reopen the Stibnite Mine will cause mass destruction to all of the ecosystems that depend on the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River. Currently, if the plan is followed through, then the Stibnite Mine will become one of the largest in the country! And once underway, they plan to expand even further! The company isn't even from Idaho or the United States, how will they understand what this watershed means to the Nez Perce people, the summer Chinook Salmon, bull trout, or anyone or anything else that's been connected to this river? These owners solely have a vested interest in one thing: financial gain.

Midas Gold has pitched their plan as a restoration project and puts subtle advertisements on things that are environmentally friendly such as bicycles you can rent and their docking stations in Boise. However, according to Idaho Rivers United, an organization that advocates for the protection of Idaho's Rivers and the ecosystems and people that depend on them, the Stibnite Mine will triple the carbon footprint of the old mine area. This will occur due to three open pit mines as well as the use of cyanide leaching to extract valuable metals. Aside from the damage that has been foreseen, accidents also happen. That means that toxic poisons can spread into the Main Salmon River since the East Fork is one of its main tributaries. Clearly, Midas Gold prioritizes economic gain over environmental protection and stewardship and doesn't truly want to "restore" the site when it plans to cause even greater environmental harm through its mining operations.

The company's DEIS states that the bull trout and summer Chinook Salmon, two of the species on the Endangered Species List will have their habitats destroyed by a minimum of 20%. Many other animals will be displaced. Others will be affected as well. Over 75% of this project is on PUBLIC land, hence any person who wishes to visit this awe-inspiring wilderness will find themselves disappointed since over 13,000 acres of this federal land will be closed to public use and inaccessible for decades. Midas Gold's ulterior motive is monetary gain, and their facade as an environmentally focused mining company is a travesty. This mine is not worth further endangering historically important Idaho fish species and wildlife and well as changing Idaho's pristine lands that Idaho is known for.

Please stop the Stibnite mine.