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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Forest Service,

I am writing to you today concerning the potential loss of protection for the South Fork of the Salmon River and the possibility of it being opened to mining. I have the privilege of working in the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness in Idaho and have personally had the opportunity to work, hike, and recreate on and around the Salmon River. Not only is the river an irreplaceable resource and force of nature, but it is of great cultural significance to the people of the Nez Perce Tribe whose traditional homelands includes the Salmon River. Access to undisturbed landscapes like that of the Salmon River are becoming more difficult to come by. If the pristine nature of the Salmon River were to be lost, it would result in not only a loss of biodiversity, but ecotourism as well. The Salmon River continues to be a haven for flora and fauna, spreading crucial nutrients along its path. The altering of this magnificent resource would infringe upon its abilities to serve the surrounding environment and people. Everything possible must be done to protect the Salmon River or there will be devastating consequences.