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Comments: Please accept this letter as an expression of my personal opposition to the proposed Stibnite mine project in the headwaters of the South Fork Salmon River as proposed by Perpetua. As a physician I am most concerned about potential environmental health risks proposed by this project, most directly due to likely runoff and ground water contamination from the proposed mining activities.

Specifically, approximately 120 acres of wetlands and 619 acres of riparian areas would be permanently altered, resulting in direct permanent impacts to water quality. Stream water temperatures would increase in parts of the drainage. Metals and other contaminants would be leached from waste rock and tailings, requiring constant water treatment to meet standards.

The geochemical testing results and modeling efforts appear to be flawed and/or inadequate and will likely underestimate adverse impacts of the resultant surface and ground water contamination.

In summary, I feel that the negative impacts of the proposed mining activities on recreation, conservation, ecology, fisheries & wildlife, surface & ground water quality, and tribal concerns far outweigh limited, potential economic benefits. The South Fork Salmon watershed ecosystem must be protected in perpetuity from potentially irreparable, commercial exploitation. The USFS must oppose granting of consent for Perpetua's mining proposal. Your positive consideration of my above comments would be appreciated.