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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Perpetua Resources (formerly Midas Gold) is proposing a massive strip mine on the Payette National Forest at the doorstep of the famed Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness and in the headwaters of the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River in Idaho.

PLEASE DENY THE MINE PERMIT. Our wilderness areas and rivers belong to the people and to the future. They should not be degraded for the benefit of short-term profits in the private sector.

The Stibnite Gold Project will damage the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness; the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River and endanger species such as salmon, steelhead, and bull trout.

Millions of dollars have already been spent by the Nez Perce Tribe and the federal government in trying to clean up the legacy of past mining impacts. Now Perpetua Resources wants to re-open and expand former mine pits here for its proposed cyanide vat leach gold mine called Stibnite Gold Project.

The Stibnite Gold Project doubles the old mine's existing footprint. It will use up to a fifth of the water in part of the East Fork of the South Fork. It includes 1,800 acres of mine pits, 15 miles of new roads (plus dozens of miles of currently remote USFS roads), a 400 foot-high tailings dam for 100 million tons of materials, more than 3,000 annual hazardous vehicle trips, year-round traffic for the mine's 25-year time period, and other infrastructure within the nearly 30,000-acre project area.

WE MUST PROTECT OUR RIVERS AND WILDERNESS AREAS FOR ALL AMERICANS AND FOR THE FUTURE. THERE IS NO REASON A PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITY SHOULD BE ABLE TO DEGRADE OUR COUNTRIES RESOURCES FOR SHORT-TERM PROFIT AT THE COST OF VERY LONG-TERM COSTS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY RIVERS AND BIODIVERSITY.

Sincerely,

Dr Hilary Lorraine (Environmental Policy Analyst)