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Comments: I write in opposition to the proposed strip mine on the Payette National Forest, proposed by Perpetua Resources (formerly Midas Gold).

The Nez Perce Tribe and the federal government already have spent millions of dollars in trying to clean up the legacy of past mining impacts.

The Stibnite Gold Project puts not only the famed Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness at risk, but also the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River and endangered species such as salmon, steelhead, and bull trout.

Under the preferred alternative, road construction and mining operations would cause serious impacts to the River of No Return Wilderness, including noise audible from a nearly 2-mile radius, wildlife disturbance and displacement, increased access to and activity in what are now quiet and lightly-visited places in the Wilderness, and sediment pollution in streams within the Wilderness.

The wilderness evaluation erroneously downplays these impacts.

Please do not grant a permit for this project -- yet one more project that will put money into the hands of a few, while disenfranchising many, and leaving a polluted and ugly environment.