Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/6/2023 1:51:50 PM First name: Andrew Last name: Ashburn Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Forest Service must deny the permit for Perpetua Resource's Stibnite Gold Project! Perpetua must finish clean-up of the mine site! Heed the call of the Nez Perce, who ask for the mining industry to remediate the generational trauma caused by their extractive practices!

Endangered species such as Salmon, Steelhead and Bull Trout all depend on the East fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River which is immediately threatened by this project proposal. This project is not worth destroying what the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness is meant to protect! Under the preferred alternative, the necessary road construction and preliminary mining operations alone would seriously disrupt all local life, that is not displaced or destroyed, in the Wilderness. Industrial noise will be audible for miles around along with an inescapable increase of access to now quiet and hard-to-reach places within the Wilderness. Sediment will no doubt pollute streams within this Wilderness!

The Wilderness Evaluation done thus far is completely inadequate and fails to address these serious concerns for the continued stability of one of a very few remaining, functioning wild ecosystems. This site and the surrounding communities have already suffered a legacy of toxic mining impacts.

The proposed road would sit within 100ft of the Wilderness boundary thus destroying the wild character of the land for miles around. This road will likely enter the Wilderness due to issues of convenience. Roads into wilderness indelibly lead to the total destruction of said wilderness' value.

Do not approve of this project! It would violate the sanctity of Our Wilderness system! Thank you for you attention.