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Comments: 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 and chemical runoff pollution in streams within the Wilderness.
The wilderness evaluation erroneously downplays these impacts.
The new proposed road would sit 100 feet from the wilderness boundary or could even enter the Wilderness, as the most logical location for the road seems to be an existing pack trail that dips into the Wilderness.
The last thing this area needs is more toxic mining and associated impacts.
The Forest Service needs to deny the permit for Perpetua Resource's Stibnite Gold Project and require Perpetua to finish cleaning up the mine site.
This is important because most mining projects have NEVER cleaned up their sites to allow for the area to recover to their natural state. The main goal of any of these companies is to come in and go out as quickly as possible to make a profit, leaving a huge amount of toxic materials to clean up. The Biden administration has promised to improve the US environment and this is NOT helping. Above all, declining fish population are also impacting ocean predators such as orca and sharks.