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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. Resident fish populations are already at risk due to large dams and climate change, allowing mining activities further compromises the survival of these populations.

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. We have made past mistakes by allowing mining in public lands and not requiring mining operations to clean up the mine sites after they are finished. Mining activities continue to pollute streams and rivers of the United States long after the mining operations have ceased. The USFS should require a retainer from mining companies wishing to mine public lands to provide funds for mine clean up. In regards to the Stibnite gold project, Perpetua has shown that they have no intent of cleaning and restoring the sites after they are finished because they haven't cleaned up from the previous mining operations. This project should not be approved and Perpetua should be required by law to remediate the current site.

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.

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.