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First name: Lorraine

Last name: Markoff

Organization: retired

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.

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 mine puts not only the Wilderness at risk, but also the Salmon River and endangered species such as salmon, steelhead, and bull trout.

Road construction and mining operations would cause serious impacts to the River of No Return Wilderness. A new road would be constructed along a ridge that forms the boundary of the Wilderness. There should be no new roads built anywhere near Wilderness!

The Forest Service needs to deny the mine permit and require Perpetua to finish cleaning up the mine site. The Nez Perce Tribe has been actively working to clean up the South Fork of the Salmon and has challenged this mining proposal. The last thing the area needs is more toxic mining pollution and all other harmful impacts.

Please deny the permit, thank you!