Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/7/2023 10:42:47 PM First name: Joan Last name: Smith Organization: Title:

Comments: The Stibnite Gold Project jeopardizes several sacred areas. It puts both the famed Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness at risk, and also the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River. It further endangers species such as salmon, steelhead, and bull trout.

The preferred alternative is not good enough. Road construction and mining operations would cause create noise audible from a nearly 2-mile radius. Wildlife will be disturbed and displaced. Quiet and lightly-visited places in the Wilderness will be more heavily used with obvious threats of destruction to the area. Streams within the Wilderness will be polluted with sediment. All are serious impacts to the River of No Return Wilderness, which are too important to ignore.

The wilderness evaluation erroneously downplays these additional 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.