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First name: Nancy

Last name: Cussler

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Payette National Forest,

I am writing to comment on the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS, October 2022) for the proposed Stibnite Gold Project (SGP). For the record, I am strongly opposed to the Stibnite Gold Project.

I have lived in McCall, ID. for 44 years and consider the South Fork Salmon and the Main Salmon as my backyard. The unspoiled nature of these rivers is at the heart of not only my life but the lives of my children and grandchildren.

The SGP, as proposed would cause unavoidable environmental and socioeconomic risks to our ecosystems and local communities for decades to come. The SDEIS, as written, does not adequately address or substantiate many issues related to the socioeconomic impacts of the SGP.

As a retired medical professional who worked in McCall and the surrounding communities for 40+ years, I am particularly concerned about the health risks and injuries inevitable for those working in and around the SGP. Those tasked with transporting machinery, hazardous materials and supplies to the project site are very much at risk. Where in the SDEIS is there any indication of plans to coordinate/collaborate with our local hospitals and/or medical providers on how emergency care services will be provided? Between the limited Emergency Medical Service providers available in our communities and the remoteness and risky routes to and from the SGP site, it is imperative that plans for medical emergencies be formulated in the SDEIS. It is also imperative that our local hospitals and health care professional be specifically prepared to treat potential hazardous material exposures for those transporting and working with these substances. Again, there is no indication in the SDEIS that there is a coordinated plan for emergency care between Perpetua and those that will be responsible for providing that care.

The fact that the SDEIS does not adequately address this and other infrastructure issues is of grave concern. The USFS is obligated to validate the SDEIS as accurate, complete and TRUTHFUL. It is your responsibility to rigorously explore all reasonable alternatives. The inaccurate data, incorrect assumptions and unaddressed issues in this document indicate that there is no other option but for the USFS to elect the NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE in response to the SDEIS for the SGP.

Sincerely,

Nancy Cussler

McCall, Idaho