

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/8/2023 9:15:43 PM

First name: Kathy

Last name: Smith

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Stibnite Gold Project would very negatively affect too many areas and species to be approved. It would not only put the 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 trout, and bull trout. Road construction and mining operations should not be allowed and 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.

A massive strip mine is entirely incompatible with this wilderness area. Additionally, 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. It defies logic to re-open and expand former mining pits, which once again would leave the government spending millions of dollars to clean up toxic cyanide. The company, Perpetua Resources, would make money at the expense of the taxpayer who will end up cleaning up their mess, and at the expense of this beautiful wilderness land that will be irrevocably damaged, which would be a huge detriment to the citizens of this land who enjoy this landscape and the wild creatures that call it home. Please protect the land over company profits. This land belongs to all of us to enjoy, not just for a company to degrade, destroy and poison.