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Comments: I attended graduate school at the University of Idaho, McCall field campus and received my master's degree in Environmental Science and Natural Resources. During my studies I conducted research on the effects of the Stibnite mining operations and wildfire to Chinook salmon populations along the East Fork of the Southfork and Southfork tributaries of the Salmon river.

There is an undeniable correlation to mine pollution and tailings to decreased Chinook salmon and other salmonoid populations in the entire watershed.

With compounding threats to these absolutely vital cultural species to the general Pacific Northwest and specifically to tribes including Nez Perce, and the fact that this species is a keystone species of the very ecosystem of the proposed mine - we must stop every single continued threat for the species' survival. They are on the brink of extinction and considering that so few salmonoids are returning to Idaho and more inland streams across the west, any major environmental threat such as a mine at the headwaters of one of the most pristine watersheds in the world, should cause immediate concern and be halted. I suggest the Forest Service weigh the weight of the cons of this project and not accept any alternative plan to let the mine operate in this area.

There has never been in the history of mining in the United States, or the world for that matter - the cleanup and environmental sustainability that Perpetua Resources claims they will do. There is no law that holds them to that standard, truly, and they will leave the superfund site worse than it was with hundreds of years more of detriment to these lands, creatures, water, and people. Mining companies are ultra-conservative with their money - whenever a company claims to "be the first" or have "the best technology" this should be an immediate red-flag. They would never risk being the "first" as the return on investment is too risky, and that should be all you need to know about them giving false claims to "leaving the mine site better than when they started".

Additionally, this entire territory is tribal lands. The forest service should consider the tribal nation voices over mining claims as the treaty is the ultimate rule over the land, regardless of the mining law. Considering the proposed material to be mined is not for sustainable uses, and the risks far out-weigh any potential benefits - the mine operation should be closed and the land allowed to heal.

For the salmon, for the people, do not approve this project.