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First name: Erika

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

I am a Forest Service employee who has been a river ranger on the Boise National Forest's Payette river for 2 years. I believe as a citizen who lives and works near the location of this mine that the Forest Service is unwisely ignoring the long term threats the mine poses.

I believe that recreation is the most underutilized part of the Forest Service. This area is a huge recreational area. Furthermore, as someone who has worked for land based agencies for years, I believe mines to be environmental hazards. No matter how carefully a project is monitored, it seems there is a huge risk for leeching chemicals into our land and waterways.

Future years will see uncertain water sources. It will be sad if the legacy this forest leaves is to add hazards to an area that boasts some of the best rivers in the country.

We are ready witnessing a mass extinction. We should be working to fight, not escalate, this issue.

"We need acts of restoration, not only for polluted waters and degraded lands, but also for our relationship to the world. We need to restore honor to the way we live, so that when we walk through the world we don't have to avert our eyes with shame, so that we can hold our heads up high and receive the respectful acknowledgment of the rest of the earth's beings."

-Robin Wall Kimmerer

Please do not approve the mine.

Sincerely,

Erika Schaubach