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First name: Dale

Last name: Reynolds

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Ms Linda Jackson,

I am requesting that the Forest Service not approve the proposed Stibnite Gold Project (SGP). This project would negatively impact the economy, transportation, wildlife, and environment of the surrounding towns and area.

The SGP would impact the economy of this region, which now relies on tourism and recreation, not metal extraction. Finding employees and housing is already difficult in this area. People wanting to work and live in Valley County are getting priced out of the market. The SGP would be competing for these employees and housing. I agree with the findings of the Power Socio-Economic Report on the SGP.

I grew up in Idaho and have visited the McCall area all of my life. Trying to drive up Highway 55 on the holidays and weekends is slow and dangerous. The SGP would add more traffic with large trucks carrying equipment, fuels, materials, and hazardous materials. The resulting congestion on this narrow and winding highway would lead to more accidents, and possible spills of contaminants into the Payette River. And further up the route, the spill risk would be in the East South Fork.

The SGP lies near the headwaters of the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River . This area needs to be protected and preserved. Any disruption in this area would impact all of the downriver drainage and would damage fish and wildlife populations.

I have seen the damage caused to the environment from old mining activities. The grounds are bare, not productive, and torn apart. There are old tailings piles, ponds, and tunnels with materials that are leaching into the groundwater, rivers, and air, thus harming the environment. Once the SGP has removed gold and silver, it will leave, taking most of the profits with them. This area needs to be protected for us and future generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration.