Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/10/2023 2:09:39 AM First name: Stephen Last name: Morningstar Organization:

Title:

Comments: My family and I have recently become involved in the white water river rafting scene and have quite enjoyed our time spent unplugging from our technology focused lives and refocusing on the world around us. We have now participated in three multiple day overnight trips on various rivers in the intermountain west region. This new hobby has opened our eyes to the joy of floating along to discover new landscapes and gawk at the wildlife that so freely exist without disruption. These places are available to us only because of the thoughtful protection of our world that others years ago set aside to be left untouched and as pure as the day they were created.

My understanding is that this project will greatly impact the river experience in the River of no return wilderness area. I've never experienced this area as I'm fairly new to spending my vacations in places where I will come across more animals than people. If these plans are allowed to continue, I'm certain I won't be able to experience the east fork of the south fork of the salmon river in the way that it currently exists. If this is approved, we will all be losing something special. The last thing this world needs is more toxic mining and its associated impacts.