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Comments: The South Fork Salmon River is essential habitat for salmon and steelhead in the Salmon River basin, and also support native bull and westslope cutthroat trout. The SF Salmon als supports an economically, culturally, and socially important fishery which I and my family have participated in over the years. Mining and associated infrastructure such as roads, no matter how well mitigated, pose a substantial risk to the river and is fishery resources. The SF Salmon has taken a long time to recover from prior land management activities, and has been especially susceptible to road failures and other erosion associated with ground disturbance. The SF Salmon basin is also valuable for big game and other wildlife, and the recreation associated with that wildlife. The increase in human activity that will result from among operation can be expected to negatively impact those benefits.

While mining can have economic benefits they are typically short lived with long term consequences on the environment and communities. Having first hand professional experience over much of my 40 plus year career working to assess and restore fish and wildlife resources resources negatively impacted by mining activities elsewhere in Idaho,. Iam concerned the proposed Stibnite mine will result in similar consequences as we've experienced in virtually every other mining district in Idaho.

I encourage strongly considering, and selecting, the "no action" alternative.