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Comments: Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) for the Stibnite Gold Project (SGP), proposed at the headwaters of the South Fork Salmon River watershed. I oppose the Stibnite Gold Project.

During a review of all 27 of the modern operating gold mines in the United States, it was found that every single one experienced a pipeline spill or other accidental release of hazardous materials. Most mines experienced several of such incidents. Given the track record of the gold mining industry, the Stibnite Gold Project is unacceptable to me. Why would we subject the South Fork Salmon River watershed to certain contamination?

In another example of the gold mining industry's modern track record, water quality was negatively impacted at 74% of US gold mines. This impacted both drinking water supplies and resulted in fish kills. Again, we cannot risk this in the South Fork Salmon River.

On page 4-386 of the SDEIS, the Forest Service states that "The direct mortality of fish would be an irreversible impact that could occur under the Action Alternatives. Although fish exclusion barriers and trap and transfer activities would be incorporated to minimize fish mortality, incidental injury or mortality is expected to occur. These "takes" of fish in the mine site would be considered irreversible. Species subject to potential irreversible losses include Chinook salmon, steelhead trout, bull trout, and cutthroat trout." This is unacceptable. The Forest Service admits that endangered species will be irreparably harmed.

Many of Idaho's fish populations are already on the brink of extinction. They do not need another threat to deal with. Salmon are extremely important to the economy and culture of Idaho. Furthermore, tribes such as the Nez Perce Tribe and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes have relied on these fish for their food and culture since time immemorial. They continue to rely on these fish to this day.

Throughout the SDEIS, the Forest Service fails to adequately analyze the greenhouse gas emissions of this project. The greenhouse gas emissions from the proposed mine would effectively double the emissions per-capita of Valley County. The Forest Service also does not take into account the fact that many of the negative impacts of the Stibnite Gold Project will be exacerbated by climate change.

The Stibnite Gold Project would largely happen on previously undeveloped public lands. This mine would have irreversible impacts on many types of recreation, including hunting, fishing, and boating. Mining is not the best use of our public lands!

Please protect the Salmon River watershed. Please do not approve the mine.