Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/11/2023 1:36:27 AM First name: Eric Last name: Riley Organization: Swiftwater Safety Institute Title: CEO

Comments: I am pleased that the DEIS was followed up with a SEIS. There were so many apparent deficiencies in the original impact statement. I am an Idaho native. I have been a first responder and military contractor for over a decade. I make my living on the rivers of Idaho, and I am a native Idahoan that is very concerned about how this project will adversely affect the quality of water for SO MANY communities downriver.

Have you ever travelled to third world countries? I have spent years on end exploring jungle and mountain rivers around this world. It is repressive to see what the world population has done to our fresh water sources. In Nepal and Bhutan for example, you cannot even consider drinking water unless it is in bottle form. I believe that minerals are important for our survival and to make this world go around, but not at the potential peril of numerous communities and our fresh water resources. It's as if we refuse to evaluate prior projects that have had detrimental impacts on our precious and limited fresh water resources.

I'm primarily concerned about the human population, the need to generate an ever ending supply of bottle water because we have so heavily polluted our water resources, and I am less concerned with large companies tapping into, up to this point, fairly untouched water resources by todays standard.

We really need to take a stand and make preserving this resource our priority. To say that I am deeply concerned with this process does not place enough emphasis on the potential long-term harm done to OUR needed water sources. Please, please, try to understand that there are so many other places in this world likely past a point of recovery from projects similar to this. The headwaters of the South Fork Salmon is not the place to encourage or allow this project. They have resources and can look elsewhere. Our local/regional resources should be protected at all costs and I strongly suggest alternative locations for this project. We are running out of opportunities to do what is right and needed, not just what will "create jobs" at a local level while turning an eye. The negative impacts of this project going through will not only affect the communities in Idaho, but beyond.

I implore you to stand up for what is necessary. Not emotionally, but logically. "Nature has its rights."

Thanks you for the opportunity to comment.