

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/11/2023 3:01:32 AM

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Comments: Dear Forest Supervisor Jackson,

Thank you for this opportunity to submit public comments 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. As it stands, this project carries unacceptable risks to the local chinook salmon and bull trout populations.

The SGP poses a number of serious threats to a number of species of fish in designated critical habitat for the endangered chinook salmon, bull trout, steelhead, as well as westslope cutthroat which is listed as a sensitive species by the Forest Service. Three hundred ninety two million tons of heavy metal laden and possibly acid generating material will be disturbed and stored with high potential to further water contaminants at the mining site which serve as possible killers to the endangered fauna local to the South Fork of the Salmon River, a place which historically held the largest spawning ground for the now endangered chinook salmon. Beyond the river, increased noise level, wildlife displacement, and interference with natural dark skies all serve as various negative impacts to the area and ecosystem as a whole. Lastly, the above mentioned historic spawning grounds for chinook salmon just upstream of the proposed location for the SGP would be reconnected via an untested fish tunnel spanning a mile in distance and covered in hundreds of feet in toxic mine tailings would be the only means for chinook to return to the aforementioned spawning grounds. A restoration project to reverse these errors would mean a reconstructed channel flowing on top of the mine tailings with an elevated river temperature for the next hundred years.

For the sake of the endangered species native to the South Fork of the Salmon River, I urge the Forest Service to protect the Salmon River chinook, an evidently crucial part to our local ecosystem as exhibited by the billions of dollars put into protecting them already, as well as the rest of the spectacular and threatened wildlife local to the South Fork.