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First name: Kathryn

Last name: Baker

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Supervisor Jackson,

I am writing to ask you to reject the proposed Stibnite Site Project. I am a resident of Valley County and received my PhD in Natural Resources from the University of Idaho. I understand that a part of the Forest Service's edict is to facilitate the extraction of resources from public land. I also believe that environmentally, ecologically, and socially responsible mining should be done in the United States. However, this mine is not necessary. There is sufficient gold above ground that can be used in technology. Midas's argument that antimony is necessary for national security strikes me as disingenuous, as the stores of antimony are low grade and small at this site.

There are many aspects of this plan that concern me (transportation of hazardous materials, impact on the local economy and job market, impacts on federally-protected endangered species), but the argument need not go beyond the way in which the project would affect Nez Perce tribal sovereignty. As the SDEIS states: "Tribal treaty rights and interests will be impacted in perpetuity. Hunting, gathering, and fishing will never be the same" (SDEIS Pg 4-682). The US government has gratuitously exploited native land for centuries, and perpetuating that pattern for the sake of some gold is unacceptable.

Thank you for considering our public comments.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Baker, PhD