

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/11/2023 3:39:39 AM

First name: Thomas

Last name: Averett

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To the USFS/Forest Supervisor Jackson,

As a long time central Idaho resident and former river guide, hunting guide and recreationist I have serious concerns about the Stibnite Gold project as proposed by Perpetua Resources. As a retired BLM employee I have seen disastrous results from large gold mine projects. One that comes to mind is the Elk City one in the 1980s. The cyanide heap leach retaining facility failed and caused a massive release of cyanide into the local water which affected fish and the Elk City drinking water.

Specifically I am concerned that this project will have serious detrimental effects on listed Salmon and Steelhead as well as Bull Trout and Cutthroat Trout. There have been millions of dollars spent to try to mitigate human caused damage to these species and this project will have the potential to put the survival of these species at risk (more than they already are). The survival of these fish is critical for indigenous people as well as being critical to the economic well being of the small communities in central Idaho. As a former resident of three Salmon River communities I know how much they depend financially on recreationists- especially fishermen. There are millions of dollars spent in Idaho every year by sport fishermen.

The comment period allowed for this project is inadequate and I am requesting an additional 45 days be added to the comment period.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Thomas H. Averett