Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/11/2023 5:30:05 AM
First name: Lisa
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: To Whom it May Concern,

I am asking the Forest Service to reject the proposed SDEIS Stibnite Mining Plan. I have been guiding for 43 years as a river guide on Idaho's Salmon River. I have lived and breathed the Idaho wilderness for decades. Our wild lands & rivers, diverse eco systems, abundant wildlife and fisheries are the true gems of our state, not a mine. To allow a mining project to operate at the headwaters of the South Fork of the Salmon, is an act of suicide to our natural environment.

In the geologic world, everything erodes downstream. Rivers are the conveyor belt for fish, for nutrients required for the natural world to remain healthy. They also carry unwanted debris downstream. In Idaho, many of our rivers are free flowing which means, it all depends on spring run off to carry the load. It's a constant downstream movement that never stops.

How can we even think about taking a chance of exposing the South Fork drainage to a mining operation that cannot guarantee the potential leaching of toxic waste into the watershed? What about communities downstream? Have we really thought about the potential impacts not only wildlife, but human life? We have to ask ourselves, is it worth the risk and in my opinion, it is not!

The SDEIS...
1. Violates the Payette and Boise Forest Land Resource Management Plans
2. Fails to minimize all adverse environmental impacts, thus violating 2 federal laws - the Federal 3. 3. Land Policy and Management Act and the Organic Act
4. Violates the Clean Water Act
5. Conflicts with established Treaty Rights
6. Violates the Endangered Species Act
7.Fails to provide evidence that Perpetua's mining claims are legally valid
8. There is no need for a gold or antimony mine at this time. First, there is an abundance of gold in the United States, which is primarily used for hoarding-not any useful technologies. Second, even if antimony is not currently mined as a "primary" by-product of a gold mine, there are known substitutes for its primary use, which is as a fire retardant in clothing and furniture. Antimony's use in weaponry is an insufficient justification for what is really a gold mine. If this really is an antimony mine, then the project footprint can be much smaller as the mining could be conducted underground.

I encourage the Forest Service to choose the "No-Action alternative" to the SDEIS Stibnite Gold Project. Don't approve the mine, it's just too risky!

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns.

Sincerely,
Lisa Whisnant