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First name: Stephen Last name: Magnuson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I spent my life growing up in this area. It would be to the ultimate detriment if this mine was granted access to strip the natural environment it affords to native plants, animals and species let alone the thousands of annual users for fishing, hunting, hiking, climbing, and skiing. The recreational economic impacts cannot be overlooked and must be taken into serious consideration. Once the land is removed it will forever be tarnished and unusable by anyone. The land once valued will be a total wasteland and potential superfund site for the state to deal with for decades beyond. While sustainable resource harvest of timber may not yield the potential numbers that gold would, consider the people of the hills in your ultimate decision that will forever reap the benefits of protecting one of the most special places in the world.