

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/8/2023 4:39:21 AM

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Comments: NO! NO! NO!

Big industrial gold mining has such a long history of negative environmental effects I have a hard time understanding why it is still something that is even open for consideration. However, I have no problem with hobby or recreational activities like panning gold for fun.

From the Wild West of the 1800s a typical frontier economy mines the forest for a quick profit and moves on. It is time to replace this outdated thinking with a concept of frontier economy that is based on stewardship, taking responsibility for the forest and ensuring that its riches will be available for us and future generations. Our last frontier forests may indeed be the most valuable gift we can leave for our children. Guardians of biodiversity, indigenous cultures, and ecological processes, frontiers also provide sustainable recreational and ecotourism opportunities. Because so many irreplaceable forests have already disappeared, the worth to future generations of those that remain is greater than ever. Citizens, policymakers, industry leaders, and others have a chance to decide the fate and future of this frontier forest. The key decisions before you are windows of opportunity that may never open again. Please do not allow this gold mining permit that will produce highly disturbed pieces and negatively affect a fully functioning ecosystem.