Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/21/2024 8:45:22 PM
First name: Jared
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Organization:
Title:
Comments:
Re: Stibnite Gold Project EIS #50516 Objection

As stated in my comment letter (#6530)(January 9, 2023)(pg. 1):
One concern as a public land owner is access to the recreational areas I use throughout the year. "Recreation opportunities within the Operational Area Boundary would be eliminated until after reclamation." SDEIS 2-160. It shocks me to read that 4,000 acres will be closed to recreation for 20 years.

In response to my comments, the FEIS at Appendix B-745 categorized my comment as GEN-P (General positive comments or position statement) and responds:
No further response required. General in nature or position statement. It is acknowledged and understood that concerns regarding potential long-term environmental impacts, ecological integrity, and the well-being of potentially affected communities are valid and important to consider. During the decision-making process, the Forest Service will seek to identify the best possible balance between environmental protection, community needs, and sustainable forest management.

I strongly object to the categorization and inadequate response. The FEIS on page 1-32, (1.11 Changes from the SDEIS to the Final EIS) actually states 'additional mitigation measure to restrict public access to newly constructed portions of the Burnt Log route (Section 4.16.3). Rather than address my concern about public land being closed to recreation, there is further evidence that public access will be restricted within the project area. My comment is still valid and nothing changed from the SDEIS to the FEIS.

The Forest Service must withdraw the FEIS and DROD and not issue any decision or take any action based on the inadequate FEIS. The FEIS and DROD must demonstrate full compliance with law, regulation, policy, Treaty, and requirement noted. The Regional Forester must withdraw the FEIS and DROD with instructions to the Payette National Forest to correct errors noted before taking any action.