

1872 MINING LAW

FACT

The third in a series on the 1872 Mining Law, highlighting impacts on taxpayers, community health, and water resources and the need for meaningful reform. To learn more, go to www.miningreform.org



MINING: Public LAND'S BIGGEST Celebrity



EARTHWORKS

WHEN A MULTINATIONAL MINING COMPANY WANTS TO DIG AN OPEN-PIT GOLD, COPPER OR SILVER MINE ON PUBLIC LANDS NEAR YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, THE 1872 MINING LAW ROLLS OUT THE RED CARPET.

That's because the federal government currently interprets the law as mandating that mining is the highest and best use of public lands - outweighing all other uses including hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, forestry and energy development.

A Canadian mining company proposes to build a large open pit, cyanide leach gold mine at the headwaters of the Boise River. The proposal could endanger:

- ✓ More than 20 percent of the City of Boise's water supply,
- ✓ Critical wildlife and fish habitat, irrigation for agriculture,
- ✓ And a wide range of recreational opportunities.

The Boise City Council opposes the mine and the Mayor calls it "an intolerable threat to the river, the environment, and the citizens of Boise." Despite their opposition, downstream communities feel powerless to stop the proposal because of the 1872 Mining Law.

IT'S TIME TO GIVE OTHER VALUABLE LAND USES A TURN IN THE SPOTLIGHT. 1872 MINING LAW REFORM IS NEEDED TO ALLOW LAND MANAGERS TO BALANCE MINING WITH OTHER IMPORTANT RESOURCES VALUES.



Thanks to the 1872 Mining Law, an ill-advised mine proposal threatens the Boise River, and Boise's drinking water along with it.

For more information, go to www.miningreform.org
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