



***NEWS
RELEASE***

United States
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service
Salmon - Challis National
Forest
1206 South Challis
Salmon, Idaho 83467



August 25, 2008

Forest Service Appealed on Idaho Cobalt Project

The Forest Service received four appeals on a Record of Decision signed June 12, 2008 for the Idaho Cobalt Project, a cobalt mining project proposed by Formation Capital Corporation. The project area is located in the Panther Creek drainage west of Salmon.

The decision provides a framework for the agencies involved in oversight of the adjacent Blackbird Mine Site remediation to be involved in oversight of the Idaho Cobalt operations to ensure remediation efforts of the Blackbird Mine are not compromised. The Environmental Protection Agency is the lead agency in ensuring remediation standards are met for the restoration of salmon and steelhead fisheries impacted by historic mining activities.

Four groups/individuals appealed the project; Noranda Mining, Noranda Exploration Inc. and the Blackbird Mining Co. Lt. Partnership; Boulder-White Clouds Council and Earthworks; the Nez Perce Tribe; and Charles Pace.

The Intermountain Regional Office will issue decisions on the appeals on or before October 2, 2008.

For further information please contact Kimberly Nelson, Salmon-Cobalt District Ranger, at 208-756-5200.

###