

From: [William Leavenworth](#)
To: [DEP, MiningComments2016](#)
Subject: Mining in Maine
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As a teenager in New Mexico, I spent time in mountains that had been mined in the 19th century. There was nothing alive downstream from some of those mines, even 75 years after they had been abandoned. No hardrock or mountaintop removal metal mining should be permitted in Maine, ever. Toxic metals are an inevitable by-product of metal mining. A prime example is the Blue Hill mining area, still a superfund site decades after it was abandoned for the last time, after nearly 75 years of extraction. If metals are mined in our uplands, those toxins will inevitably erode into our watersheds, killing the fish, whether resident (trout and bass) or anadromous (salmon, shad and alewives). Moreover, as the toxins move downstream, they will either kill the lobsters near shore, or make them toxic and inedible. There can be no compromise with mining in Maine. It must not be permitted. Period.

Very truly yours,

Dr. William Burgess Leavenworth, Ph.D.
historical ecologist/environmental historian,
retired