The future of the Okefenokee is threatened by a proposed mine. At risk is a 650 square mile wilderness, our nation’s largest aggregate carbon reserve and the source of the Suwannee and St. Marys Rivers.

The Okefenokee is the largest National Wildlife Refuge east of the Mississippi and is being considered for nomination as an internationally recognized natural area for United Nations World Heritage Site designation. Despite its protections, international importance and economic value to local communities, the swamp is far from secure.

Twin Pines Minerals, LLC, an Alabama-based company, is proposing to mine for titanium next to the swamp. Titanium is a common mineral, but the Okefenokee is an uncommon place. Mining next to the swamp is expected to cause irreparable damage. Our Okefenokee and the regional swamp based tourism economy should not be risked for a mineral that can be acquired elsewhere.

The Irreparable Impacts of Mining Next to the Okefenokee

**Lower Water Levels**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and independent experts warn that the proposed mining project would destroy the structural integrity of Trail Ridge, the geological barrier along the eastern boundary of the swamp that helps retain and regulate the water levels of the swamp and surrounding areas.

**Wildfires and Climate Change**

Lower water levels would increase fire risk by drying out carbon-rich peat beds. When burned, the peat would release stored carbon back into the atmosphere, contributing to climate change. Lower water levels would also release stored toxic heavy metals, including mercury, which would be carried downstream and impact public health.

**Economy and Jobs**

The proposed mining operation would jeopardize the tourism that supports more than 750 local jobs and contributes more than $64 million to local economies.

Text SWAMP to 52886 to take action & visit garivers.org to learn more.
The unique Okefenokee offers a remote wilderness experience. Its Okefenokee National Wilderness Canoe Trail, enchanting wildlife and International Dark Sky Park attract some 600,000 visits per year. The impacts of mining would negatively affect the recreational opportunities that people travel from far and wide to enjoy.

Twin Pines Minerals, LLC calls its proposal a “demonstration project” on 740 acres, but the company owns 8,000 adjacent acres. If Twin Pines secures permits for this site, expanded operations are expected to follow.

How You Can Save the Swamp

1. **DONATE** - Scan the QR code to the right to make a donation to support Georgia River Network’s work to save the swamp.

2. **SEND A LETTER** - Text SWAMP to 52886 to send a letter to Governor Brian Kemp telling him to stop the mine.

3. **SPREAD THE WORD** - Connect with us on social media & share posts about the swamp (@georgiarivernetwork).

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