

U.S.F.S. Officials,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of the U.S. Forest Service's permitting process. This is an important project for Valley County and will have a significant impact on the community. As someone who explores, plays and cares about this region of Idaho's backcountry, I want to make sure the Stibnite Gold Project is done the right way.

Midas Gold Idaho is not your typical mining company. The company realizes the Stibnite Gold Project site has been damaged after nearly a century of mining and that something must be done if we ever want to reclaim this brownfield site. Midas Gold Idaho wants to restore the site and take care of the environment through mining. I believe alternative 2 as outlined by the U.S. Forest Service is the best chance to help the repair the historic Stibnite Mining District. This alternative reduces the project footprint size and would help improve water quality conditions. After reviewing the materials in the virtual meeting room, I am concerned that alternative 3 would locate the tailings storage facility in pristine reach of the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon habitat. I worry alternative 4 would put traffic during operations to close to the river and alternative 5 would leave the site unchanged and prevent it from getting the help it needs. Alternative 2 makes the most sense for the environment and for the surrounding communities.

Midas Gold Idaho wants to invest \$1 billion in our state, bring more than 1,000 jobs to rural Idaho and still provide access to Idaho's public lands. This is the type of project our state needs. I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to pick alternative 2 as the preferred alternative moving forward.

Warm regards,

Name: Kim Hawks