

Dear Permitting Officials,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my feedback as part of Midas Gold Idaho's public permitting process.

I have reviewed the Plan of Restoration and Operations and I believe the Stibnite Gold Project is an opportunity to repair the environment and bring an economic boost to the community. As proposed in Alternative 2, the project finances environmental reclamation and provides the workforce and resources necessary to complete it. If Midas Gold isn't allowed to move forward with its plan, this area in Idaho's backcountry will continue to suffer. Currently, salmon are being blocked from their native spawning grounds and hundreds of tons of sediment are pouring into the watershed each year. It is time to address these issues and Midas Gold has the right plan to do it. According to the Forest Service's own analysis in 4.12 of the draft Environmental Impact Statement, the increased access Midas Gold will provide to feeding and refuge areas for anadromous fish, such as chinook salmon, can improve productivity of the species. In appendix A of the document, you can see Midas Gold is committed to minimizing disturbances to wildlife during the project and improving the region once mining is complete. In reviewing the document, I think the company is taking the steps needed to protect the area and mine the area safely in Alternative 2.

I recognize the work midas does and know they will be good stewards of the land.

I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward and adopt Alternative two as the preferred alternative.

Thanks for your time,

Name: Robert Howell