

DEAR MS JACKSON,

Midas Gold Idaho's Stibnite Gold Project presents Idaho, particularly rural Idaho, with a huge economic and environmental opportunity. I am writing to encourage you to permit the project as quickly as possible.

The U.S. Forest Service's online meeting room has made it easy to review the document and comment within the 60-day timeframe. Looking at the document, there is a clear advantage to Alternative 2 compared to the other options. According to a figure in Chapter 4, Hanger Flats pit lake would fill by year 14 of operations in Alternative 2. Under Alternative 1, it would take 19 years. The faster the lake fills up, the faster groundwater levels will recover around the lake. Alternative 3 and 4 would both delay the project by two years and cost substantially more. Alternative 3 would also place the tailings storage facility in a pristine reach of the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River. While Alternative 4 would put mine traffic to site right next to the river.

The comment period has been extended once already. It should not be delayed further. This only delays Idaho from recognizing the benefits of the project. The current USFS timeline provides plenty of time to review the DEIS and comment. After reviewing the document, I encourage you to permit alternative 2 of the project.

Yours,

Name: Bart Bottari Owner Bottari Repair & Consulting