

To Forest Service,

As a soil scientist, I have worked on reclamation and mine site cleanups for over 30 years throughout the United States. I have witness everything from acid rock drainage in Nevada to well run mine sites with minimum impacts in Alaska, to un-reclaimed mine tailings in Canada. I have performed work for Midas in the past and I have been to the Stibnite site several times. I recognize the historic mining activities and the legacy that it has left on the land. As always, there is trade-off between benefits (antimony for WWII effort, jobs for the community, supporting our economy) and environmental degradation. My career has focused on obtaining a balance, doing the right thing with integrity, protecting the environment, while seeking an economic balance.

I have reviewed the draft EIS and compliment the Forest Service in compiling a very comprehensive document. In reviewing the alternatives, I recommend Alternative 2, as it provides the best approach toward mining while minimizing environmental impacts and also addressing the historic mining district issues. The bottom line, with or without Midas, the Stibnite area needs to be addressed, the approach offered by Midas of mitigating the historic district (which is a problem that belongs to all of us) while mining responsibly makes sense. I have met many of the Midas folks, and consider them to be a very professional, experienced, and trustworthy organization.

Thank you for your time and looking forward to seeing this mining project become reality.

Name: Michael R. Murray