

Dear US National Forest Service Staff,

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

I am pleased to see Midas Gold wants to take responsibility and clean up the damage left behind by mining operations in the early 20th Century “ even though the company was not involved in any of the previous activity at the site. Midas Gold has a plan to reunite salmon and trout with their spawning grounds for the first time in 80 years. Their plan for the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River over the backfilled Yellow Pine pit will recreate natural conditions as close as possible. They plan to provide permanent access to approximately 25 miles of perennial stream and 6 miles of anadromous fish spawning habitat, and the company has agreed to install a temporary artificial fish passageway that will allow fish to swim past the old mining pit before mining even begins.

I encourage the USFS to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward and permit Midas Gold Idaho's project as outlined in their Modified Plan of Restoration and Operations, alternative 2 in the DEIS. The USFS has provided meaningful time to submit comments and already extended the comment period once, there should be no further delays.

Regards,

Name: Christopher Alvarez