

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I am writing in support of the Stibnite Gold Project and the benefits it will bring to Idaho. This project has the potential to put hundreds of Idahoans to work, bring a \$1 billion investment into our state and restore an area of Idaho's backcountry desperately in need of repair.

As the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River that passes through Stibnite, it must travel by 10.5 million tons of old, spent ore deposits and tailings materials from decades of mining activity. As you can imagine, this degrades water quality in the river. Midas Gold Idaho will remove, reuse, and reprocess these tailings and waste rock, which your own draft environmental impact statement says will help the local ecosystem by reducing the high concentrations of metals that have leached into the water. In Chapter 4 of the draft EIS, it says removing legacy tailings and waste lowers concentrations of antimony and arsenic in the East Fork South Fork of the Salmon River (4.9-70).

While the economic benefits of this project cannot be ignored, it also will transform an area in need for environmental repair. It is for all of these reasons that I encourage you to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward as outlined in alternative 2 within this 60-day comment period.

Best Wishes,

Name: Lea Kirby