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Comments: As a longtime Idaho guide and outdoor enthusiast, a large and important portion of my life and livelihood has been spent downstream of the proposed Stibnite Gold project. The water quality and fish habitat of the South Fork Salmon watershed are simply too important to risk. The fact that the project proposes burying spawning habitat is a slap in the face to rafters who currently endure reduced chances for Middle Fork permits due to concerns about impacts to redds. Regarding mitigation and cleanup plans, the record of the mining industry in these matters is very poor, and the Forest Service must consider how restoration will be conducted if Midas Gold fails to meet its commitments in a reasonable time frame. My understanding is that the project will degrade or destroy \$13 million of taxpayer funded restoration efforts that have already taken place, which seems like an extremely poor bargain for the public.

The bottom line is that if the project is found to carry any risk of damaging water quality or salmon populations, it should not proceed. The many indefinitely sustainable jobs linked to environmental quality of the watershed should trump the shorter term economics of the proposed mine.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.