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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments during scoping on the Stibnite Gold Project.

I am a current resident of Cascade, Id, and have been since 1989. My family, however, has lived in Idaho since 1898. We love the natural resources Idaho has to offer, from its scenic beauty and clean water to its wildlife.

I am a retired science teacher and have been actively following Midas Gold for over two years. Understanding the mining history of our state and local area led me to be very cautious of another "mining adventure" for the Stibnite area. I have attended several meetings with Midas Gold officials and even an onsite Q&A tour. I am convinced Midas Gold is trying to be a good citizen for our area and is legitimately trying to address all concerns held by locals and professionals alike.

Specifically, Midas Gold has expressed a concern to protect and enhance salmon habitat including returning salmon to miles of spawning streams that have been blocked by past mining operations. They are also willing to build a new access road with no heavy traffic and fuel trucks driving along Johnson Creek or the East Fork, in order to help protect salmon and bull trout habitat. They have also shown a willingness to guarantee access to Thunder Mountain areas for the public. Keeping the trail over Meadow Creek open to the new road or even reopening Sugar Creek access will allow for continued recreational opportunities. I also appreciate their commitment to fix sediment loading from Blowout Creek to help with fish habitat.

Midas Gold's commitment to fixing past problems is changing the conversation about mining in this area. Doing rehabilitation work at the beginning of the project instead of 10-20 years after mining operations have commenced is another example of Midas Gold attempting to address the concerns of locals who have seen promises by other mining companies go unfulfilled. Trust is an important consideration but having it in writing is still critical.

I feel that Midas Gold will have a positive economic impact in our local community and create many opportunities for Cascade to grow and thrive. I believe we need to give companies a chance to do things right and be good corporate citizens. After two years of public meetings and questions, Midas Gold appears trustworthy and willing to go the extra mile to protect the environment. Actions speak louder than words, and all of us, and the environment, will be the witness.

I believe Midas Gold should be given the chance to do the right thing with the Stibnite Gold project.