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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a Yellow Pine, Idaho resident and avid outdoor recreationalist, I am writing to express my concern with the current Midas Gold Idaho plan to close Stibnite Road above Yellow Pine, eliminating access to Monumental Summit and beyond from Yellow Pine.

This proposal will negatively effect the Yellow Pine Community in many ways. Local business counts on tourism in the back country, closing this access will result in loss of revenue to local businesses. Alternative routes to this area are difficult to navigate and the elderly and disabled would find these routes to arduous to enjoy our recreational areas. I retired in Yellow Pine due to the access it afforded to enjoy our public lands.

Midas Gold's proposal to put a gate up at Sugar Creek and Stibnite Road and divert all traffic through Burnt Log Road is an impractical proposal due to the large vehicle traffic that would be required for a mining operation and should be altered.

The general public sharing the dirt roads with a constant stream of heavy equipment is a recipe for disaster! A more practical solution is to have Midas Gold Idaho build a temporary road around the mine allowing citizen access to the areas that they have traditionally enjoyed. In speaking with Midas employees they have stated that they felt there was no option other than closure. I believe that all would benefit from simply building temporary access to the back country.

The use of Burnt Log Road for the mining operation removing heavy equipment traffic from the Johnson Creek Road is a solid proposal and creating the Riordan Road power line road for UTV use seems a logical addition to recreational opportunities as well.