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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a Yellow Pine, Idaho resident and woman who enjoys outdoor recreation, I want to express my concern with the current Midas Gold Idaho plan to close Stibnite Road above Yellow Pine which will eliminate access to Monumental Summit and beyond directly from Yellow Pine.

The Midas proposal will negatively affect the Yellow Pine Community by reducing traditionally open roads to the back country. It will also negatively affect local businesses that count on tourism for a good part of their income, closing this access will result in loss of revenue to local businesses. As a woman who has actively traveled the back roads of this area, I know how difficult the alternative routes to this area are. Elderly and disabled travelers would find these routes almost impassible limiting opportunities 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 impractical at best due to the heavy equipment traffic that would be required for a mining operation and should be altered.

Civilians sharing the dirt roads with a constant stream of heavy equipment could result in serious accidents. A safer 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. I believe that Midas and the community would benefit by 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 would eliminate the chances of dangerous heavy equipment and regular traffic collisions. Creation of the Riordan Road power line road for UTV use is an excellent addition to recreational opportunities as well.