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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my full support of Midas Gold Idaho and the Stibnite Gold Project. Over the past several years Midas Gold has shown its commitment to Valley County and the state of Idaho and I encourage you to permit the proposed activities outlined by Midas Gold in its Plan of Restoration and Operations.

I am impressed with the Midas Gold's current dedication to repairing legacy environmental issues at the site from mining activity that took place on and off for more than 100 years. This is a major investment. Government agencies would not have the budget to perform all the necessarily reclamation work. This private/public partnership is the right approach for Idaho and will solve environmental issues while providing the area with a significant economic boost. In reviewing the DEIS, it is clear to me Alternative 2 presents the best option to protect Idaho's environment. It limits the footprint of the project, eliminates the West End development rock storage facility and extends the lining in Meadow Creek to protect against streamflow reductions. Alternative 3 proposes relocating the tailings storage facility to more pristine habitat on site and would leave the existing tailings unprocessed. This would mean we would miss out on key potential impacts of the project. According to DEIS chapter 4, section 4.9, removing legacy tailings and managing water quality provides long-term reduction in metal loading in ground and surface water. Current arsenic and antimony levels are too high, we cannot miss out on these benefits. I urge you to select Alternative 2.

As the U.S. Forest Service and other state and federal agencies review the proposed plan and determine the course of action, I encourage you to consider and appropriately weigh the positive benefits Midas Gold will have on Idaho. Alternative Two truly is a win-win opportunity for Idahoans and the environment.