

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/31/2020 6:00:00 AM

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Comments: I am writing to express my full support of Midas Gold Idaho and the Stibnite Gold Project. Midas Gold has shown its commitment to Valley County and the state of Idaho and I encourage you to adopt the proposed activities outlined in Alternative 2 during the permitting process.

Midas Gold Idaho is proposing a great project for Idaho's economy, citizens and environment. When the project goes into production, the company plans to invest \$1 billion in Idaho and provide approximately 1,000 much needed jobs over the course of the mine's life. During construction, the annual payroll is estimated to range from \$42 million to \$49 million. Midas Gold has made a commitment to look to Idaho first for talent and supplies which will have a major trickledown effect and positively impact many facets of the state's economy. Alternative 2 presents the best option to protect Idaho's environment. It eliminates the West End development rock storage facility, limits the footprint of the project and extends the lining in Meadow Creek to protect against streamflow reductions. Alternative 3 would cause us to miss out on water quality benefits because under this proposal the tailings storage facility would be moved to more pristine habitat and leave the existing tailings unprocessed. 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. It is for these reasons, I hope the Forest Service moves forward with Alternative 2.

While the economic benefits of this project cannot be ignored, it also will transform an area in need for environmental repair. It is for all of these reasons that I encourage you to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward.