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Comments: I have been involved in Midas Gold Idaho's plans for about a decade. Finally having the opportunity to comment on their Draft EIS. Midas Gold Idaho presents a huge opportunity for the Gem State.

Private industry is the only way to restore the Stibnite Gold Project site. Unfortunately, the federal government attempted to restore the area but problems continue and will in perpetuity. Midas wants to restore the site through mining. The company has spent the last six years studying the environment of the site, gathering input from the community and carefully analyzing many options to mine and perform restoration work. I encourage you to adopt alternative 2 outlined in the DEIS as you evaluate the project moving forward. The plan is well thought out, practical and environmentally sound. Alternative 3 and 4 do not provide as many environmental impacts. They would put construction and mine traffic adjacent to miles of the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River, increasing the chance of spills, and move the tailings storage facility to more pristine habitat. Alternative 2 on the other hand will reduce long-term metal loading in the ground and surface water by reprocessing historic tailings (DEIS 4.9), improve productivity of fish species in the area by opening up access to more habitat upstream (DEIS 4.12), provide a net gain of 9.3 km of voluntarily accessible intrinsic potential habitat for Chinook Salmon (table 4.12-29) and reprocess old tailings waste, would lead to long-term reduction in metal loading in ground and surface water (DEIS 4.9). Again I'm in full agreement with Alternative 2, it's a must, as in previous operations the Rivers suffered from Fuel spills, Dust and land slides and heavy truck accidents. Burnt log is absolutely the best choice.

Midas Gold wants to restore the rivers, wildlife and habitat near the Stibnite Gold Project site. This is the only way it will ever get done! Our Country is over 30 trillion dollars in debt and the government will never address the issue let alone the economic gain to Idaho. I strongly encourage you to permit this project.