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First name: Donnelly Farmers

Last name: Market

Organization:

Title:

Comments: We are writing to share our thoughts on Midas Gold project at Stibnite There are many reasons why we are excited for Midas Gold's project to come to life and I hope through our comments you will understand why.

Restoring the Stibnite Gold Project site will be an incredible investment. After touring the site last year, work clearly needs to be done in the area. It should not be funded through taxpayer dollars. Fortunately, Midas Gold Idaho wants to make the investment. The company is proposing a mining project and full-scale restoration project. They have plans to reconnect fish with their natural spawning grounds. According to the analysis by the U.S. Forest Service in section 4.2 of the DEIS, establishing long-term access to historically blocked critical habitat would result in increased productivity for Idaho's bull trout, chinook and steelhead. Midas Gold will also properly reprocess and safely store old tailings, which, as outlined in Chapter 4 section 4.9 of the DEIS, will lead to a long-term reduction in metal loading in ground and surface water. The company will also solve sedimentation issues by repairing Blowout Creek.

Aside from the environmental bonus of having Midas restore the site, the project brings so many other pluses to the State of Idaho.

Population growth has not been a problem for this part of Idaho, but finding living wage jobs has. If not working for the federal, state or local government, the hospitals or school districts, opportunities for full-time employment with benefits, are few. Many residents work in low paying service jobs. In Donnelly specifically, our Farmers Market was founded with the goal of offering healthier options for lower income locals. The prospect of bringing another large employer to the area would have a huge impact on population financial health. Financial health is tied closely to physical health and would be a huge help in helping to create a much needed, healthier community.

The Midas Gold plan of Alternative 2 sounds like the best option to us. We urge you to consider this.