

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/11/2020 6:00:00 AM

First name: Susan

Last name: Shaak

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to comment during the Draft EIS period for the Stibnite Gold Project.

Restoring the Stibnite Gold Project site will be an incredible investment. Work clearly needs to be done in the area but 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 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. This free movement and access to habitat can improve genetic diversity of the fish. 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. As a business owner in Cascade I see that the support of Stibnite Gold project will greatly benefit our town and surrounding areas.

I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward and adopt Alternative two as the preferred alternative.

Please keep my comments in mind,