Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/15/2020 6:00:00 AM
First name: Max
Last name: Pond
Organization:
Title:
Comments: Dear Ms. Jackson,

I am writing to voice my support for the Stibnite Gold Project as outlined in Midas Gold Idaho's modified Plan of Restoration and Operations (PRO) submitted to the United States Forest Service. Approval will allow the Stibnite Gold Project to create hundreds of jobs for local communities, and it will inject millions of dollars of investment into the region. In addition, this comprehensive plan will work to restore habitats and environmental degradation from past mining projects.

Midas Gold has detailed a comprehensive environmental restoration plan to correct past damages from mining in the Stibnite region. These damages happened long before the strict industry regulations were in place. Environmental cleanup will be expensive. However, Midas Gold will cover all costs through private investment and rewrite the legacy of this region. For example, as outlined in the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) by removing legacy tailings and waste from previous projects, Midas will lower the concentration of antimony and arsenic in the river. (Ch 4, p. 4.9-70) Midas did not cause those problems hurting the river, but their plan will clearly improve the quality of the site.

Midas Gold will also restore natural rivers and streams, and has created a plan to re-establish salmon migration patterns which have been disrupted by construction and mining from past projects. The EIS also concludes that the Midas Gold plan will help fish more than the status quo.

I encourage you to adopt Alternative 2, as it gives central Idaho a comprehensive plan to revitalize the region's economy and restore its environmental wellbeing.

Thank you for your consideration.