

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/15/2020 6:00:00 AM

First name: Jack

Last name: Huckaby

Organization:

Title:

Comments: First, I would like to thank the U.S. Forest Service for your extraordinary effort to make these document available virtually. Idaho and our country's environment would not be as splendid without your service.

It is clear from reading the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) that Midas Gold Idaho wants to help the agency fulfill their mission of sustainability and is committed to cleaning up the land for future generations. The Stibnite Gold Project includes numerous restoration efforts that would be paid for by the company's substantial private investment. As of now, there are mining materials left over from previous mining endeavors before the government created regulations that are hurting the ecosystem. Midas Gold Idaho's project would fix this issue and allow our region's ecosystem to thrive. For example, Alternative 2 in the DEIS states that metal loading into ground and surface would be reduced as a result of plans by the company to remove legacy tailings and waste.

Along with improving our environment, this project would help stimulate our region's economy. The coronavirus pandemic has taken a major toll on our country and the Stibnite Region. Many Idahoans have been laid off and have had to apply for unemployment insurance. This project would provide hope and be the catalyst to get our region back to normal again. Midas Gold Idaho would need to hire over 509 employees for normal operations and provide their workers with high paying wages. This would allow Idahoans to feel financially secure again and have disposable income to cycle back into the community's small businesses . Another benefit is that this project would bring in \$300,000 annually into our local economy through property taxes. That money would go towards our schools, local infrastructure and government. The Stibnite Gold Project would uplift our community and give everyone the optimism they deserve .

I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to accept Alternative 2 that was proposed by Midas Gold Idaho and examined in the DEIS. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Tam writing to voice my support for the Stibnite Gold Project proposed by Midas Gold Idaho.

The Stibnite Gold Project would bring much needed economic development to Valley County on an immense scale. Since 2009, Midas Gold has spent \$100 million on research and preliminary planning. Upon approval of the project, the company would immediately spend \$] billion more to construct the site. That money will be passed on to Idahoans through employee salaries, state and federal taxes, and partnership s with local

businesses. Over the duration of the project, this would change the lives of thousands of residents and provide a lasting boost to local growth.

In addition to contributing to the local economy, profits from Midas Gold ' s operations would finance the restoration of land damaged by historical mining activities. The proposal calls for the cleanup of old tailings that leech toxic meta ls into rivers as well as the restoration of stream s used by salmon to migrate upriver.

Regulations require that funding for resto rationbe set aside before miningbegins,so ap provingMidas Gold's

proposal would guarantee that the environment sees a net improvement over the lifetime of the project.

According to the agency's draft Environmental Impact Statement, removing legacy tailings and managing water provides long-term reduction in metal loading in ground and surface water. (Ch. 4 Section 4.9)

The combination of significant environmental and economic benefits leaves very little reason to consider blocking Midas Gold's proposal. Over the last decade, they have done their due diligence to ensure success

through extensive research and community engagement. It would be a shame to further delay a project with such clear advantages.

Please approve Alternative 2 proposed by Midas Gold Idaho and their modified Plan of Restoration and Operations.