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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of Midas Gold Idaho's Comment Period. I have been closely following Midas Gold Idaho's plans since they first came into our state, in large part because much of the proposed project will take place on public land. The more I have learned about the project, the more excited I am about the possibilities it will bring into our state.

By law Midas Gold Idaho is required to set aside all of the money needed for restoration prior to any mining activity. This gives me, and Idahoans, peace of mind that the restoration work the company has discussed will come to fruition no matter what happens. If Midas Gold Idaho is allowed to move forward with its work, salmon will be reconnected to their native spawning grounds. This hasn't happened in 80 years! The US Forest Service's Draft Environmental Impact Statement concluded that removing existing barriers to fish migration will help Chinook salmon, bull trout and steelhead. In fact, DEIS 4.12-39 says long-term access to blocked habitat would result in increased productivity and genetic diversity of isolated populations. Mining has devastated this area. Midas Gold Idaho wants to fix it and I hope you will clear the path to allow their restoration work to move forward.

The Stibnite Gold Project is the type of project our state needs. I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to permit this project, using the alternative two presented by Midas Gold, as expeditiously as possible.