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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am proud to submit my comments in support of Midas Gold Idaho's Stibnite Gold Project. This project presents your state with an incredible opportunity to bring well-paying jobs to rural Idaho, boost your state's economy and use private investment to clean up a brownfield site.

One of the biggest challenges facing Idaho is having a trained workforce. Midas Gold not only plans to hire hundreds of Idahoans but the company will provide employees with training to build a more skilled workforce in Idaho. We applaud Midas Gold's commitment to helping Idahoans get valuable training that may not otherwise be available. This commitment by the company will help benefit Idaho families and allow Idaho to attract new businesses in the future. To date, Midas Gold has spent over \$89 million in Idaho by prioritizing local vendors and contractors. If the project moves forward, the company will also invest heavily in environmental restoration, especially under alternative 2. During operations, Midas Gold will treat water to lower levels of arsenic, antimony and mercury in the river. This investment will cause concentrations to be below the current baseline conditions (DEIS 4.9-70). The company will also be able to increase productivity and genetic diversity of isolated populations of chinook, bull trout and steelhead by opening up long-term access to blocked habitat (DEIS 4.12-39).

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