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Title:

Comments: I am writing in support of the Stibnite Gold Project and the benefits it will bring to Idaho. This project has the potential to put hundreds of Idahoans to work, bring a \$1 billion investment into our state and restore an area of Idaho's backcountry desperately in need of repair.

My father worked at this mine as a young man just married and my brother was conceived in Stibnite. Several of my uncles worked here as well.

The concern then was to support the war effort and little thought was given to the careful planning of how to protect the environment. This is not the case now as the context is entirely different, how to clean up the mess made back then and protect the environment in the future while still mining the area. If this mine does not go forward it is unlikely the environmental destruction will ever be addressed. Here we have a private party, Midas Gold, that is willing to foot that bill.

The old Stibnite mine site will likely never be cleaned up unless industry takes responsibility for those who came before them. Midas Gold plans to do just that. By mining the site, Midas Gold plans to restore the natural flow and gradient of the East Fork of the South Fork to reconnect historical spawning grounds. The company will repair blowout creek, permanently solving a source of massive sedimentation and habitat degradation. Plus, in reprocessing and repurposing millions of tons of spent ore and unconstrained tailings, Midas will safeguard water quality indefinitely.

This project is a huge opportunity for Idaho. I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to permit alternative 2 so this brownfield site can finally be restored.

It is wise to take into account that when the original mine was first operating, the goal was to support the war effort. Idaho has a chance now to clean up that area at little or no cost to the State or Federal government and to protect the land and water in the future, not to mention the jobs, and tax revenue coming to the government.

This is a win win all around.

This is a good deal for everyone.