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Comments: It is with great pleasure that I write to the U.S. Forest Service to encourage you to permit the proposed activities outlined by Midas Gold in Alternative 2 during this public input process.

After reviewing the DEIS using the tools provided by the U.S. Forest Service, I believe Alternative 2 is the best option moving forward. It limits the project footprint, keeps traffic away from key waterways, improves water quality and is economically feasible. The project would also provide key economic benefits to the region, such as family-wage jobs and a boost to the local tax base, as well as environmental restoration. Midas Gold currently is the only company with a feasible plan to fix the long-standing legacy issues at the site, such as blocked fish passage and degraded water quality. I feel confident Midas Gold will follow through on its promises to restore the site because of federal and state financial assurance laws. The regulations will require Midas Gold to set aside the necessary funds for restoration and reclamation before any mining begins.

Thank you for considering my thoughts on the project. I am grateful for the virtual meeting room you created. It made learning about the project easy and gave me the tools I needed to submit meaningful comments within the 60-day timeframe. If I can do it, anyone can. I urge you to move forward with alternative two.