

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/14/2020 6:00:00 AM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: GREETINGS,

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Stibnite Gold Project as it will directly impact me and my access to the backcountry.

My wife and I had the opportunity tour the Midas site, learn of its history, the contamination issues and the company's plans to mitigate those issues to prevent offsite environmental damage through onsite treatment and containment. It appeared to us that Midas was working closely with federal and state agencies and responding positively to those agencies concerns and recommendations. Their financial investment required before the first dollar of production profit can be realized is staggering. The final plan that includes monumental habitat restoration will, over time, will be a tremendous improvement to the barren waste site that exists today. The economic impact of jobs and services will have very positive effect on the local area and the rest of the state as well.

As the U.S. Forest Service and other state and federal agencies review the proposed plan and determine the course of action, I encourage you to consider and appropriately weigh the positive benefits Midas Gold will have on Idaho. We need to move this project ahead after the 60-day comment period. Alternative Two truly is a win-win opportunity for Idahoans and the environment. I seriously doubt that if this opportunity is not seized immediately in the form of a strong partnership between the Agencies and the company, there will not be another Midas in the future.

You will undoubtedly note that I am an Arizona resident. I am proud to say that I grew up in Idaho Falls and graduated from the University of Idaho. My wife and I have spent several recent summers in McCall where I brother owns property. That is how we happened to learn of Micas and tour the site.