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Comments: I am writing today because I understand the U.S. Forest Service is considering Midas Gold's proposed project for Idaho and I wanted to express my support. After reviewing their plan, I believe that this project will benefit our state, our local economies and more importantly our environment. I would like to explain why I believe you should approve Midas's Stibnite Gold Project without further delay.

The U.S. Forest Service is a respected institution with a noble cause. President Theodore Roosevelt had the foresight to see the need for protecting and preserving our great nation's parks, and I believe Midas Gold carries those same values. Previous mining projects have destroyed our local ecosystems and environment. Many of these projects occurred before current environmental regulations were established. The Midas Gold Project plans to go beyond state regulation requirements, choosing its sites and methods carefully and methodically.

In addition, Midas Gold has committed to clean up and restore the damaged environment in conjunction with their project. Environmental restoration is expensive and Midas Gold is willing to make that investment into Idaho's delicate ecosystems, relieving taxpayers of the financial burdens and accomplishing a quick and efficient cleanup. This is an incredible opportunity for Idaho, humans and animals alike, to see improved water quality and enhanced fish populations.

Midas Gold also realized that the region surrounding the project is a popular area for snowmobilers so they actively collaborated with local snowmobiling organizations to mitigate impact from their activities. They initially planned for no public access through the site due to concerns over safety. Yet once they heard from the public that retaining access through the Stibnite site to Thunder Mountain Road was important for the area's recreationalists, they worked side-by-side with the community to find a potential solution.

For these reasons, I urge you to adopt Alternative 2 proposed by Midas Gold Idaho in their Plan of Restoration and Operations.