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Comments: It is long past time for someone to clean up the Stibnite-Yellow Pine mining area, restore operations, and protect the environment around it for generations to come. From my perspective, there's no better way to do that than by approving the Midas Gold Idaho Stibnite Mining Project. I hope the U.S. Forest Service will do so soon.

When compared to the other alternative plans that have been put forward, I believe the most practical solution is Alternative 2. Unlike Alternatives 3 and 4, it would be more technically feasible and result in fewer delays to the timeline. And whereas Alternative 5 would do nothing to improve or protect the environment, Alternative 2 puts focus on restoration and reclamation.

The plan includes connecting local fish with miles of new feeding and spawning habitat, both temporarily as the site is being developed and permanently once operations are complete. Alternative 2 would also improve local water quality by cleaning up old mining materials and waste and storing them safely and securely. And it would address the ongoing erosion that is leading to the over-sedimentation in the waters while drying out surrounding wetlands.

The reclamation of these areas would provide a long-term impact, according to the U.S. Forest Service's draft environmental impact study, which indicated that improvements in the productivity of the site could even help minimize the severity of climate change impacts resulting from warmer temperatures, reduced snowpack, changes in wildfire patterns, and more.

Given all of these reasons, I hope you will agree that it only makes sense to approve Alternative 2 and move this project forward in the permitting and approval process.