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First name: Terri L

Last name: Oyler

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have called Valley County home for many years. Cleaning up the Stibnite mine site is important to me for several reasons. Midas Gold's proposal would improve our water quality and allow our native fish to return to their native habitats. I hope that you will join us in supporting Alternative 2, which would make this possible.

Mining has been the backbone of our community for a very long time. The older mining operations took place before state and federal regulations were in place to protect our environment. Unfortunately, old projects damaged our water quality in the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River and its tributaries. Midas Gold has been monitoring the water quality at the Stibnite site and developed a plan to remove metal and waste from the ground and surface waters. This will lower the levels of chemicals in our rivers that make the water dangerous to drink or swim in.

At the same time, Midas is also restoring the river passageways so that native fish can migrate to their native breeding grounds. The river was diverted for an old mining project and fish were unable to use the upstream channels even after operations ended. Currently, the state stocks native fish in tributaries of the river because they can't access their natural habitats. Alternative 2 will restore the river passage during mining operations to allow fish to return to their native homes. Midas is also committed to long[shy] term conservation efforts, and will create a permanent passage when operations end.

These proposals are exactly what our rivers and communities need. It is time to clean up our waters and make them habitable and accessible for native wildlife. Alternative 2 offers the safest way to achieve these goals. I trust Midas' proposal because they have spent a decade monitoring the site and coming up with the most sustainable solution. I believe that Alternative 2 is the best solution and I hope you will sign off on this proposal.