

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/20/2020 6:00:00 AM

First name: Thomas

Last name: Watts

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of Midas Gold Idaho's Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Public participation is a huge part of the permitting process and I appreciate the opportunity to share my thoughts.

Alternative 2 provides a higher degree of safety for both the location of a new tailings storage facility as well the road options for accessing the site. Under this alternative, Midas Gold will locate its tailings storage facility in an area that is already impacted by past mining activity, whereas Alternative 3 would place it in an untouched area of the site. This unnecessarily exposes more of the surrounding environment to mining operations. For road safety, Alternative 2 reduces the risk of potential spills, minimizes sediment runoff to waterways, and avoids winter avalanche site whereas Alternative 4 would keep the access road where it is, adjacent to the river.

I appreciate your time and thoughtfulness. The USFS has provided plenty of tools to review the DEIS and make commenting within the 60-day timeframe possible. For the reasons I stated in my letter above, please permit the Stibnite Gold Project using alternative 2 and let Idahoans see the benefits of this important project.