

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/21/2020 6:00:00 AM

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Comments: I am writing to express my full support of Midas Gold Idaho and the Stibnite Gold Project. Midas Gold has shown its commitment to Valley County and the state of Idaho and I encourage you to adopt the proposed activities outlined in Alternative 2 during the permitting process.

Midas Gold has made it clear reclamation efforts will start alongside operations. For example, before mining ever begins, fish will be reconnected to their native spawning grounds upstream through a fish passageway. Eventually, the Yellow Pine Pit will be backfilled and the river can be permanently reconnected. Analysis in the draft Environmental Impact Statement showed removing existing barriers to fish migration will help Chinook salmon, bull trout and Steelhead. In fact, DEIS 4.12-39 says long-term access to blocked habitat would result in increased genetic diversity of isolated populations and productivity. They have worked to find safe access routes to the site that keeps vehicles away from our precious waterways. Additionally, under alternative 2, the company decreased traffic during operations by 26 percent by generating lime on site (table 2.3-2, 2.4-3, 2.3-8). Plus, the company is trying to minimize their impact on the environment by keeping facilities within the existing footprint of historic mining operations.

I am an employee of Western State CAT and know that companies like mine will positively benefit from this project. It will create thousands of direct and indirect jobs and bring millions into our state. I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward as soon as possible and adopt Alternative two as the preferred alternative.