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Comments: I have been closely following Midas Gold Idaho's plans for several years. I am an employee of Western State CAT and a supporter of the Stibnite Gold Project. Midas presents a huge opportunity for the Gem State with this project.

I have reviewed Alternative 2 and I believe the Stibnite Gold Project is an opportunity to repair the environment and bring an economic boost to the community. As proposed in Alternative 2, the project finances environmental reclamation and provides the workforce and resources necessary to complete it. If Midas Gold isn't allowed to move forward with its plan, this area in Idaho's backcountry will continue to suffer.

Currently, salmon are being blocked from their native spawning grounds and hundreds of tons of sediment are pouring into the watershed each year. It is time to address these issues and Midas Gold has the right plan to do it. According the Forest Service's own analysis in 4.12 of the draft Environmental Impact Statement, the increased access Midas Gold will provide to feeding and refuge areas for anadromous fish, such as chinook salmon, can improve productivity of the species. In appendix A of the document, you can see Midas Gold is committed to minimizing disturbances to wildlife during the project and improving the region once mining is complete. In reviewing the document, I think the company is taking the steps needed to protect the area and mine the area safely in Alternative 2.

While they work to repair the environment, Midas Gold will also be creating thousands of direct jobs for Idahoans, and thousands more in indirect job opportunities. They will also become the only mine providing a domestic source of antimony, a mineral deemed critical by the U.S. government for its use in energy industries, aerospace and national defense.

Midas Gold wants to restore the rivers, wildlife and habitat near the Stibnite Gold Project site, while providing economic opportunity in our region and help to secure our nation's defense. We should let them. Please permit the Stibnite Gold Project.