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Title:

Comments: I am contacting you to express my support of the Midas Gold's proposal. I understand the U.S. Forest Service is considering this proposal and I would encourage you to approve the project. As a local CAT employee, I have read Midas' plan at length and concluded that this will bring tremendous economic and environmental opportunities to the state of Idaho.

The presence of Midas Gold in our area will not only create numerous direct jobs, but also immense indirect jobs. Midas Gold has committed to hiring, contracting, and purchasing supplies and services locally whenever possible. To date, Midas Gold has spent over \$89 million in Idaho by prioritizing local vendors and contractors. Their efforts will require the help of equipment operators, general laborers, mechanics, electricians, engineers, surveyors, geologists and environmental and safety specialists. This is a great opportunity for our local economy and provide families with a stable income.

Midas Gold has also pledged a commitment to fixing extensive environmental damage that has been left behind by previous mining projects. This, of course, would be in addition to complying with all current environmental regulations. This restoration project would improve or repair many of the waterways on and around the site. This will consist of removing barriers that block fish migration, enhancing and restoring about 12 miles of perennial streams, as well as adding roughly 6 miles of additional stream habitat for migratory fish. Midas Gold's plan also ensure that there is minimal effect on aquatic wildlife, especially anadromous and local fish populations throughout the duration of the project.

I ask you to adopt Midas Gold's Alternative 2 proposal immediately.