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Comments: I have reviewed the Plan of Restoration and Operations and met with members of Midas Gold Idaho to better understand the company's plans for the Stibnite Gold Project. Below are my comments on the plan to be included in the comment period.

After reading through the alternatives proposed by the USFS, Alt 5 seems unacceptable. If private industry is willing to take on past legacies, what will happen to the environmental legacies at Stibnite if there is no action? What resources will the U.S. Government dedicate to solving the water quality and fish passage problems if Alt 5 is selected? I worry no resources will be directed to the site and arsenic and antimony will continue leaching into the groundwater and salmon will continue to be blocked from their native spawning grounds. However, if the USFS selects Alternative 2 the site would get the environmental attention that it needs. Under Alternative 2, Midas Gold will pick up and reprocess these legacy tailings, which will reduce long-term metal loading in the ground and surface water (DEIS 4.9). They will reconnect fish to their native spawning grounds for the first time in 80 years, and they will fix the largest source of sedimentation in the area, Blowout Creek. The fact that Blowout Creek is not in the project footprint shows Midas Gold's commitment to truly cleaning up this brownfield site. Not only will they be cleaning up legacies of the past, they'll be making opportunities for the future, providing hundreds of well-paying jobs, well over the state's average annual income, and bring millions in state, federal and local taxes to the area. As an employee of Western State CAT the economic benefit of the project are important to me. The Stibnite Gold Project would provide jobs for CAT and our presence in the region would create additional indirect jobs.

Reviewing Midas Gold's plans it is clear to me the company really believes in taking care of the environment and the community. I urge you to permit the Stibnite Gold Project as outlined under Alternative 2 and keep this project moving forward.