

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/22/2020 6:00:00 AM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: My family were homesteaders in McCall in the 1800s. I have been closely following Midas Gold Idaho's plans for several years. I am excited to finally have the opportunity to comment on their Draft EIS. Midas Gold Idaho presents a huge opportunity for the Gem State.

I am impressed by Midas Gold's plans to clean up water quality conditions at the site by removing sediment and old materials blocking the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River. Today, steelhead and Chinook salmon cannot access spawning grounds because they are blocked by an abandoned mining pit. Midas will address this issue before mining even begins [acirc][euro]" reconnecting fish for the first time in more than 80 years. The company will build a fish passageway in the short term and eventually restore full access to 25 miles of perennial stream and 6 miles of fish spawning habitat above the Yellow Pine pit. If we do not allow Midas Gold to move forward with their plans, it is highly unlikely anyone else will provide the funds needed to reconnect fish to this currently lost habitat.

Thank you for considering my thoughts on the project. I am grateful for the virtual meeting room you created. It made learning about the project easy and gave me the tools I needed to submit meaningful comments within the 60-day timeframe. If I can do it, anyone can. I urge you to move forward with alternative two.