

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/26/2020 6:00:00 AM

First name: Morgan Dean

Last name: West

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Midas Gold Idaho's Stibnite Gold Project presents Idaho, particularly rural Idaho, with a huge economic and environmental opportunity. I am writing to encourage you to permit the project as quickly as possible.

The Stibnite Gold Project is an opportunity to address high amounts of sedimentation and drainage of the wetlands that happened as a result of the dam failure at Blowout Creek in the 1960s. This has caused extensive, ongoing erosion for decades and the effects are concerning for fish habitat and water quality. Midas Gold intends to address these issues by repairing the damage and installing a French drain at the site of the old dam to permanently keep sediment out of the river and restore wetlands. According to the U.S. Forest Service's own draft environmental impact statement, their plan for mitigation and restoration will help address this issue. Chapter 4 states that proposed mitigation will provide 1:1 replacement of wetland acres (4.11.2.3.1.1-2).

This Stibnite Gold Project is a huge opportunity for Idaho. I am grateful for the tools the Forest Service has provided to review the DEIS and learn more about the project. These tools have given Idahoans sufficient time to comment. Please permit alternative 2 and continue moving the project forward so our citizens can reap the positive impacts.