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Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the Draft EIS for the Stibnite Gold Project in eastern Valley County, Idaho.

After careful review, it is my opinion that alternative two as proposed by Midas Gold is the most prudent choice for protecting fish populations, including current and future anadromous fish populations, and for safeguarding the environment. It includes several updates from Alternative One that reduce impact to salmon habitat and increase environmental safeguards. Alternative Two will facilitate action as soon as possible.

Alternatives Three and Four could delay the project by years, slowing down the environmental and economic benefits the Stibnite Gold Project promises to bring. With the ongoing crisis caused by COVID19, it is especially important to build a strong domestic supply chain and provide well-paying jobs for Idahoans. A delay in the project would have negative impacts to rural communities. While alternative number Five must be considered, it makes no technical or economic sense to take a no action approach for this project in the historical Stibnite Mining District.

Midas Gold has already established a proven track record in taking care of the environment and keeping the community safe. Midas Gold Idaho is already having a significant impact on the local economy. Not only are they committed to Idaho first for sourcing their jobs and filling their supply chain (project-to-date over \$100 million has been expended), but very little if any of the capital expended has been borrowed, raised, or sourced from the state of Idaho. The investment capital that has been infused into our local economy to date has been derived from out of the state, or other countries. In fact, it is likely that the Team and senior management at Midas has made commitments to and gained interest from investors from all over the world. Those investors know how important this project is. And through this EIS process, I hope that the public understands as well.

Not only will the Stibnite Gold Project provide stable, well-paying jobs throughout the life of the project, it will also inject an estimated \$329 million in federal corporate income taxes, and \$86 Million in state corporate income and mine license taxes. On average, employees will make \$80,000 per year [ndash] twice as much as the average salary in Valley County. Overall, the company estimates the annual payroll will be approximately \$42 million per year.

Independent economic analysis estimates that for every job created by the Stibnite Gold Project, another indirect job would be created in the community. And there will be thousands more induced jobs that this project will support [ndash] almost too many to quantify. This `multiplier effect` can have an insurmountable positive impact for working Idahoans and the economy for years to come.

And finally, the Stibnite Gold Project will be a major domestic producer of gold and antimony. The antimony is a strategic mineral that has not been produced in this country for over 70 years. Today, we import almost all our antimony from China. We can no longer solely depend upon China, or the far-east for our critical minerals. The U.S. government recently named antimony to its list of critical minerals because of its importance in the national defense and aerospace industries. It is also used in the manufacture of semiconductors. The Stibnite Gold Project would be the only source of primary antimony production in the country.

The Midas Gold Team has shown themselves to be a good neighbor and partner in the local Valley County Community. And a responsible environmental steward. I strongly urge you to permit the Stibnite Gold Project using alternative Two and keep this project moving forward. The comment period has been extended by 15 days once already, please keep the comment period to 60 days to prevent additional delays.