

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

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Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my full support of Midas Gold Idaho and the Stibnite Gold Project. Midas Gold has shown they are committed to Idaho and want to take care of the environment. I hope you move forward and permit this project as quickly as possible.

With my role at Western States CAT, I have worked with Midas Gold for the past several years and had the opportunity to tour their site and learn more about their project. I have reviewed Alternative 2 and I believe the Stibnite Gold Project is an opportunity to repair the environment and bring an economic boost to the community that it so desperately needs. As proposed in Alternative 2, the project finances environmental reclamation and provides the workforce and resources necessary to complete it. If Midas Gold isn't allowed to move forward with its plan, this area in Idaho's backcountry will continue to suffer. Currently, salmon are being blocked from their native spawning grounds and hundreds of tons of sediment are pouring into the watershed each year. It is time to address these issues and Midas Gold has the right plan to do it. According to the Forest Service's own analysis in 4.12 of the draft Environmental Impact Statement, the increased access Midas Gold will provide to feeding and refuge areas for anadromous fish, such as chinook salmon, can improve productivity of the species. In appendix A of the document, you can see Midas Gold is committed to minimizing disturbances to wildlife during the project and improving the region once mining is complete. In reviewing the document, I think the

Midas is taking the steps needed to protect the area and mine the area safely in Alternative 2. Having worked with them for several years, I am confident that what they say they'll do is what will be done. With the 45-day comment period being extended 15-days already, I believe our community has had ample time to review the DEIS, ask questions and get the information we need. I urge you to accept Midas Gold's plan as outlined under alternative 2 and continue moving this project forward.