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Title:

Comments: Midas Gold Idaho has been a member of our community for the past decade. During this time, the company and its employees have become wonderful champions and supporters of our community. They've volunteered their time in our schools and given generously to community causes. The company's track record of following through on its promises and doing the right thing gives us the confidence to write in support of permitting the Stibnite Gold Project.

The Stibnite Gold Project is a huge opportunity for Idaho and our country. While the site is rich in gold deposits it also has deposits of antimony - a mineral designated critical by the U.S. government. In fact, the Stibnite Gold Project is the largest known deposit of antimony in the country. We depend heavily on China for this mineral. Antimony is crucial to the defense and energy industries and is in many items we use on a daily basis, like our cell phones. Permitting the Stibnite Gold Project will allow us to have a domestic resource for this very important mineral.

I'm encouraged by increase in the scenery following reclamation and restoration of the site around Stibnite. Although Midas Gold is proposing to open up 2/3 existing pits. At closure, major landform modifications at the mine site, including the Yellow Pine pit backfill, the DRSFs, the TSF, and haul roads, would be contoured and graded to blend into the surrounding topography and terrain. They also propose vegetating the reclaimed Development Rock Storage Facility and the Tailings Storage Facility which will diminish the visual contrast overtime.

I'm encouraged to see Midas Gold's plan to backfill the Yellow Pine Pit and restore the EFSFSR so that fish will be able to access additional habitat above the current blockage.

The Stibnite Gold Project is the type of project our state needs. I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to permit this project, using alternative two presented by Midas Gold, as expeditiously as possible.