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Comments: Upon learning more about the upcoming Midas Gold's Stibnite Project, I have a few concerns that I want to share.

Although I have not yet had the chance to kayak the East Fork of the Salmon River, many of my friends have told me about how special this area for both its beauty and as some of the best whitewater in the U.S. In the Fall, I am leaving for the Peace Corps and will not get the chance to paddle the river for at least several years. When I do have that opportunity, I hope that the river is safe for me and my friends to paddle.

On that point, please do your best to ensure that the water quality is protected in the long term as well as the short term. My heart would be more at ease if there was a monitoring website where I could see water quality reports and know whether or not any spills have recently occurred. This extends beyond my love of whitewater kayaking to protecting the salmon and other wildlife in the area.

It is my understanding that tailings from the mining are to be deposited in streams and wetlands. Would it be possible for Midas to backfill their pits instead?

From looking at some of the history of mining in Idaho, it seems like when mining companies aren't forced to prepare for the worst case scenarios, tax-payers are often left to foot the bill and the environment suffers as a result. So please, in calculating the bond amount for this project include a total that takes into account risks of natural disasters such as earthquakes or flooding. Also, create a time frame of at least several decades which takes into account potential long term effects of the project.

Finally, after this project is finished, I would ask that the forest service withdraw the area from future mining entry so that after it is restored, it remains that way. Areas like this are at the core of what I love most in this beautiful state.

Thanks for your time and have a great day!