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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I write today to the U.S. Forest Service to voice my strong support for the Plan of Restoration and Operation that Midas Gold has submitted. Approval of this PRO will allow Midas to begin working on the Stibnite Gold Project, which will bring economic growth and more jobs to the central Idaho region. I believe that the Forest Service should approve this plan, since Midas has committed to carrying out their operation in an environmentally sustainable way. Midas will also correct decades of environmental damage, and will improve the forests, waterways, and natural ecosystems of Stibnite-Yellow Pine for years to come.

As a resident of central Idaho, I have long supported mining projects, but have taken issue with the environmental degradation that occasionally comes with mining. Midas has proven itself a company that we can trust, as they have been completely transparent about their operations. Midas has set themselves apart by committing to environmental restoration, and has already created several unique plans to minimize the environmental impact of their operation. These measures include plans to plant tens of thousands of trees, cleaning up debris and leftover equipment from past mining projects, and a comprehensive plan to restore several miles of streams and waterways. I was especially impressed by their plan to create a mile long fish tunnel, which will allow salmon and brook trout to reach their spawning areas more easily. Populations of fish have been needlessly depleted for decades, and it is innovation like this that makes us eager to see Midas begin their operations.

Furthermore, I cannot overstate the economic benefits that we will see from the Stibnite Gold Project. The Gold Project will create over 500 jobs, with salaries averaging \$80,000 per year. The Project will also support the regional economy, and will provide millions of dollars in surplus tax revenue for state and local officials.

I strongly encourage you to support Alternative 2 presented by Midas Gold Idaho.