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First name: Jennifer B
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: Payette National Forest,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of Midas Gold Idaho's comment period.

Antimony is one of the unsung strategic metals that no one thinks about. It's use in semi-conductors is critical and more importantly, its use in fire retardant materials. With forest fires becoming the norm, these fire retardant materials are needed more than ever.

Covid-19 has opened our eyes to the fact that we cannot depend on imports for our strategic material needs. This mine can not only improve the economy with high paying jobs, but provide 25% of the antimony needed in this country.

I have been closely following Midas Gold Idaho's plans, in large part because much of the proposed project will take place on public land. The more I have learned about the project, the more excited I am about the possibilities for the future.

This project, especially alternative 2, is in line with what I would expect from any project that improves the local, state and national economies. Those of us who live in the western U.S. have long understood that using the land and protecting the land can go hand-in-hand. Alternative 2 blends improving public lands with building a robust business and it is an approach I encourage. From repairing a legacy mine site to developing roads and power infrastructure, the $1 billion investment the company would make in Idaho will benefit the entire country. For example, ground and surface water quality are currently a concern around the site. In some places on the site, arsenic and antimony levels in the water are currently 700 times higher than drinking water standards. Midas Gold can correct these problems by following Alternative 2. According to DEIS chapter 4, section 4.9, removing legacy tailings and managing water quality provides long-term reduction in metal loading in ground and sur face water. These are benefits we cannot pass up.

Thank you for reviewing my comments. Again, I urge you to permit Midas Gold's carefully thought out plan as outlined under alternative 2.

Best Wishes,

Name: Jennifer B Leinart