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Organization:
Title:
Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of Midas Gold Idaho's Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Public participation is a huge part of the permitting process and, as an Idahoan, I appreciate the opportunity to share my thoughts.

There are many checks and balances in place to ensure Midas Gold Idaho follows through on its promises to restore the site. In fact, the company is required by law to set aside all of the money it needs for restoration before mining can begin. However, I am not worried about Midas Gold Idaho staying true to its word. The company has already started restoration work at the site. They have planted more than 60,000 trees to help reduce the amount of sediment going into the river, installed solar energy panels at site to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improved miles of road along the river to protect fish habitat.

Alternative 2 appears to be the best option for the project moving forward. In that alternative, the company decreased traffic during operations by 26 percent by generating lime on site (table 2.3-2, 2.4-3, 2.3-8). The company would also reprocess legacy materials in the Meadow Creek Basin, SODA and Hecla Heap, which remove them as a source for leaching arsenic and antimony into the ground and surface water. The analysis in the document shows this will make further water degradation from these sources less likely in the future. Removing legacy tailings waste will also improve water quality in Meadow Creek Valley (4.12).

The company has also been mindful of the community's access to the backcountry. They will continue to allow access through the site during construction and operations and I believe their presence in our community will actually make existing roads more accessible.

1 appreciate your time and thoughtfulness. For the reasons I stated in my letter above, please permit the Stibnite Gold Project using alternative 2 and let Idahoans see the benefits of this important project.