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Comments: I attended the information session on Wednesday. Thanks for hosting this. It was very informative and I look forward to further updates as you evaluate the risks and rewards of this project.

I have been a user of the Salmon River system for years. Nothing is more important to me than the health of our wild lands in Idaho and leaving these gems in better shape for future generations than what I have had the chance to enjoy. I have a number of concerns about the proposed Stibnite operation, but will focus on my top two:

1. Everything flows downstream. You can't change the nature of gravity. The heavy metals and acidic mine drainage will pollute all of the downstream waterways and fisheries. I have zero confidence that Midas Gold can contain the toxic waste that they will generate. The impact to these precious Idaho waterways will be catastrophic. I urge the Forest Service to weight the inevitable damage that this operation will cause for many years and generations of Idahoans to come.

2. The mining industry has a HORRIBLE track record in doing what they say they are going to do regarding reclamation. The current title of the Midas Gold plan "restoration and operation" is a marketing farce. I appreciate that agencies including the USFS are better today at setting appropriate bonding requirements than in the past. However, after 20 years or more of operations, who will pay for what we were not able to anticipate (despite everyones best efforts). On Wednesday, I asked USFS representatives about what we know about Midas Gold, what is their track record, etc? They have no track record. Despite what they say today, what will happen when they are purchased by another parent company that chooses to disregard all of their good words today? Our state, lands, and future generations deserve better.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I recognize the complexity of what you are being asked to do. I will look forward to your progress and thinking on the project. Thanks also for taking the long term view on this proposed project. The risks clearly outweigh the rewards!