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Comments: Hello,

Upon reviewing Midas Gold's proposed plan to initiate new mining activities in the Stibnite area, I have strong reservations.

The proposed area buffers one of the most important wilderness areas in the Lower 48, the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness. The area between the South Fork road and the wilderness boundary is not a sacrifice zone and all and every effort should be made to minimize the impacts of this project.

The Forest Service has an opportunity to approach this project approval in a new and responsible manner, i.e., Midas Gold should devote more of its profits to restoring the area than has ever been required of mining companies. We have too many examples of past mining projects that were never properly managed and restored. In fact, this area is still highly contaminated from past projects.

If Midas Gold wants the privilege of mining on public lands, then they should shoulder the enormous ecological costs that a new open pit mine will produce.

I know that it is unlikely that this project will not be approved, but please hold this company properly accountable and make them commit money up front to restoration!!

This is highly critical salmon and bull trout spawning watershed and its proximity to wilderness means that impacts to wildlife, vegetation, and ecological processes will be severe.

The Forest Service are stewards of public lands and they have zero obligations to industry. Their obligation should be to maintaining critical wildlife habitat. The jobs from this project will come and go (the lifespan is roughly five years), but maintaining healthy fisheries and healthy wildlife populations can sustain livelihoods for decades to come.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.