

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/2/2020 6:00:00 AM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my views on Midas Gold Idaho's Stibnite Gold Project. As a resident of Yellow Pine, the opportunity presented by the Stibnite Gold Project is compelling for many reasons and it is a project I am happy to support and hopefully see it completed.

First, the Stibnite Gold Project will bring huge economic benefits to the rural communities surrounding the project site. Midas Gold will directly employ 400-500 employees during construction and operations. Payroll is expected to exceed \$34 million. These numbers do not even capture the indirect jobs I am confident nearby areas and businesses will see from the Stibnite Gold Project.

Additionally, historic mining operations have resulted in significant degradation of many elements of the environment. Loss of fish habitats, water degradation from previous mining activity and excessive erosion are all of great concern to our community. The Stibnite Gold Project would finance reclamation efforts to address these problems. All of these reclamation efforts are clear in Alternative 2 of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and that is why I am asking you to permit Alternative 2. After reviewing the document I found several conclusions that show just how effective Alternative 2 will be. That includes helping fish productivity (Chapter 4, Section 12) and reducing harmful metals in the water (Chapter 4, Section 9). These are all of great concern to me.

While the economic benefits of this project cannot be ignored, it also will transform an area in need for environmental repair. It is for all of these reasons that I encourage you to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward.