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Comments: I am writing to express my full support of Midas Gold Idaho and the Stibnite Gold Project. Midas Gold has shown its commitment to Valley County and the state of Idaho and I encourage you to adopt the proposed Alternative 2 outlined in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement as the preferred alternative during the permitting process.

If you examine Alternative 2 or Midas Gold's modified Plan of Restoration and Operations, it is evident the company identified the best possible plan to restore the site. The company is limiting its footprint to existing disturbance as much as possible to minimize new disturbance, natural fish spawning routes will be restored after being blocked for decades and the company has plans to make improvements that will keep thousands of pounds of sediment out of the river each year. Unfortunately, if Midas Gold Idaho is not allowed to move forward with its plan, it is highly unlikely that these critical improvements will ever happen.

I believe the project presents a solid plan to repair the environment. Historic mining operations, development of former town site and natural processes have resulted in significant degradation of many elements of the environment. Loss of fish passage, potential 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 and help the site and the river. Findings from the Draft Environmental Impact Statement generally support this. According to Chapter 4, Section 4.9, removing legacy tailings and managing water quality provides long-term reduction in metal loading in ground and surface water.

This project is a huge opportunity for Idaho. I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to permit the second alternative outlined in the draft environmental impact statement so this brownfield site can finally be restored.