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First name: Frank Last name: Schwartz

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Forest Supervisor Jackson,

I support a decision to move forward with the Midas Gold project, implementing their preferred alternative. This project will accomplish a major site restoration effort which has been looming for years. Additionally, this project will create many jobs and opportunities for local and regional citizens that are willing to work. The contributions of this project to the Idaho economy over the next few decades will be substantial while restoring the watershed function, fisheries, habitat and overall health of the area. Please select the alternative that is requested by Midas Gold. The implementation of this project will be expensive, with some alternatives having greater costs than others. Midas Gold should be allowed to conduct their operation in an efficient manner, since overall they are going to be improving the ecological function and visual quality of the entire area of their planned operation. The metals recovered from these mining operations are important to our nation and industries.

Please also address the social and economic impact of any planned permanent road closures/reroutes on access to other private lands and specifically the impacts to those owners in that area. Please assure proper coordination with all affected land owners and do not make decisions on road closures without the consent of those land owners.

Please make a timely decision. This NEPA process has been painfully long and expensive, with no obvious added value.

Thank you.

Frank Schwartz