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Title:

Comments: I do not support this project as presented in the DEIS.

It is hard to communicate how many issues this mining project, as proposed, has that will harm the environment in the project area and far beyond on public and private lands and waters of Idaho.

First, the DEIS is woefully incomplete and does not address many of the impacts from the project. I ask that the USFS require Midas to submit a supplemental DEIS that supplies the information needed to to do full and accurate analyses of all impacts.

Second, Midas has been branding this mining proposal as a restoration project. This is inaccurate and untrue as it is currently proposed in the DEIS. The massive mine will have significant and lasting environmental impacts for generations to come that will affect the South Fork Salmon, public lands and fish and wildlife that belong to all of us. The status quo of the current disturbed Stibnite mine site is actually better that what Midas is proposing. It is not a restoration project.

Third, the Nez Perce Tribe has important and legal status in the area of the proposed mine. Their interests should be put ahead of any others in considering the project alternatives.

Fourth, there is no reason to fast track a mine permitting process for a project of this magnitude. Why have less-damaging alternatives not been considered? Why has the public been given only the minimum amount of time with a short 14 day extension to review a document with the complexity of this DEIS and a project with this number of impacts? The USFS has a legal obligation to do a thorough and complete analysis that involves the public in a meaningful way.

I was a Federal employee for 14 years, many of those involved in preparing and reviewing NEPA documents. NEPA is designed to protect the environment, the public and the tribes. I ask the USFS to follow the law.