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Comments: Road construction should avoid Inventoried Roadless Areas, thus the preferred alternative should use either the Johnson Creek route or other roads outside of IRAs.

The analysis indicates that arsenic and antimony will exceed water quality standards in the West End pit and backfilled pits. Another alternative needs to be developed that will ensure that all surface and ground water quality standards, including for arsenic and antimony, will be met.

The analysis indicates major impacts on wolverines. With only an estimated 300 animals left in the US, this species belongs on the endangered species list. Please develop an alternative that avoids impacts to wolverines.

The decision needs to ensure that mitigation promises made by the mining company are kept, such as by requiring a reclamation bond. As you may know, mine operators routinely declare bankruptcy in order to avoid reclamation, passing the cost on to US taxpayers. I find it interesting that "Midas Gold" changed their name to "Perpetua," since abandoned mines need to be monitored and managed in perpetuity to guarantee that tailings dams don't fail and that acid mine drainage and chemicals from tailings ponds do not pollute ground and surface water. I hope this name change is more than a public relations move.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.