Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/14/2020 6:00:00 AM
First name: Ray
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: Greetings Ms. Jackson and Staff,

It is with great pleasure that I write to the U.S. Forest Service to encourage you to permit the proposed activities outlined by Midas Gold in Alternative 2 during this public input process.

Today at the site, leftover mining waste is leaching metals into groundwater and hurting wildlife and local communities. Midas has been monitoring the site for the last decade and discovered there are high levels of arsenic and antimony in the water, far beyond what is acceptable for drinking water standards. Of course, these problems were created long ago by historical mining operations and not by Midas Gold. However, the company has a plan to address these problems. Alternative 2 offers viable solutions to improve the site. It creates a plan to clean up existing tailings and store future tailings in a state-of-the-art storage facility. I trust Midas to safely reprocess and store the tailings because their facility contains several important design factors to prevent against breaches, leaks, or excessive water accumulation.

Midas Gold Idaho wants to invest $1 billion in our state, bring more than 1,000 jobs to rural Idaho and still provide access to Idaho's public lands. This is the type of project our state needs. And with the coronavirus, we need it now more than ever. The USFS has provided sufficient time to review the document and provide comments. It is time to move forward. I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to pick alternative 2 as the preferred alternative for the Stibnite Gold Project.