

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/23/2020 6:00:00 AM

First name: Ronald

Last name: Staples

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing in support of the Stibnite Gold Project and the benefits it will bring to Idaho. This project has the potential to put hundreds of Idahoans to work, bring a \$1 billion investment into our state and restore an area of Idaho's backcountry desperately in need of repair.

After reviewing the DEIS, I hope the U.S. Forest Service will select Alternative 2, as it seems to be the best option for the site. Under this alternative, Midas Gold designed a very safe Tailings Storage Facility, with 90 percent surrounded by granite mountains and the rest retained by a dam buttressed by 65 million tons of course rockfill. To date, the company has a stellar safety record. They have a nearly decade-long record of transporting hazardous materials without incident; since 2011, they've conducted over 195 successful fuel hauls involving 279 fuel trucks and have gone several years without a significant spill. If the other alternatives are selected, it could slow down the environmental and economic benefits of the project [acirc][euro]" in the case of Alternative 5, it could even mean the site receives no attention and the problems we are experiencing today would simply remain.

For the above reasons and many more, please move forward with alternative 2 of the Stibnite Gold Project as it is important to all Idahoans. The comment period provides plenty of time to read the DEIS and submit comments. Further extensions of the comment period are unnecessary and will needlessly delay the project.