

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/28/2020 6:00:00 AM

First name: Ann

Last name: Meredith

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Midas Gold Idaho has made a great effort to include local residents, businesses, and communities in the planning process for the Stibnite Gold Project. I have to admit I was on the fence when I first heard about their plans to redevelop and restore the Stibnite mining site, but after reviewing their plans and the draft Environmental Impact Statement authored by the U.S. Forest Service, I think Alternative 2 offers a practical, environmentally and economically beneficial solution.

The problems at Stibnite have been festering for years. Local fish populations are struggling as many have been unable to access their historical spawning grounds for over 80. Poor water quality-including high levels of metals and sediment-hurts local fish and other wild life even more. And wetlands are dying out due to ongoing erosion issues. It's a mess quite frankly.

That's why we need Alternative 2. Under this plan, Midas Gold would restore the Salmon River and reconnect fish to miles of habitat; clean up and store old waste rock contributing to poor water quality; and address the erosion and sedimentation issues while restoring the wetlands. In fact, these proposed mitigation efforts would provide 1:1 replacement of wetlands acres, according to the draft EIS.

The problems at the Stibnite site shouldn't be allowed to get worse. Alternative 2 offers the most technically feasible solution that reduces the environmental impacts the most. I encourage you to approve this approach.

Thank you for your time and consideration.