

MYTH VS FACT

MYTHS ON MIDAS GOLD

MYTH: Midas Gold is just like every other mining company.

Not true – our track record speaks for itself. Our work to help the environment at site has already started. We've spent \$1.7 million on reclamation efforts at site to date and planted close to 60,000 trees to improve environmental conditions at site. Midas Gold is a responsible, modern mining company that committed from the very beginning to repairing past environmental damage and ensuring there is a sustainable future for the Stibnite region. Our proposed environmental repair and restoration is upfront and early, and an integral part of the plan for redevelopment of the site that will be the basis of the permits.

MYTH: Midas Gold can walk away from the Project without restoring the site.

This is simply not true. The full funding needed to repair the area will be set aside in a bond or trust before we begin; that is the law. Before we can move a shovel of dirt, tens of millions or more will be set aside, under government control, to guarantee reclamation costs estimates that are vetted and approved by regulators.

We also designed our plan differently. For the Stibnite Gold Project, restoration and mining are linked together from Day One. We made sure that, before an ounce of gold is produced, benefits to the environment will already be occurring.

We will start by addressing legacy environmental impacts during the construction period and continue by concurrently reclaiming our own disturbance as we go.

For example, during construction, we will begin fixing the largest sources of sedimentation in the watershed and, in the first years of operation we will be removing, reprocessing or reusing, and safely storing the legacy mine tailings and waste rock that is significantly impacting water quality today. By Year 7 of operations (out of a 12-15 year operational life), we will begin backfilling the Yellow Pine pit to reconstruct the natural flow of the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River and allow salmon migration to its headwaters for the first time in 80 years.

Since our project will be properly bonded, the situation the author describes could not arise. Even if Midas Gold left unexpectedly – and let us be clear we have absolutely no intentions of doing so – the reclamation bond would allow the USFS and State agencies to complete reclamation, as defined in the mine plan, at no cost to the American taxpayers.

MYTH: Mining companies say they will leave the area better than they found it and it has just never been true.

Not true. The companies that mined at Stibnite in the 1930s, 40s and 50s were largely focused on producing tungsten and antimony needed for WWII and the Korean War. The ethos, the goals and the

regulatory environment were very different at that time and they never promised to clean up the site. Modern mining reclamation standards have never been more stringent than they are today; checks and balances have been put in place to ensure mining companies take care of the land. In fact, a 2011 investigation the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management reported to U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski that, out of 3,344 mining plans of operations approved by both agencies since 1990, none of those 3,344 federal approvals required the EPA to place any of these approvals on the highest priority environmental clean-up sites (Baird and DeLong, 2016).

For the Stibnite Gold Project, the reclamation and restoration elements written into our plan are not optional and, once the plan is approved, we will be required to reclaim and restore the Stibnite site and financial assurances (bonding) will be in place before mining begins to guarantee the work is completed.

MYTH: Midas Gold's claims are based on pure speculation not hard science.

Not True. Science is at the heart of everything we do and we've invested over \$60 million in the scientific and regulatory review process, including \$15.8 million in third party scientific baseline and modeling studies. Our team at Midas Gold and our consultants include some of the most highly experienced and trusted experts in fish biology, stream restoration, mine engineering, geochemistry, water modeling and habitat restoration.

Through the NEPA process, the U.S. Forest Service and many other state and federal agencies have spent the last four years collecting and/or analyzing data, reviewing certified independent studies and assessing the science behind the Stibnite Gold Project. As such, the ~5,000 page Draft Environmental Impact Statement synthesizes the work of scientists all around the country and makes conclusions based in hard science.

MYTH: Midas does not care about the environment

This is emphatically not true. The environment and safety are our top priorities and have been since the foundation of the company. Protection of the environment and restoration of the site have always been front and center for Midas Gold and we built our plan around the foundational principle that we should leave the site better than we found it. In fact, the restoration work at Stibnite will begin in the very first year of construction and is integrated throughout the life of the project. To accomplish this, we plan to invest tens of millions of dollars to provide fish passage around current barriers before operations begin (and permanently thereafter), pick up and relocate or reprocess tailings and waste rock threatening ground and surface water and address a major source of sedimentation in the region. Further, we have already planted 60,000 trees, upgraded public roads to reduce environmental impacts, reduced our project footprint from that in our early plans and committed to following dark-sky friendly policies.

MYTH: If the Project moves forward, the people of Idaho will allow this Canadian company to make billions of dollars in profit from our own irreplaceable resources.

Not true. Midas Gold Idaho is an Idaho based company with over 30 employees who live here in Idaho. Midas Gold Corp, our parent company has just four employees, was formed in Canada so we could gain access to capital funds on the Toronto Stock Exchange. Further, Midas Gold Corp. is both a US and Canadian tax filer and would therefore pay taxes in both Canada and the United States, with the substantial majority paid in the United States since that is where the project is located and revenue and profits would be generated. Further, while our primary listing is in Canada in order to access the funds to advance the project, we actively trade on the US OTCQX market. As a publicly traded company, 48% of our currently available shares are held by retail shareholders. Of the total shares on the market today, 43% are held by U.S. shareholders; 46% by Canadian and 11% by others from around the world. On a fully

diluted basis, once its notes are converted, that ratio would increase to more than 70% American shareholders.

As an Idaho based company operating in Idaho, economic impacts from state taxes, fees and spending occur here in Idaho. The economic benefits from this project include more than 500 direct, well paying jobs to Idahoans, \$42 million in annual payroll during operations and \$700 million in direct, indirect and induced state and federal taxes.

“Billions in profits” is pure exaggeration intended to rile people up – our 2014 Pre-feasibility Study shows a project return on investment of 19.3% after tax and a net present value of US\$832 million to Midas Gold.

The premise of our plan is to integrate restoration of past legacies with 21st century responsible mining. In our plan, restoration and operations are inseparable. The economic benefits from this project bring much needed resources for environmental restoration and broad direct and indirect economic benefits.

It is a false premise to assume that running a successful business cannot be about doing good; there are a multitude of businesses in this state and this country whose profit and good works go hand in hand. Additionally, being profitable means running a business that follows the law and does what is required. We are personally and financially incentivized to do this right.

MYTH: Gold mining companies are destroyers not restorers.

Not true. Mining companies in the U.S. have completed restoration on nearly 3 million acres of land. Midas Gold is not a mining prospector from 1800. We are scientists and engineers but most importantly, we are Idahoans. As individuals, and as a company, we take restoration very seriously and have a plan and are making the financial commitments necessary to make restoration a reality.

MYTH: Barrick Gold is running Midas Gold.

This is simply not true and is evidenced by numerous public filings with securities regulators that are readily available to anyone. Barrick Gold is one of many shareholders of our publicly traded parent company, Midas Gold Corp but its ownership is well below our largest shareholder Paulson & Co., which owns 44% of the company. In 2020, Barrick declined to participate in a financing, diluting their ownership in the company. Barrick has approximately 11% ownership in our parent company. Barrick has publicly stated that their investment was purely for equity returns, and their interest in the project is to perhaps be a customer of our concentrate, were it to ever be shipped off site, which is not part of our plans.

MYTH: When things go south, as has happened before all across the west, mining companies declare bankruptcy and taxpayers are left on the hook for expensive cleanup costs while bearing the burden of polluted lands and waterways.

Unfortunately, this is part of the historical legacy of the mining industry but things have been very different for more than 30 years. Modern mining reclamation standards have never been more stringent than they are today; checks and balances have been put in place to ensure mining companies take care of the land. In fact, a 2011 investigation the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management reported to U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski that, out of 3,344 mining plans of operations approved by both agencies since 1990, none of those 3,344 federal approvals required the EPA to place any of these approvals on the highest priority environmental clean-up sites (Baird and DeLong, 2016). For the Stibnite Gold Project, the reclamation and restoration elements written into our plan are not optional and, once the plan is approved, we will be required to reclaim and restore the Stibnite site and financial assurances (bonding)

will be in place before mining begins to guarantee the work is completed at costs assuming the government is carrying out the work.

MYTHS ON THE PROJECT

MYTH: The Project will give us pennies on the dollar, a few jobs and empty promises.

Not True. Midas Gold has already spent \$221 million on the project, of which more than \$86 million has been spent in Idaho. Going forward, the project will require a \$1+ billion in capital investment in Idaho that will result in approximately 500 direct family-wage jobs, prioritized for Idahoans with an annual payroll of \$42 million during operations. These meaningful local impacts should not be dismissed. On top of this, numerous indirect jobs will be created in the support, services and supplies sectors for everything from maintaining internet and power, schools and restaurants, to growing tree seedlings and supplying groceries to employees living at site.

The project will make a positive difference in the lives of hundreds of Idaho families—especially in rural Idaho where there are few opportunities for young people to stay and grow in a career in a well-paying industry that employs people in everything from equipment operators and cooks to engineers and environmental scientists.

In addition to the direct benefits, in its PFS, the company is estimated to pay approximately \$300,000 in Idaho property taxes annually, \$85 million in direct state corporate income tax and mine license fees and \$150 million in sales transactions in Idaho.

MYTH: It's not about restoring the site.

That statement is completely wrong. For Midas Gold, mining and environmental restoration are inextricably linked and have been from the very beginning of the company; in fact it is our vision for the site. Mining will not happen without environmental clean-up, and clean-up will not happen without mining.

Mining that began 100 years ago created the environmental problems at site and it will be mining that brings solutions. Midas Gold is investing in site restoration by designing our plan to use mining to begin restoration early in the life of the project. Not to mention that we've already done work to improve conditions at the site, including planting close to 60,000 trees to help stabilize the site and reduce sedimentation, improved both private and public roads to improve water quality, reclaimed over 13 acres of impacted lands and removed more than 20 tons of scrap metal and junk left by prior operators.

There are no other viable government agencies, non-profit groups or plans willing to bring the financial resources or large, industrial scale equipment needed for meaningful restoration. Midas Gold, and the private investment it brings, is currently the only realistic plan to help Stibnite get the environmental attention it needs. The permitting process is also designed to hold us accountable to follow through with our restoration plans.

MYTH: The Stibnite Gold Project is not about providing some sort of essential metals

Not true. The U.S. produces no domestically mined source antimony and we rely entirely on foreign countries, mainly China and Russia, for this critical mineral.

By mining antimony as part of the Stibnite Gold Project, we could supply approximately one-quarter of the American demand for this mineral, which is used in cell phones, hybrid vehicles, batteries, national defense and more.

As a country, we need critical minerals, and the Stibnite Gold Project would be a part of the solution. Mining for them in America give us control over the environmental and labor conditions of how we produce the minerals we need and use every day.

MYTH: The Project is within 8,000 ft of the Frank Church Wilderness.

Not true. The project is 3 miles from the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness and in a completely different watershed.

Many Idahoans grew up with their first experiences of wilderness in the Frank, and it would be unacceptable to us to have any adverse impact on the area. However, when lawmakers first designated the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness, they specifically drew the boundaries to avoid Thunder Mountain and Stibnite because of the known important mineral resources in the area.

MYTH: Mining companies like to promise restoration or claim that they won't repeat the mistakes of the past. Then they break their promises and repeat the mistakes of the past. A good example just doesn't exist.

Not true. Mining regulations today were written to hold mining companies accountable and ensure projects are designed, built, operated, and closed to protect the environment. Modern federal and state mining regulations, including the Forest Service's 36 CFR Subpart 228A regulations that govern the proposed Stibnite Gold Project, and the agency's financial assurance (bonding) requirements effectively guarantee that today's mines, including the proposed Stibnite Gold Project, will not create future environmental problems. Modern mining reclamation standards have never been more stringent than they are today and U.S. mining companies are subject of some of the strictest government review and oversight in the world, as we think they should be. A 2011 investigation the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management reported to Senator Lisa Murkowski that out of 3,344 mining plans of operations approved by both agencies since 1990, none of the 3,344 federal approvals required the EPA to place any of these approvals on the highest priority environmental clean-up sites (Baird and DeLong, 2016). The fact that no sites permitted since 1990 are on the National Priorities List is compelling proof that modern mining regulations are successfully protecting the environment at mines throughout the country. This shows that mining companies are following through on their promises. Once the Stibnite Gold Project is approved, the reclamation and restoration elements written into our plan are not optional. We will be required reclaim the Stibnite site and financial assurances (bonding) will be in place before mining begins to guarantee the work is completed. The myth that problems due to past, unregulated mining at Stibnite foretell what the future will hold following the Stibnite Gold Project is baseless, and simply a myth, because it ignores the facts.

MYTH: The Project is a direct threat to the livelihood of the Nez Perce Tribe.

Not the whole story. We recognize the land around the Stibnite Gold Project holds important meaning for Tribes across the state. We agree with the Nez Perce Tribe that the area in and around the Stibnite Gold Project needs to be cleaned up.

The Stibnite Gold Project is being rigorously evaluated under the National Environmental Policy Act, and that process requires meaningful and direct coordination with Tribes. It also requires the thorough evaluation and analysis of our project's potential effects on resources or areas of historic and current

Tribal significance. Both of these factors are an important part of the federal decision-making process. We have also been reaching out and, in fact, we have met and will continue meeting with certain Tribes over an extended time period, including those opposing us, and will provide them detailed comprehensive information on the project and invite their input into design and mitigation.

MYTH: Midas Gold's "preferred" option would generate millions of tons of toxic mining waste and disturb over 3,500 acres, and would contaminate groundwater and the South Fork. All this in an area where taxpayers have spent more than \$4 million on restoration since the 1990's.

The U.S. Government and the mining industry invested some money to help with restoration efforts at Stibnite, but a fraction of what is required to address the large scale and widespread impacts. There is still arsenic in the water coming from improperly stored historical tailings and waste rock. Large quantities of sediment are dumped into the river each year from Blowout Creek, a failed hydro dam that blew out in the 1965 (hence the nickname of the creek). Fish have been blocked from their native spawning grounds for almost 80 years. Much of the area needs to be reforested after being devastated by wildfires. And wetlands in the Blowout Creek valley region are on the verge of completely drying up as uncontrolled erosion drops the water table.

Midas Gold's proposed Stibnite Gold Project is a unique opportunity for taxpayers to capitalize upon the Company's proposal to use private-sector resources to reclaim and restore this legacy site in conjunction with an environmentally sound modern mining operation. Midas Gold's proposal is the only viable solution on the table for fixing the environmental problems created by past mining at Stibnite that will not involve many millions more of taxpayer funding.

MYTH: The Nez Perce Tribe has raised significant concerns with Midas Gold's proposal, has filed suit over ongoing toxic pollution, and the project threatens tribal treaty rights to the important fisheries on the South Fork Salmon River.

Midas Gold has made multiple attempts to work alongside the Nez Perce Tribe and seek their input to make the Stibnite Gold Project better. While everyone agrees that there is contamination on the site that needs to be addressed, the lawsuit is misguided. Midas Gold is not, and has never, operated on site and is not responsible for the existing contamination, much of which lies on US Forest Service owned and managed lands. We proposed the Stibnite Gold Project as a means for providing the much-needed cleanup of historical waste polluting the area today. Nevertheless, for the past three years, we have been actively working with regulators to gain permission to begin addressing water quality concerns even before the Project begins. Further the project is designed to enhance fish populations, getting them to places they have not been to in 80 years.

MYTH: This project will threaten pristine land and waters in the South Fork of the Salmon River watershed and has the potential to only make historic mining problems worse.

This region is not pristine, it is in desperate need of environmental remediation. Today, salmon habitat in the headwaters of the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River is heavily impacted by heightened levels of arsenic and antimony from decades-old abandoned mines, waste dumps and a failed hydro dam. Fish haven't been able to swim to their native spawning grounds in more than 80 years. Millions of tons abandoned tailings and waste rock sit unconstrained on the valley floor and continue to degrade ground and surface water in the region. These problems cannot be ignored. Midas Gold is proposing a solution. In fact, they are the only company or organization with a plan and the necessary funding to make it happen. Mining is one of the most regulated industries in the U.S. and our plan is being reviewed using the strictest environmental considerations. Once our plan is approved, we will be required to meet all of the mitigation elements and environmental protections as outlined and set aside the necessary financial

assurances to complete this work before mining can begin with bonding at levels that assume the government, not the company, is carrying out the work.

MYTH: Waste Rock to backfill Yellow Pine pit will create some habitat access but more problems than good.

Not true. The development rock being used to backfill the Yellow Pine pit would come from the West End deposit, which is clean sedimentary rock ideally suited to this use. It will allow Midas Gold to restore the EFSSR valley and facilitate permanent fish passage to pristine habitat upstream.

MYTH: The Stibnite Gold Project doesn't meet Idaho cyanidation requirements.

Not true. Whatever the final decision, the Project will meet the regulatory requirements. However, Idaho's cyanidation rules are more than two decades old and have never been used. The rules were also flawed in that they are "one size fits all" and prescribe the same design for each type of cyanidation facility, regardless of the nature of the facility or its duration. Other jurisdictions, such as Nevada (which has multiple such facilities), have continuously updated their regulations to bring them up to the best current practices and recognize the different types of facilities: temporary ponds are very different from permanent tailings storage facilities and should be designed accordingly.

The newly proposed rules around cyanidation facilities do not 'relax' the current environmental regulations, but rather bring them up to the current best practices based on actual experience in jurisdictions that have been regulating such facilities for decades.

MYTH: The mine will be energy intensive.

True but not the whole story. The Stibnite Gold Project will use lots of energy, which is why we are planning to extend an Idaho Power transmission line all the way to site. We are fortunate that the vast majority of Idaho Power's energy portfolio is clean energy, as Idaho Power is one of only a few suppliers in the country committed to become a 100% clean energy supplier in the near future.

In the meantime, we will continue to evaluate how to further offset our carbon generation through credits and positive sustainability programs such as building on, and substantially expanding, the 60,000 trees we have already planted, as well as expanding our current solar power system on site.

MYTH: The mine will impact over 3 square miles of land in this area.

Incomplete and misleading. We have worked hard to contain as much of the project as possible within areas previously disturbed by mining or mining-related activity. As a result, more than 45% of the proposed project footprint has already been impacted by decades of mining activity. The project footprint of the Stibnite Gold Project is 1,991 acres which is just 7% of our total claim package.

Additionally, 90% of the mineral reserves Midas Gold plans on mining are on Midas Gold's private land. Nevertheless, as we move forward with our project, we will continue to look for practical ways to minimize the footprint of our project.

Through the NEPA process, we've already identified ways to further refine the project and make the footprint smaller than originally proposed. This reduction is reflected in Alternative 2 in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, a net improvement over Alternative 1. However, we don't rest, we continue to look for ways to reduce the size of the project footprint as the project moves from Draft to Final Environmental Impact Statement.

MYTH: Midas Gold will literally move a mountain and change the course of a river.

Not True. Our plan re-mines and makes two existing open pit mines larger and also develops an open pit in the footprint of an old underground mine, mill, smelter and heap leach facility. It does not involve moving a mountain. In fact, our plan centers on putting the river back to where it belongs after flowing into an abandoned mine pit for more than 80 years. Today, the river also flows past millions of tons of abandoned mine tailings and through waste rock that degrade water quality. Before we are finished mining, we will restore that river passage to a natural gradient and flow after picking up the tailings and removing the waste rock that are currently lining the valley floor and degrading water quality. In fact, we will invest in addressing fish population and water quality concerns at the very beginning of the proposed project. We will invest tens of millions in a fish passage system to get fish beyond the current blockage at the beginning of the project, not when the project is over.

MYTH: A 2013 study of 27 active gold mines found that all 27 experienced at least one pipeline spill or other accidental release. The same will happen at the Stibnite Gold Project site.

This was a highly selective study designed to make a point. The study using this claim cherry picks projects designed and permitted decades ago, highlighting incidents dating back nearly 40 years.

The so called “report” also fails to indicate that there is only one project in the entire country permitted after 1990 that has needed federal intervention to do complete reclamation. There has never been an environmental problem at a hard rock mining and milling facility approved by a federal or state agency in the West after 1990 that required the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to place that operation on the Superfund National Priorities List (Baird and DeLong, 2016).

Furthermore, the study does not in any way reflect our design, with double containment and other protections, or the best management practices or regulatory environment in place today.

Every day, there is no greater priority for Midas Gold than the safety of our people and environment. We are proud of our commitment to operate in a responsible manner. This commitment is why during our activities to date, we've gone 100 months without a reportable spill and have had 0 incidents when transporting sensitive loads to site. We have also taken steps in designing our plans to mitigate the risks of potential accidents.

Our plan was built using years of hard science and tens of millions of dollars in data collection, conducted by some of the foremost experts in engineering, water modeling, river and habitat restoration and reviewed by independent experts working for the regulators.

For instance, our proposed tailing facility design includes a proven double-lined system incorporating geosynthetic clay laminate that self-seals if there is a puncture or tear. Before tailings go to our storage facility, cyanide is reduced to one-fifth of the level considered to be protective of wildlife. We have also taken numerous steps in designing our plans to mitigate the risks of potential accidents or incidents.

MYTH: The project will lead to an acid mine drainage.

Not true. Simply put, the geochemical composition of the substantial majority of rocks at site, including those that we propose to mine, make acid rock drainage improbable. While the rocks at site do have low levels of sulfide minerals present, which can generate acid in certain circumstances, they also have significant quantities of carbonate and other minerals that neutralize acid generation potential.

We have gone to great lengths to understand the water quality issues and study the rocks at site. We analyzed 50,000 samples of rock from across the site to get an accurate representation of the rock's geochemical behavior. All of these samples and multiple years of government approved independent testing show acid rock drainage is not a concern. However, high levels of arsenic and antimony in the ground and surface water are a concern for the site and are related to both naturally occurring and man-made legacy sources and are something that we will address, manage and mitigate.

MYTH: Midas Gold has not planned for avalanches and landslides.

Not true. We've been studying and working at the site since 2009 and we are well aware of the challenges of the terrain and climate and have been directly impacted by it, having seen multiple avalanches along our access road. However, we have accounted for these risks in our design and planning for the site. These conditions and risks are precisely why Midas Gold proposed using the Burntlog Route to get to site as it avoids the high avalanche risk areas when travelling alongside the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River.

The area is prone to earthquakes and there are not safety measures in place.

Of course we have planned for earthquakes. Earthquake contingencies are part of the design parameters for all of the facilities on site, including the tailings storage facility. In fact, the tailings facility was designed to withstand a quake with approximately 6 times stronger shaking than the March 2020 6.5 magnitude quake. It is in our best interest to ensure all facilities can withstand whatever nature throws at us and we have done so.

MYTH: Midas Gold is not properly handling hazardous materials at the site.

Not True. Waste chemicals will not be stored on site long-term. While stored temporarily on site, any chemicals will be held in approved containers and within secondary containment areas. To make sure we are doing things in the safest way possible, all gold ore processing at Stibnite will happen inside an enclosed facility in order to protect the environment. Our building will have containment for 110% the solutions being used. Our facilities will comply with International Cyanide Management Institute recommendations and our tailings storage facility will have cyanide levels at **one fifth** of the standard deemed to be protective of wildlife.

There will be strict monitoring by the company and regulatory agencies to ensure that remains the case. Our mining activities must meet the Clean Water Act and receive Idaho regulatory approval on ground and surface water. Further, we won't discharge process water from our operations. Any water that may be discharged from other areas has to be treated to meet regulatory standards before it can be released to the environment.

MYTHS ON PERMITTING

MYTH: The Stibnite Gold Project is much too large and complex of a project to limit public comment to 60 days. As an Idahoan who cares about our lands, wildlife and waterways, I want to know the facts from all sources, and need the time to collect this information.

The project has been in the review process since 2016. While the draft Environmental Impact Statement was just recently released, there have been multiple opportunities to speak with experts on the project before this point. Midas Gold has personally given 841 presentations on the project, brought more than 1,800 people up to tour the site (with an open invitation to all for the past several years) and held more

than 30 community office hours to answer questions and provide additional information. Right now, the U.S. Forest Service has created a virtual project room to walk people through the document and help answer questions. It is a large document but 60 days is plenty of time to participate in the public comment period given that the project has hardly changed in the past four years since the PRO was released. In fact, the U.S. Forest Service already took into account the complexity of the project when they extended the deadline to comment from 45 to 60 days.

MYTH: Midas Gold is writing the biological assessment.

Not true. Midas Gold is not writing the final biological assessment. It will be written in final by the U.S. Forest Service. We are helping to prepare the DRAFT biological assessment in collaboration with five federal agencies, three state agencies and three Tribes, which is common practice for an applicant to do and authorized under longstanding agency regulations. The U.S. Forest Service has the authority to accept, modify or reject any of the content generated from this process. Ultimately, they will approve their final biological assessment and submit it to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries, where it will be independently reviewed and analyzed. We have no role in approving or influencing the decision by the Forest Service on the final document. The Biological Opinion, which is the decision document, is prepared entirely by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries without the involvement of Midas Gold.

MYTH: It is no secret that no matter what mining companies say, they're in the business of extraction and profits.

Mining companies are in the business of profits (as are every other business), as without it there would be no project and no environmental restoration. However, the Stibnite Gold Project will provide 500 direct, family wage jobs to rural Idaho. We are committed to purchase supplies and work with local contractors whenever possible. This will have a substantial positive impact on the local economy. The Stibnite Gold Project is a mining project but it is also a reclamation project. We've spent \$1.7 million on reclamation efforts at site to date and planted close to 60,000 trees to improve environmental conditions at site. Midas Gold is a responsible, modern mining company that committed from the very beginning to repairing past environmental damage and ensuring there is a sustainable future for the Stibnite region. Our proposed environmental repair and restoration is upfront and early, and an integral part of the plan for redevelopment of the site that will be the basis of the permits.

MYTH: There is an ambitious schedule for the Project and it is on a fast track.

Wish it was, but not true. Six years of study plus four years of regulatory evaluation by 11 local, state and federal agencies so far, is not a fast track. Not to mention the over \$60 million we have spent to study, evaluate and improve our project design. The Stibnite Gold Project is undergoing a rigorous, scientifically-based review.

MYTH: Hazardous chemicals from mining activities threaten to contaminate special places where my family and I love to spend our time.

The truth is the area is already heavily impacted and contaminated today. Historical mining practices left the area impacted by historical open pits, underground workings, tailings and waste rock. Most of the mining that affected water quality and fish populations at Stibnite occurred during World War II and the Korean War and was largely unregulated and came with no financial assurance to protect the site. Midas Gold is the only company or organization with a plan and the private-sector financing to provide the area with the environmental restoration it desperately needs to clean up the existing contamination. Plus, we will be required to set aside the funds for reclamation and restoration, based on the government doing

the work, before mining begins to ensure this important work will take place no matter what happens at no cost to taxpayers.

Midas Gold's restoration plans include removing legacy wastes that currently contribute arsenic, antimony, and other contaminants to area streams. The new tailings and mine wastes from the project will be carefully managed and stored in engineered facilities designed with liners and covers to isolate these wastes from the environment so they will not become a future source of contaminants. The chemicals used to process the minerals will be used inside buildings that are designed to contain and isolate any spills from the environment. Midas Gold's proposed Stibnite Gold Project will restore this currently degraded site into a healthy and sustainable environment that will benefit fish, wildlife, and the public for many years to come. Stibnite will once again become a truly special place that Idaho families can treasure and enjoy.

MYTH: Nothing ever goes as planned. Once a mining project is permitted, problems always arise. Contaminated water can spill out of processing ponds during rain or snow, toxic dust can come off mining trucks causing health warnings to not eat local berries or game, an earthquake can damage an earthen dam or critical facility.

Thanks to modern regulations and environmental monitoring systems at modern mines, mining companies throughout the country protect the environment and operate without incident. The science and planning that goes into permitting a mine today requires we eliminate, mitigate and manage risk and ensure containment. As the Stibnite Gold Project goes through the regulatory process, we must take all of these points of concern into consideration and build adequate mitigation measures into our plan to protect against these risks and others. Today, mining is perhaps the most regulated industry in the country and we must meet the requirements of the federal Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, Endangered Species Act and dozens of other state and federal regulations in order for the Stibnite Gold Project to move forward, the Stibnite Gold Project must also comply with mining-specific federal and state regulations that require reclamation and substantial financial assurance (bonding) to guarantee reclamation.

For example, Idaho's regulations governing the design of the tailings storage facility (TSF) specifically require the facility to be able to withstand a strong earthquake. The TSF is designed to remain stable during an earthquake roughly six times stronger than the magnitude 6.5 earthquake that shook central Idaho in March 2020.

The allegation that problems will always happen at a mine also ignores the effective role that environmental monitoring systems and reporting requirements play in preventing little problems from becoming big ones. As part of the operating permits for the Stibnite Gold Project, the Forest Service and Idaho State regulators will require Midas Gold to install and operate comprehensive monitoring systems that will function as real-time, early-warning systems that will provide Midas Gold, the Forest Service, and Idaho State regulators with information about a possible problem such as a release of a hazardous substance to the environment. These monitoring systems will collect frequent (and in some cases continuous data) on surface water flows and groundwater levels, surface water and groundwater quality, air quality, the condition of wetlands and aquatic habitat, and other environmental indicators documenting the environmental conditions at the mine and the surrounding area. The monitoring data will confirm the mine's environmental protection systems are functioning properly and verify that Midas Gold is complying with all of the environmental protection requirements in the Project's permits.

If project monitoring data indicate there may be a problem, regulators will require Midas Gold to investigate and start fixing any identified problem right away.

MYTHS ON THE CURRENT CONDITIONS AT SITE

MYTH: Stibnite has already been restored.

This is not true. The U.S. Government and the mining industry invested some money to help with stabilization and restoration efforts at Stibnite in the past, but it is nowhere enough to address the widespread and large-scale impacts at site. There is still arsenic in the water coming from improperly stored historical tailings and waste rock. Hundreds of tons of sediment are dumped into the river each year from Blowout Creek, a failed hydro dam that blew out in the 1970s (hence the nickname of the creek). Fish have been blocked from their native spawning grounds for almost 80 years. The area needs to be reforested after being impacted by mining and destroyed by wildfires. And areas of wetland in the region are on the verge of completely drying up as uncontrolled erosion drops the water table. With all of the issues facing the site today, we cannot say the region has already been restored, there is a lot more to do. And, if the site was fully restored, why would the Nez Perce Tribe be suing Midas Gold to address alleged water quality issues related to past mining practices and impacts?

MYTH: The mine will damage a fragile, high elevation environment.

Incomplete. This region has been mined on and off for more than a century and has hundreds of acres of impacted lands. The project is designed to restore a fragile area that has already been extensively damaged. Midas Gold will maximize the reuse of previously mined areas and fix the problems currently afflicting the environment.

The footprint of our project is deliberate and precise. Our plan re-mines and makes two existing open pit mines larger and develops an open pit in the location of an old underground mine, mill, smelter and heap leach facility. It is our vision to use responsible mining as a tool to repair the damage that has left this area impacted and restore the site – not just reclaim it to the standards required by law. For example, currently, salmon cannot access miles of cooler high mountain streams. Our project prioritizes opening access to this key habitat, both during mining and after, and improving water quality throughout the site.

MYTH: Current SODA/TSF Location is currently really good habitat and in "good condition."

Misleading. SODA is a heavily impacted area. Spent ore is being stored on top of historical tailings. It is not in good condition. The area above SODA is undisturbed and could provide suitable habitat for some fish but it is inaccessible because the Yellow Pine pit blocks fish passage and the diversion channel around the SODA area, which is an approximately 1-mile long rock lined ditch. After extensive study and trade off analysis, we believe this is the best location for the tailings storage facility because it allows us to surround 90% of it with granite mountains. It is a much safer location than the alternative considered by the Forest Services in the DEIS and impacts less pristine area, fewer wetlands, less stream length and less fish habitat than the alternative.

MYTH: Arsenic is seeping out of HECLA heap into stream that taxpayer dollars were used to restore; restored to great shape with meanders and great habitat

Not true. To our knowledge, based on regular sampling, arsenic is not seeping out of the former Hecla heap leach facility into any stream. It is possible the facility may be impacting groundwater. That is why we've proposed to clean it up by completely removing it. Today, these kinds of legacy impacts offer a real threat to the environment. These issues have been around for more than two decades without any

realistic solution proposed, along with the required funding, by the government, private or advocacy groups. Midas Gold is bringing the much-needed solution and the financial assurance to guarantee it happens. Unfortunately, current water quality sampling shows previous reclamation at site did little to actually restore the area.

MYTH: The Hanger Flats Open Pit Lake will put unknown water quality in place of this previously restored stream.

Not true. Independent, reputable environmental scientists and geochemists have conducted extensive sampling and modeling to evaluate the water quality of any potential future pit lakes. These models indicate water quality will likely reflect naturally elevated levels of metals that already occur in the ground and surface waters from natural sources. This is not unexpected, given the widespread mineralization in the area. As part of Midas Gold's permit requirements, we will be required to meet realistic water quality standards for any pit lake resulting from operations. Yes, the existing stream reach was restored in the mid-2000s and has many positive benefits. However, the design did not account for the large quantities of sediment coming from the former failed hydroelectric dam in Blowout Creek, the largest source of sediment in the entire watershed. The low stream gradient prevents the stream from flushing excess sediment out of the drainage, as it should naturally and, over time, it will lead to further degradation of habitat in that section of stream and further downstream. In addition, the restored section was constructed downstream of other areas that need further reclamation work. To fix these issues, it is inevitable that the restored reach would be impacted. Reclamation and restoration normally occur in an upstream to downstream fashion to avoid these types of problems.

MYTH: Mine waste from Blowout Creek traveled down and was visible in Riggins and contaminant an entire watershed.

Not true. There are a few very important things to clear up about this claim. First, Blowout Creek was a hastily constructed earthen dam that sat at the edge of a valley from the 1930s to the 1960s and was designed to produce hydroelectric power for mining operations. It was not a storage facility for mine waste.

The hydroelectric dam failed during the Christmas flood in the winter of 1964/1965. During this same storm, thousands of bridges and dams were washed out throughout the Pacific Northwest. When the dam failed, it sent large amounts of sediment, not mine waste, downstream. However, given the other bridge failures and landslides in the area, it is a gross exaggeration to say this one dam contaminated an entire watershed. It is also untrue to say it carried mine waste downstream when there was only water behind the hydroelectric dam and soil and glacial till washed out by its failure.

Modern methods of dam construction would have prevented this from occurring but, almost a century ago, no such dam safety standards were required or utilized.

We will not have a hydroelectric dam at site. However, we plan to build a tailings storage facility. These facilities are very different from one another and need to meet vastly different regulatory standards. Plus, facilities constructed today at site are simply not comparable to facilities built decades ago.

We understand the importance of building a safe and strong tailings storage facility, which is exactly why the tailings storage facility we are proposing will be 90% surrounded by granite mountains. The remaining 10% will be a dam that would be constructed, using the safest downstream method, with a coarse rock material, lined and then buttressed by an additional 65 million tons of rock that would extend across the

entire width of the valley and doubles the factor of safety required by regulations. Also, the facility will hold thickened tailings, which will become stronger over time as they settle.

MYTHS ON COMMUNITY IMPACTS

MYTH: The community will shackle itself to a boom and bust enterprise.

Misleading. Adding diversity to the local economy will help the community weather ups and downs it already experiences, as illustrated by the Global Financial Crisis and the current COVID-19 crisis when the mine would have provided steady employment throughout those crises. Midas Gold will never be the only economic factor in the region. However, we can be a healthy partner in creating a skilled workforce and modern businesses. Growth is occurring throughout Idaho and economic diversification, specifically in rural areas, is an important part of a healthy economy.

MYTH: The mine will require expensive investment in infrastructure by county and cities.

This is untrue. Midas Gold is required to pay for infrastructure upgrades. According to our Plan of Restoration and Operations, this will include spending well over \$60 million in upgrades to bring a transmission line to site, more than \$65 million for upgrading Burntlog Route, plus highway junction improvement costs. We have already entered into agreements with local entities like the Valley County Transportation Department to provide additional funds to help maintain county roads year-round and have spent over \$300,000 on dust suppression and backcountry road improvements alone in the past two years alone. Plus, we will continue to pay taxes to state and local governments and part of this money goes to support public infrastructure.

MYTH: Midas Gold will not purchase goods and services locally.

This is absolutely untrue. Midas Gold made a commitment from the start to hire locally and use local vendors where possible. To date, we have already spent \$86 million with local vendors and suppliers in Idaho. This includes everything from catering and purchasing seedlings, vehicles and fuel, to contracting with many of our experts and scientists. This commitment extends into the future as we look to hire and source locally and train and provide assistance where needed.

MYTHS ON EMPLOYMENT

MYTH: The Stibnite Gold Project is not about jobs.

Definitely not true. Creating 500 direct, well-paying jobs is a positive benefit of the Stibnite Gold Project and should not be dismissed. Idahoans deserve jobs that can support their families. Our project can deliver that and can give the next generation an opportunity to make a living here at home. We already employ more than 30 Idahoans. To move the project through construction, production and restoration, we will need to hire hundreds more Idahoans. We have always prioritized hiring locally and will offer job training to fill in skill gaps.

MYTH: The Project will bring 1,000 new employees and buildings during different phases.

During the peak of operations, Midas Gold will directly employ approximately 500 people. We have designed our shifts in rotations so that only a portion of the crew will be onsite at any one time. We have also designed housing for our employees to comfortable staying during their two-week on, two-week off shifts. Additional indirect employment, for such things as support, services and supplies, will be in

surround communities in Valley and adjacent counties and across the state. This is a good thing and should be celebrated.

MYTHS ON TAILINGS STORAGE FACILITY

MYTH: Midas Gold has plans for a tailings dam of compacted crushed rock that is more than 420 feet high. Dams built in this manner have a history of failure.

Not true. The type of tailings dam proposed for the Stibnite Gold Project is not comparable in design, function, material, or regulatory standards to decades-old facilities the author references that are in other countries. In fact, we designed our facility with a 'belt and suspenders' approach, using not only the best practice in design and materials, we have also included additional protective measures.

Our tailings storage facility will hold thickened tailings, which are stronger and consolidate to a higher density than conventional tailings. The consolidation water on top of the thickened tailings surface will be recycled back to our ore processing facility, and the water depth would typically be a few tens of feet deep, and nowhere near the full height of the dam.

The tailings storage facility will be 90% surrounded by granite mountains, leaving just ten percent of the perimeter retained by a dam. The dam will be constructed using the downstream construction method (the best approach) with coarse, blasted rock. Blasted rock is structurally one of the best materials for dam building, as the large, angular particles interlock when compacted, which is why such material is used in riprap and flood defenses. This is in sharp contrast to recently-failed facilities that were constructed using fine tailings material and built with upstream construction methods, where the dam is built on top of tailings.

Further, we will buttress the tailings storage facility embankment with 65 million tons of coarse rock, that has the net effect of doubling the geotechnical factor of safety.

Our tailings storage facility will also be composite lined to avoid leakage of water or metals from the facility.

MYTH: Liners leak and they will rip and tear and who knows what environmental disaster we would be setting up for generations to come.

Not True. Making broad sweeping statements about our design based on decades old practices does not encourage meaningful dialogue. We designed a tailings facility that goes beyond current regulatory requirements to safely store both the reprocessed tailings from previous operators at site and those generated by our mining operations. We propose incorporating geosynthetic clay (GCL) lining in the tailings facility which self-seals if there is a puncture or tear. We will have a double liner system with a secondary geosynthetic double liner for an added layer of protection.

Our proposal also takes great care to ensure that the concentration of cyanide in tailings that go into the facility are reduced to a concentration that is one-fifth of what is considered required to be protective of wildlife.

The structure of the facility with the proposed buttress is designed to a factor of safety of over 3. To put that in context, the state of Idaho requires a factor of safety of 1.5. Midas Gold will build its tailings storage facility so that 90% of the area is surrounded by mountains that will not, and cannot, fail. The other 10% of the perimeter will be built to Idaho's 1.5 factor of safety standard and then buttressed with

65 million tons of rock which raises the factor of safety to over 3. We've conducted extensive modeling and scientific review of the facility design and are required by regulators to identify and either eliminate or mitigate for risks for everything ranging from earthquakes to low probability weather events. Monitoring wells, regular inspections, ongoing regulatory oversight and reporting requirements will be in place to ensure the system works as planned. Any "run off" must meet regulatory approval and we've spent years and millions of dollars on water modeling and geochemistry analysis. We will not directly release process water and all water that is discharged from other facilities must meet regulatory approval.

MYTH: Liners will not withstand the test of time.

Not true. Our team has put a lot of thought into the tailings storage facility and safety has always been top of mind. The specialized plastic liner in the tailings facility liner has a half-life of over 450 years. We have also included bentonite clay within the geosynthetic clay liner because it is a naturally low-permeability material that will not degrade with time. Additionally, the tailings themselves will create a nearly impermeable layer as they compact and cement over time.

MYTH: The tailings facility will bury more than a mile of salmon habitat.

Incomplete. The location of the lower portion of the tailings facility is not pristine, 10.5 million tons of waste rock and tailings sit there today. The upper portion of the proposed tailings storage facility is undisturbed but inaccessible to fish, and generally too small of a stream to make it viable for salmon. Today, many miles of salmon habitat are entirely inaccessible to fish due to the barrier at the Yellow Pine Pit and then the area of the proposed tailings storage facility is past a mile-long rock lined ditch. Our plan reconnects fish to a minimum of three miles of the headwaters they currently cannot reach and then restores and uplifts over 12 miles of river habitat.

MYTH: Midas will walk away and leave millions of tons of toxic sludge behind a tailings dam.

This is untrue. This language is being used to provoke fear, not have meaningful discussion. Tailings material deposited in the lined tailings storage facility will be neutralized prior to transport to, and storage in, the tailings storage facility. We will neutralize cyanide in the tailings material well below the recommended levels to protect wildlife and arsenic in the tailings storage facility will be in a non-soluble form. Secondly, Midas Gold cannot legally walk away from our project site. That was not the situation for past mining companies at the site because they were operating during wartime and under a completely different regulatory environment than we are today. Today, mining companies in the U.S. must meet some of the strictest regulations in the world. Before any work can begin, we will be required by law to set aside the funds necessary to reclaim and restore any disturbance made to the site. This ensures the environment will be protected and that restoration will occur.

MYTH: The tailings storage facility will generate clouds of dust.

Not true. Qualified, independent and reputable analysis by a third-party expert air modeling concluded that, under the most conservative application, the project meets all air quality standards and regulations and is far below required thresholds. In fact, it would be exceedingly rare for anyone to see any visible air impacts from the project even from nearby. The project is designed with numerous dust control protocols. During any closure, temporary or permanent, the facility would be managed to prevent generation of fugitive dust as mandated under existing regulations and our own permit requirements. If we did not comply, it would result in regulatory agencies forcing us to correct the issue or they could revoke our operating permits. After closure, the tailings storage facility will be capped with rock and covered with soil and then revegetated to prevent the possibility of future generation of fugitive dust.

MYTHS ON THE RIVER

MYTH: The river to be rerouted through a tunnel.

Misleading. The East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River (EFSFSR) was already rerouted decades ago. Today, it runs over mined waste rock and into the abandoned Yellow Pine pit. As we mine the Yellow Pine pit, it will be necessary to reroute the EFSFSR out of the pit in order to dewater it. We have proposed installing a tunnel around the pit that will also allow us to reconnect salmon to their native spawning grounds before operations even begin. We will backfill the Yellow Pine pit starting in year seven of operations, once mining is completed in that area, and restore the natural channel of the EFSFSR. The river restoration design incorporates re-establishing the natural flow, sinuosity and habitat of a natural river scape, and supports fish passage for salmon and bull trout.

MYTH: There is risk the mine will pollute the Salmon River with mine waste, sediment and kill fish

The author fails to mention, water quality at site is already being threatened by inaction over decades. Every year, tons of sediment dump into the river from Blowout Creek and high levels of arsenic and antimony are leaching into the ground and surface water from millions of tons abandoned tailings and waste rock. These problems were created generations ago and no one has come forward with a plan and the means to fix these issues, until now.

Before operations begin, we will build the solution to address the largest source of sedimentation in the watershed and, in the first years of operations, we plan to pick up, reprocess and safely store the tailings threatening water quality today, as they have since the 1930s. We will also reconnect salmon to miles of the headwaters of a tributary of the Salmon River they have been blocked from for over 80 years.

Midas Gold takes water quality risks seriously and our project was designed to protect and address water quality concerns at the site. We will use liners, covers, water treatment, sediment control best management practices and remove the legacy features at site that are harming water quality today. This work will address the water quality concerns that exist today.

MYTHS ON FISH

MYTH: Fish are exceptionally vulnerable to heavy metal contaminants from mine.

Today, salmon habitat in the headwaters of the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River is heavily impacted by heightened levels of arsenic and antimony from decades-old abandoned mines, waste dumps and a failed hydro dam. Midas Gold is proposing a solution to reduce metal levels early in the mining operations. Our plan is to pick up and reprocess or reuse this legacy material during construction and the first years of operations to drastically improve water quality and enhance fish habitat.

MYTH: Mining waste would cover 30 football fields, lead to a 20 percent loss of chinook salmon while endangering steelhead and bull trout who use this watershed.

Misleading. There are currently no salmon above the existing abandoned Yellow Pine pit, and Midas Gold's plan will reconnect salmon with their native spawning grounds in the high-altitude, cooler headwaters for the first time in more than 80 years. A significant portion of the area proposed for tailings and development rock storage is already covered by legacy tailings and spent ore, while the area above has streams too small to support salmon and is inaccessible to them any way.

MYTH: If this mining operation were to continue, there will be no fish.

Not True. As a result of legacy mining impacts prior to Midas Gold's proposed project, migratory fish have, for 80 years, been blocked from traditional spawning grounds and rearing habitat in the upper reaches of the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River (EFSFSR) where the water is cooler and suited for spawning and rearing juvenile fish. Our plan prioritizes, and invests additional tens of millions of dollars in, reconnecting fish to this prime habitat immediately, and then repairs and/or opens up miles of additional spawning and rearing habitat—for perpetuity. Salmon recovery will take multiple new strategies and actions, it will take all of us working together and we are willing to be a part of that solution.

MYTH: The fish passage tunnel is unproven technology and will not work.

Not true. Midas Gold has presented research prepared by independent fisheries experts to the agencies reviewing our project that demonstrates precisely the opposite. There are a number of examples around the world that document fish passage in tunnels of varying lengths, with and without lighting, with and without structures to aid passage, steep and flat, and with or without any design intent to facilitate passage. Anyone interested in hearing more can join one of our upcoming webinars on the topic and hear from the scientists and engineers who evaluated and designed our proposed fish passage system.

It is important to note that the tunnel is a temporary measure until we can fully restore the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River and reconnect fish passage permanently for the first time in 80 years. This restoration is scheduled to begin while we are still mining West End pit.

MYTH: The Stibnite Gold project lies in the headwaters of the South Fork of the Salmon, critical habitat for Chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout.

There may be some habitat for these important fish species but, for more than 80 years, fish have not been able to access critical habitat because their access to miles of cooler high mountain streams has been blocked by an abandoned mining pit and other barriers. Further, large portions of the potential habitat have been impacted by prior mining activities. Our project prioritizes opening access to this key habitat, both during mining and after, and improving fish habitat and water quality throughout the site. Without the Stibnite Gold Project, the habitat will remain inaccessible and impacted forever.

MYTHS ON TRANSPORTATION

MYTH: The everyday traffic of having 500 employees get to site is a safety risk.

Misleading. We will bus approximately 90 percent of our team to the site. Our employees will work on a two-week-in/two-week-out rotation with about 250 employees on site at a time with rolling rotations throughout the week to spread traffic out. Bottom line, the roads to site will not have anywhere near the traffic of 500 employees driving to and from the site every day.

MYTH: Hauling hazardous materials on low-standard roads year-round is a safety risk.

We agree this is a risk. That is why we've proposed upgrading Burntlog Road and using this route, building our logistics facility offsite and bussing our employees to site. As we will in the future, we presently restrict the time and manner of fuel haulage and implement numerous road-safety policies for our employees to keep everyone on the roads safe. In our track record of over 140 sensitive fuel loads to site, we have conducted each one safely, with no spill or injury. In fact, we recently passed 100 months without a reportable spill by the company.

MYTH: Haul roads will be contaminated with toxic metals from dust and affect fish and wildlife.

Haul roads will be constructed with aggregate materials that will not contain materials that are harmful to fish, wildlife or humans. Dust abatement practices will reduce the risks of fugitive dust generation and release from the roads near site. As a requirement of our permit, transporting ore and concentrates will be managed to eliminate loss of materials issues from the haul vehicles to the surrounding environment. Non-compliance would result in regulatory agencies forcing us to correct the issue or they could revoke our operating permits.

MYTH: The road to the Stibnite Gold Project will be in a roadless area.

This is correct. However, we felt it was important to keep mine traffic away from Johnson Creek and the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River and other stream crossings to protect fish habitat, reduce excess sediment from entering the watershed and increase safety related to avalanches. Under the Roadless Act, we are allowed to make adjustments to roadless areas.

MYTH: Travel by recreationalists is expected to fall near Horsethief Reservoir and Warm Lake because of mining traffic.

It is unclear if there is a scientific basis or study to make this claim other than the author's belief. But ask any Idahoan and it seems clear that recreation and traffic are growing together today. According to our traffic studies, traffic in the area has increased at a consistent rate and is expected to increase regardless of a Midas Gold presence in the area.