

A River Runs Through It: Designing and Permitting the Stibnite Gold Project¹

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Abstract: The Stibnite Mining District has played a significant role in providing strategic and critical mineral resources to mid-20th century wartime efforts and associated economic benefit to a rural part of central Idaho. Understandably, the socio-political environment in which these activities occurred prioritized productivity and much of the mining at Stibnite occurred ahead of substantive environmental regulation. Today, the legacy issues that remain at Stibnite continue to impact water quality and ecosystem productivity in the Salmon River drainage, one of the nation's premier anadromous fisheries and recreational waterways. Midas Gold Idaho, Inc.'s Stibnite Gold Project (SGP) incorporates comprehensive restoration of these historical impacts into plans for further mining at Stibnite, mitigating conditions that impair water quality, fisheries, and wildlife habitat in the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River drainage.³

Additional Key Words: legacy, water quality, ecosystem productivity, restoration, fisheries, habitat

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 3. Work reported here was conducted near 44.898171N, -115.339269W.