

From: Jeff Forster
To: [FS-comments-intermtn-payette](#)
Subject: Stibnite Gold EIS Scoping Comment
Date: Tuesday, July 18, 2017 10:57:51 AM

July 18, 2017

Forest Supervisor, Keith Lannom:

As the interim Fire Chief and resident of Yellow Pine, I would like to make comment on the Midas Gold Idaho Safety record regarding people and the environment, placing Safety first.

For many years now I have worked with Midas Gold Idaho, no matter what request I had, someone was there to answer my questions, lend a hand or make a major commitment to our community and the Village of Yellow Pine.

Examples of Midas Gold Idaho commitments to the Safety and Welfare would be:

Over the years Yellow Pine was isolated in the event of an emergency, by the lack of communications to Valley County Emergency Dispatch. Now that there are Advanced medical responders and a functioning Volunteer Fire District in the community, Valley County committed to funding the equipment for a new repeater system through a \$20,000 grant and a donation of a 50 foot antenna tower if Yellow Pine Fire put the tower up. Midas Gold Idaho stepped up and contributed another \$4,000 of materials, supplies, equipment time and man-hours. This life saving project was completed in the winter of 2016.

Keeping roadways safe is a priority for Midas Gold Idaho. The company invests time and resources to help make the roads safer by clearing avalanches, slides, boulders, and large trees that restrict or limit travel. Without Midas's assistance, roads would be blocked for longer periods of time isolating the town from ingress and egress and emergency services.

Midas Gold installed spill kits along the routes to ensure quick response times if something were ever to happen.

When our emergency responders need help, Midas Gold Idaho hasn't hesitated to help. Whether it be during times of wildfire, looking for lost recreationists, or fire training the Midas Gold Idaho team commits to help when and where they can. With often-limited resources, we need these partnerships in order to help keep people and our community safer.

I have worked with Midas Gold Idaho staff for a number of years. They take safety seriously and always make it a priority. The safety culture is obvious and it is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jeff Forster, NRP, Division Chief (Ret)

Fire Chief, Yellow Pine Fire Protection District

