

Attention Linda Jackson,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of the U.S. Forest Service's permitting process. This is an important project for Valley County and will have a significant impact on the community. As someone who explores, plays and cares about this region of Idaho's backcountry, I want to make sure the Stibnite Gold Project is done the right way.

The Stibnite Gold Project will help to restore the environment in our region. Under alternative two, Midas Gold has prioritized restoration work so many of the efforts occur early in the project. For example, Midas Gold will build a fish passageway around the Yellow Pine pit to provide access to native upstream habitat. The U.S. Forest Service's analysis in the DEIS (4.12-39) shows this could increase and improve overall productivity and even diversity among chinook salmon, bull trout and steelhead. The company is also required to set aside all of the funds needed to properly restore the site in a special trust so the land will be restored no matter what happens to the company. Reclamation efforts have already started at the site. Midas Gold has planted thousands of trees and worked to reduce sediment entering waterways near the site. To me, these actions prove the company is truly committed to restoring the site.

Midas Gold Idaho wants to invest \$1 billion in our state, bring more than 1,000 jobs to rural Idaho and still provide access to Idaho's public lands. This is the type of project our state needs. I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to pick alternative 2 as the preferred alternative moving forward.

Most Respectfully, Bruce & Sherryn Dales

Name: Bruce Dales