

Dear Payette National Forest Staff,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of Midas Gold Idaho's comment period. I have been closely following Midas Gold Idaho's plans since they first came into our state, in large part because much of the proposed project will take place on public land. The more I have learned about the project, the more excited I am about the possibilities for the future.

Alternative 2 of the Stibnite Gold Project presents a plan to repair the environment and boost Idaho's economy. Historic mining operations, development of former town site and natural processes have resulted in significant degradation of many elements of the environment. Loss of fish passage, potential water degradation from previous mining activity and excessive erosion are all of great concern to Idahoans. Right now, fish haven't swam past an abandoned mine pit for more than 80 years. Midas Gold will reconnect fish passage before mining ever begins. According to 4.12 of the draft environmental impact statement, providing access to these historically blocked areas can improve the genetic diversity of these isolated fish populations. The Stibnite Gold Project would finance reclamation efforts to address these problems and in turn boost Idaho's economy. It is a win-win for everyone.

It is with this knowledge that I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to select the modified plan of restoration and operations Midas Gold Idaho presented and permit the project.

Best regards,

Joseph Carrizales

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