

U.S. Forest Service, Payette National Forest
Attn: Linda Jackson, Payette Forest Supervisor
500 North Mission Street
McCall, ID 83638

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for Midas Gold Idaho's proposed Stibnite Gold Project and, specifically, Alternative 2 examined in the draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Midas Gold's project will bring extraordinary economic and social contributions to the surrounding communities, many of which lack economic opportunity and security. Midas Gold's Stibnite Gold Project may produce more than 4 million ounces of gold and 100 million pounds of antimony. This untapped resource will bring financial prosperity to the Stibnite region as it did in the past, making it possible for hundreds of Idaho families to achieve the American Dream.

That's because, in the first several years of construction alone, this project would directly employ 600 to 700 people with an annual payroll of around \$50 million. These jobs will employ a wide range of workers, with positions ranging from management, administration, equipment operators, general laborers, mechanics, electricians, engineers, surveyors, geologists and environmental and safety specialists. Midas Gold has committed to prioritizing the hiring of local residents throughout the life of the project and is committed to providing opportunity to the people who live near the site.

These aren't just jobs, they are very good jobs. In fact, Midas Gold's compensation would average more than double of the current salaries in the region, going from \$35,000 to roughly \$80,000. The company will also support training opportunities for Idahoans throughout the life of its project by working directly with schools, community colleges, and Idaho's Department of Labor.

These economic benefits are a great opportunity for Idahoans, which is why I am so passionate about ensuring your support on this venture. I encourage you, the U.S. Forest Service, to consider these economic projections in making your final decision. This investment is not only for Idaho, but also for each of the members of our community whose lives would benefit tremendously. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Justin Vaughn', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Justin Vaughn
Boise County, Idaho