

Attention payette national forest supervisor,

This letter is to express my support of Midas Gold's Stibnite Gold Project. America needs this project to be permitted. I hope after reading my thoughts you will understand why my support for Midas Gold Idaho is so strong.

As it stands today, the Stibnite Gold Project site is a brownfield site. The U.S. government tried to restore the area years ago but the work that was done didn't go far enough. The old tailings piles left by previous mining companies are still unconstrained and therefor present a risk of leaching minerals into nearby streams and the groundwater. Under Alternative 2, Midas Gold will pick up and reprocess these legacy tailings, which will reduce long-term metal loading in the ground and surface water (DEIS 4.9). This would be a huge win for the site because today arsenic and antimony levels far exceed human health standards at multiple points across the site. Midas Gold's water treatment during operations will further lower levels of these metals in the river and cause concentrations to be below the current baseline conditions (DEIS 4.9-70). Each year, hundreds of tons of sediment continue to be dumped into the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River and other waterways from Blowout Creek, impacting water quality and aquatic habitat. And fish still are not able to swim past the Yellow Pine pit to their natural spawning grounds. When fish are reconnected to more habitat upstream, 4.2-39 of the DEIS shows it will increase productivity and diversity of these isolated populations. This area needs to be remediated and Midas Gold has a plan to do it the right way.

I appreciate your time and thoughtfulness. For the reasons I stated in my letter above, please permit the Stibnite Gold Project using alternative 2 and let Idahoans see the benefits of this important project.

Thank You,

Name: Jay Gilbert