


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

I am writing to voice my support for the Stibnite Gold Project proposed by Midas Gold Idaho.

Idaho needs the wealth that mining can create without the accompanying environmental harm. The Stibnite Gold project can accomplish just that. Midas Gold's plan balances mining with restoration, using the former to fund the latter. Over the duration of the project, Midas Gold will reforest damaged land, repair polluted waterways, and remove toxic waste left behind by past operations. Simultaneously, they will provide 500 high-paying jobs, generate hundreds of millions of dollars in state and local taxes, and improve the well-being of thousands of Idahoans. It is difficult to envision a more exciting business proposal.

Midas Gold's environmental and economic commitments are backed up by their actions. The company has spent ten years researching the site and working with nearby towns to ensure that their proposal reflects local interests and values. If that was not enough, federal regulations require Midas Gold to set aside funds for restoration before any work can begin, so there is no risk of them failing to honor their promises.

The Stibnite Gold project is the culmination of a decade of research, engagement, and planning towards a better future for Idaho. It would be a great shame to give up this opportunity to grow our economy and restore our environment. Please approve alternative two proposed in the draft environmental impact statement by the USFS.


RONALD E. YOUNG