

To Concerned Payette National Forest Staff,

Midas Gold Idaho's Stibnite Gold Project presents Idaho, particularly rural Idaho, with a huge economic and environmental opportunity. I am writing to encourage you to permit the project as quickly as possible.

I am a business owner in Yellow Pine Idaho. From the beginning when Midas Gold came into our community, they have been a very positive influence. Midas Gold has continually supported me at the Silver Dollar Grill, The Yellow Pine General Store and Alpine Village. Their employees have also displayed a high level of professionalism and commitment to the community. But more than their commitment to support the community, I have studied their commitment to repairing the damage done by past mining operations. Their restoration plans makes me confident that my grandchildren will have a clean east fork of the south fork of the salmon river to fish from and enjoy. Also their plans to bring back critical salmon spawning grounds should definitely improve the salmon recovery efforts.

Access to public lands is a right extended to all Idahoans. This is something Midas Gold understands and has prioritized in their Plan of Restoration and Operations. While some of the Stibnite Gold Project will take place on public lands, Midas Gold has made a commitment to the community to ensure access is preserved to people's favorite places. The company has promised to provide parking for winter recreationalists at their maintenance facility and submitted an additional plan to the U.S. Forest Service to allow Idahoans to continue to use Stibnite Road throughout the life of the project when it is safe. Their willingness to work with recreationalists to provide access gives me great hope for the future.

After reading my letter, I hope you can see why you should permit alternative 2 of the Stibnite Gold Project. This project is a good thing for Idaho, helps decrease America's dependence on foreign countries for critical minerals and cleans up the environment. These benefits cannot wait. Sixty days is long enough for the comment period.

Warm regards,

Steve Holloway

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