

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

Thank you for the U.S. Forest Service's continued leadership in ensuring we have only the best projects moving forward. I am writing to voice my support for the Stibnite Gold Project from Midas Gold Idaho. This plan has incredible opportunity to reinvigorate Idaho's economy amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Where fairly practicable, Midas Gold is committed to recruiting, contracting and purchasing products and services locally. The company will look to Valley County for resources and talent firsthand, before looking at neighboring counties, and finally the state as a whole, and the broader United States. The Stibnite Gold Project will hire 600 to 700 workers directly during construction, with annual payroll ranging from \$42 million to \$49 million. Partnering closely with schools, community colleges and the Idaho Department of Labor, the organization will promote educational programs for Idahoans during the life of the project.

In addition to providing job opportunities, the project will support the local community with the Stibnite Gold Foundation. This independent foundation will serve as a vehicle for encouraging communities to finance programs that address their residents' needs and support policies that foster common values in the community. The foundation aims to begin the granting process in 2020 to top off initial donations. Midas Gold has also spent thousands of dollars investing in local infrastructure projects and volunteered thousands of hours in local outreach.

Midas Gold has also adopted a formal community agreement with eight neighboring communities to ensure a system of open communication to address any concerns and exchange important information throughout the length of the project. Additionally, the company has provided a number of tours to raise transparency around the project with the public.

I encourage you to approve the Stibnite Gold Project for permitting by adopting Alternative 2. Midas Gold has shown community value unlike that of any other company. I thank you so much for hearing my thoughts, and for your continued service to our community.

Best,

Amaya Bliss
