

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

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

Midas Gold Idaho has developed a comprehensive and well-researched strategy to cope with legacy mining. Previous unregulated mining efforts have left damage to ecosystems – and Midas Gold is the first company to address these issues headfirst when creating a plan for mining operations. The company plans to invest money needed to restore the Stibnite region, leaving the area better than it was found without a single dollar falling onto taxpayers.

The company is taking extra steps to support local wildlife. Midas Gold has specifically designed the Stibnite Gold Project to provide a solution for migrating fish to reach historic spawning grounds on their own within the first year of operations. Midas Gold has engineered a temporary 0.9-mile fish passageway based on examples of successful systems around the globe. The specialty tunnel design uses a pool and weir system that takes into consideration the sustained and burst swimming speeds of each species as defined by the US Fish & Wildlife Service including salmon, steelhead, and bull trout. Additionally, Midas Gold will work to prioritize solving sedimentation issues that have plagued the region since the 1960s dam failure at Blowout Creek. Doing so will continue to support fish habitats and is a crucial step in their population recovery.

The area needs attention and if a responsible industry partner such as Midas Gold is willing to partner with regulators, communities and environmental groups to help make necessary repairs, we must consider moving forward with a plan like this. Midas Gold aims to leave the east and south forks of the Salmon River and their inhabiting fish better than they were before. I urge you to adopt Alternative 2 outlined by Midas Gold Idaho.

Thank you,



Jason Bergquist