

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

To Ms. Jackson:

I am glad to see the U.S. Forest Service is taking public comments on the hopefully soon-to-be Stibnite Gold Project and would like to voice my opinion on this matter. After careful review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement USFS released, I believe that this project would greatly benefit the area, local communities, and our entire state. Moreover, I feel as though Alternative 2 is the right way to approach this project and should be the alternative that USFS ultimately approves.

If approved, Alternative 2 would ensure this project can get underway without any further delays. According to my understanding of the DEIS, both Alternatives 3 and 4 would create significant delays of up two years or longer as each of these options presents technical challenges not associated with Alternative 2. And Alternative 5 would essentially mean no action would be taken whatsoever.

I'm sorry, but the problems at the Stibnite district are too big to put off another two years—and certainly too serious to simply not do anything about whatsoever. Alternative 2 is necessary so that Midas Gold can continue to restore the environment and reclaim the land that has been negatively impacted by previous, unaffiliated mining efforts. They've already restored 33 acres of land, planted more than 50,000 trees, and recycled 4,000 pounds of waste.

In my opinion, it would be foolish not to take this opportunity to further the restoration work Midas Gold has already done while also redeveloping the site in an environmentally friendly way to create local jobs and strengthen our state's economy. I hope you will agree with me and approve this project as specified in Alternative 2 as soon as you can.

Sincerely,

Dusty Ham - 