

Dear Payette National Forest Supervisor,

I have been closely following Midas Gold Idaho's plans for several years. I am excited to finally have the opportunity to comment on their Draft EIS. Midas Gold Idaho presents a huge opportunity for the Gem State. I am pleased to see that the mining plan includes restoration of historical mining properties and re-establishing the spawning route for salmon. Modern mining methods and regulatory oversight are much more developed than they were in past decades and minerals are being extracted in other regions in a responsible manner.

I've spent the last 30 years working in a robust and responsible mining just south of the Idaho/Nevada border and hope that Idaho will reap the same economic and social benefits that Nevada has. Thank you for considering my thoughts on the project.

As the U.S. Forest Service and other state and federal agencies review the proposed plan and determine the course of action, I encourage you to consider and appropriately weigh the positive benefits Midas Gold will have on Idaho. We need to move this project ahead after the 60-day comment period. Alternative Two truly is a win-win opportunity for Idahoans and the environment.

My best,

Steve Cochrane

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USA Sales Manager

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