

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

Payette National Forest,

I am writing in support of the Stibnite Gold Project and the benefits it will bring to Idaho. This project has the potential to put hundreds of Idahoans to work, bring a \$1 billion investment into our state and restore an area of Idaho's backcountry desperately in need of repair.

If the Stibnite Gold Project goes into production, Idaho would see a huge economic benefit. Other than the above mentioned investment, Midas Gold plans will contribute \$86 million in state and local taxes and make improvements to roads and power grid near the site. The company has also made a pledge to hire locally whenever possible and plans to provide around 1,000 jobs for Idahoans throughout the life of the project. Midas Gold salaries will be approximately two times higher than the local salary. It is impossible to ignore the positive trickledown effect an investment of this size would have on our community and economy.

Midas Gold wants to bring economic relief to the region AND restore the rivers, wildlife and habitat near the Stibnite Gold Project site. We should let them. The Forest Service has given meaningful time to review the document and comment. Further extensions are not necessary and will only hurt Idahoans by delaying the benefits of the project. Please permit Alternative 2 of the Stibnite Gold Project as outlined in the draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Sincerely,

Colton Thasing

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Colton Thasing", written in a cursive style.