

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

U.S.F.S.,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of the U.S. Forest Service's permitting process. This is an important project for Valley County and will have a significant impact on the community. As someone who works in this region of Idaho's backcountry, I want to make sure the Stibnite Gold Project is done the right way.

The Stibnite Gold Project will generate significant federal, state and local taxes over the life of the project. Estimates show the company will contribute \$86 million in state taxes and \$329 million in federal taxes over two decades. Under alternative two of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, this project will bring fish back to their native spawning grounds for the first time in 80 years, fix the largest source of sediment in the area, and finally pick up and clean up legacy tailings and spent ore. The economic benefits tied in with the environmental restoration of the site provide a win-win for the citizens who live in the surrounding communities, the state and the general population.

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.

Thanks for your Consideration,

Martin Mathews  
D. Mathews