

U.S.F.S. Officials,

If Midas Gold Idaho is allowed to move forward with the Stibnite Gold Project, they will reclaim an area impacted by historical mining, create hundreds of well-paying jobs and provide a huge boost to our economy in the process. It is a win-win for Valley County. We need to permit the project.

Given the history of the region, I was a bit skeptical when I first heard about this project, but it is clear that Midas is going out of their way to put environmental safety and restoration front and center. For example, according to the DEIS, "it is not anticipated that soils in most of these areas would recover naturally." However, Midas Gold can change the future of the site. The company is already composting and has further plans to help soils recover throughout the life of the project. After looking at the tools provided by the USFS, I feel strongly that Alternative 2 is the best option moving forward. It addresses the purpose and need of the agencies in a manner that provides environmental advantage and economic feasibility over the other analyzed alternatives. With so much promise for the site's future, I hope Alternative 5 is removed from the table. There is finally an opportunity to restore the site and it is an opportunity that shouldn't be passed up.

I appreciate your time and thoughtfulness. The USFS has provided plenty of tools to review the DEIS and make commenting within the 60-day timeframe possible. For the reasons I stated in my letter above, please permit the Stibnite Gold Project using alternative 2 and let Idahoans see the benefits of this important project.

Regards,

Name: Kent and Robin Close