

Payette National Forest Supervisor,

It is with great pleasure that I write to the U.S. Forest Service to encourage you to permit the proposed activities outlined by Midas Gold in Alternative 2 during this public input process.

Alternative 2 is the best proposal for Idaho communities. This alternative promises to create hundreds of local jobs. Midas Gold has committed to purchasing supplies locally as much as possible and have already spent millions in Idaho to date. The company predicts it will directly employ somewhere around 500 people during construction and operations of the mine. Independent studies also show hundreds of indirect jobs will be created as a result of the Stibnite Gold Project during both phases of the project. I am excited about the opportunities this could bring for Idaho families especially as our nation attempts to recover from the ongoing pandemic. But besides the economic benefits, the project will help our environment. Right now, the area of the proposed mine is a brownfields site. Cleaning it up will be expensive. And no one else is proposing to do the work besides Midas Gold. If the Stibnite Gold Project doesn't move forward, this burden will fall to us as taxpayers or more likely, the site may never get cleaned up at all.

The Stibnite Gold Project is the type of project our state needs. I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to permit this project, using alternative two presented by Midas Gold, as expeditiously as possible. There is no need to extend the comment period. Sixty days is plenty of time to comment and we need the benefits of this project now.

Regards,

Name: Clark Lewis