

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

Greetings Ms. Jackson and Staff,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of Midas Gold Idaho's Comment Period. As a snowmobiler and someone who likes to recreate near the site, I have been closely following Midas Gold Idaho's plans since they first came into our state, in large part because much of the proposed project will take place on public land. The more I have learned about the project, the more excited I am about the possibilities it will bring into our state.

Midas Gold has made it clear reclamation efforts will start alongside operations. For example, before mining ever begins, fish will be reconnected to their native spawning groups upstream through a fish passageway. Eventually, the Yellow Pine Pit will be backfilled and the river can be permanently reconnected. Analysis in the draft Environmental Impact Statement showed removing existing barriers to fish migration will help Chinook salmon, bull trout and Steelhead. In fact, DEIS 4.12-39 says long-term access to blocked habitat would result in increased genetic diversity of isolated populations and productivity. They have worked to find safe access routes to the site that keeps vehicles away from our precious waterways. Additionally, under alternative 2, the company decreased traffic during operations by 26 percent by generating lime on site (table 2.3-2, 2.4-3, 2.3-8). Plus, the company is trying to minimize their impact on the environment by keeping facilities within the existing footprint of historic mining operations.

Reviewing Midas Gold's plans it is clear to me the company really believes in taking care of the environment. I urge you to permit the Stibnite Gold Project as outlined under Alternative 2, keep the comment period to the scheduled 60-days and keep this project moving forward.

Thank You,

Greg Eveland
Cary Clark