

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

Greetings Ms. Jackson and Staff,

I have reviewed the Plan of Restoration and Operations and met with members of Midas Gold Idaho to better understand the company's plans for the Stibnite Gold Project. Below are my comments on the plan to be included in the comment period.

The Stibnite Gold Project, as presented in Alternative 2, could leave the historical Stibnite Mining District in better condition than it is today. It would result in better water quality in the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River due to lower concentrations of antimony, mercury and arsenic (DEIS 4.9-70) and open an additional 26.5 km of habitat for anadromous salmonoids before mining begins (DEIS 4.12-13). When you compare Alternative 2 with the other options, the choice of how to proceed is obvious. Alternative 3 and 4 would delay the start of the project by two years. Alternative 3 has a larger project footprint size and Alternative 4 would put traffic to the site directly next to the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River. Alternative 5 would leave the site exactly as it is today – in desperate need of repair. The site needs attention and Alternative 2 would make sure it finally gets it.

Thank you for considering my thoughts on the project. As an Idahoan and someone who loves the outdoors, I urge you to move forward with alternative two.

My best,

Haiden Ferrell
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