

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

Dear Permitting Officials,

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 an Idahoan and avid outdoorsperson, I want to make sure the Stibnite Gold Project is done the right way.

This project, especially Alternative 2, is in line with Idaho values and our way of life. Idahoans have long understood that using the land and protecting the land can go hand-in-hand. Alternative 2 blends improving public lands with building a robust business and it is an approach I encourage. From repairing a legacy mine site to developing roads and power infrastructure, the \$1 billion investment the company would make in Idaho will benefit the entire state. For example, ground and surface water quality are currently a concern around the site. In some places on the site, arsenic and antimony levels in the water are currently 700 times higher than drinking water standards. Midas Gold can correct these problems by following Alternative 2. According to DEIS chapter 4, section 4.9, removing legacy tailings and managing water quality provides long-term reduction in metal loading in ground and surface water. These are benefits we cannot pass up.

I also would encourage the USFS to contain the comment period to the existing 60-day comment period. You've provided ample resources to make participating in the review process of the DEIS possible within this timeframe and we shouldn't delay the benefits of the project any longer.

Midas Gold Idaho wants to invest a significant amount of money in our state, bring hundreds of jobs to rural Idaho and still provide access to Idaho's public lands. This is the type of project our state needs. I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to permit this project, following Alternative 2.

Warm regards,

VERONICA WALLACE

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