

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

I am writing to convey my support for the Stibnite Gold Project from Midas Gold Idaho. This project can support sustainability efforts and help jumpstart Idaho's economy amid COVID-19.

Midas Gold is aware of the harmful mining past the Stibnite Gold region has experienced and the money taxpayers have had to contribute to pick up the pieces. This plan will not cost a single dollar to any taxpayers – and revenue from the project will actually go back into supporting the local community and benefit a variety of sectors. The company is looking to repair past damage and restore the site with millions of dollars in funding to ensure this beautiful region is left better than it was found.

The company will look to restore fish habitats, water quality, and land. An abandoned mine pit in the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River has prevented salmon from migrating upstream, and a temporary passage will allow salmon access to part of the river they have not been able to access for years. This will greatly improve spawning and support future populations. Additionally, water quality will be treated to keep contaminants maintained and sedimentation to a minimum – a great improvement to the local wildlife and ecosystem.

Not only will the project provide sustainable solutions, but also the 500 direct jobs created by the project. State and local government will benefit from \$150 million in tax revenue, with an additional \$300,000 from property taxes. These dollars could greatly serve struggling economies amid COVID-19.

This plan is unlike any other in terms of economic benefit and sustainability improvements. A plan like this one can help Idaho financially in the throes of COVID-19. I urge you to support Alternative 2 outlined by Midas Gold Idaho.

Thank you,

