

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

I have been closely following Midas Gold Idaho's plans for several years. I am excited to have the opportunity to comment on their Draft EIS. Midas Gold Idaho presents a huge opportunity for the Gem State.

It is likely the old Stibnite mine site will never be cleaned up unless industry takes responsibility for those who came before them. Midas Gold plans to do just that. By mining the site, Midas Gold plans to restore the natural flow and gradient of the East Fork of the South Fork to reconnect historical spawning grounds. The company will repair blowout creek, permanently solving a source of massive sedimentation and habitat degradation. Moreover, in reprocessing and repurposing millions of tons of spent ore and unconstrained tailings, Midas will safeguard water quality indefinitely.

Historic mining operations, development of former town site and natural processes have resulted in significant degradation of many elements of the environment. Loss of fish passage, potential water degradation from previous mining activity and excessive erosion are all of great concern to our community. The Stibnite Gold Project would finance reclamation efforts to address these problems and in turn boost Idaho's economy. It is a win-win for our community.

The Stibnite Gold Project is the type of project our state needs. I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to support Alternative 2 proposed by Midas Gold Idaho.

Sincerely,

Deanna Crayline Owen