

Payette National Forest Supervisor,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of Midas Gold Idaho's Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Public participation is a huge part of the permitting process and I appreciate the opportunity to share my thoughts.

Today at the site, leftover mining waste is leaching metals into groundwater and hurting wildlife and local communities. Midas has been monitoring the site for the last decade and discovered there are high levels of arsenic and antimony in the water, far beyond what is acceptable for drinking water standards. Of course, these problems were created long ago by historical mining operations and not by Midas Gold. However, the company has a plan to address these problems. Alternative 2 offers viable solutions to improve the site. It creates a plan to clean up existing tailings and store future tailings in a state-of-the-art storage facility. I trust Midas to safely reprocess and store the tailings because their facility contains several important design factors to prevent against breaches, leaks, or excessive water accumulation.

Midas Gold wants to restore the rivers, wildlife and habitat near the Stibnite Gold Project site. We should let them. The Forest Service has given meaningful time to review the document and comment. Further extensions are not necessary and will only hurt Idahoans by delaying the benefits of the project. Please permit Alternative 2 of the Stibnite Gold Project as outlined in the draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Thanks for your Consideration,

Name: Patti Smith