

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

USFS,

I am proud to submit my comments in support of Midas Gold Idaho's Stibnite Gold Project. This project presents our state with an incredible opportunity to bring well-paying jobs to rural Idaho, boost our state's economy and use private investment to clean up a brownfield site.

Given the history of the region, I was a bit skeptical when I first heard about this project, but I quickly saw that Midas is going out of their way to put environmental safety and restoration front and center. For example, according to the DEIS, "it is not anticipated that soils in most of these areas would recover naturally." However, Midas Gold can change the future of the site. The company is already composting and has further plans to help soils recover throughout the life of the project. After looking at the tools provided by the USFS, it is clear that there is an environmental advantage for alternative 2 compared to the other (36 CFR 220.5; FSH 1909.15). It addresses the purpose and need of the agencies in a manner that provides environmental advantage and economic feasibility over the other analyzed alternatives. With so much promise for the site's future, I hope Alternative 5 is removed from the table. There is finally an opportunity to restore the site and it is an opportunity that shouldn't be passed up.

Idahoans need to see the benefits of the Stibnite Gold Project come to life. The comment period should be kept to 60 days, so the process can continue to move forward. It is with this knowledge that I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to select the modified plan of restoration and operations Midas Gold Idaho presented, known as alternative 2 in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, and permit the project.

My best,

Chad M Kinney
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