

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

In the Matter of the Stibnite Gold Project (SGP)

To Whom It May Concern:


I'm all for resuming mining in the Stibnite Mining District. It's a good use of our natural resources. Gold isn't worth anything unless you get it out of the ground. It will create jobs, help the local economy, and benefit manufacturing. I am glad too of course that the plan will help address some environmental issues in the area. My guess is that the Forest Service will receive a lot of comments on this topic, so I'll let others speak on that.

I would like to throw my support behind Alternative 2 by highlighting one issue, namely, truck traffic. Big mining operations (logging, too) can put a lot of strain on small, rural roads—and on the communities situated on or near those roads. But if we want the benefits, we have to have the trucks. I'm okay with that, but obviously I would like to see whatever steps can be taken to limit traffic and all the problems that come with it.

Midas Gold heard this message. Under Alternative 2, the company will operate its own lime kiln right on the site, so it won't have to truck in lime. This will substantially reduce truck traffic. As the DEIS, "The volume and frequency of hazardous material transport by truck would be the same or similar for Alternatives 1, 3, and 4, but the volume and frequency would change under Alternative 2, with on-site lime generation. Under Alternative 2, fewer truck trips would occur during an operational year." Fewer trucks will also mean improved safety.

So, count me as a supporter of Alternative 2 on this issue. I think others in the community would also agree with me that we should move forward without another extension of the review. There has been enough time for all of us to review, discuss, and submit comments. Thank you for listening.

Respectfully yours,


Kelly Chapple