

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

Dear Supervisor Jackson,

It has come to my attention that the government is in the final stages of approval for a plan to clean up the Stibnite Mining District, which has been a problem in this area for many years. Over the past few years, I have learned that Midas Gold is a committed, responsible corporate citizen with the safest practices, so I am writing to support their Alternative 2 proposal.


It is quite apparent to me that Midas Gold puts worker safety and environmental responsibility first and foremost. Given the inherent risk factors in mining, the Stibnite worksite will of course yield naturally occurring and manufactured hazardous materials, but I am confident that Alternative 2 presents a strong plan for the safe transportation and handling of these materials.

Many local residents have even toured the project site, because Midas Gold believes it must be transparent about its plans. I am confident based on their interactions with our community that they are among the best and most prepared in the mining industry to undertake such a project like this.

Moreover, I believe Midas will leave the site in far better shape than they found it. The previous mining activities here left waste behind that has had a very detrimental impact over the years. But Midas's plan calls for a fish-friendly tunnel to allow salmon to reach the upper portions of the East Fork of the South Fork and Meadow Creek for the first time in decades. There are also old tailings that create a risk of leaching minerals into nearby streams and the groundwater, and Midas has committed to picking up and reprocess these materials.

The company really seems to have considered every problem and has a solution for it. I think we need to move ahead with the Alternative 2 plan as soon as possible. This project has been appropriately vetted; if we endlessly scrutinize every detail, I am concerned that the area will simply never be cleaned up. I believe Midas Gold is the right partner to take care of it.

Sincerely,


CATHY BURATTO