

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

I am writing today to the U.S. Forest Service to voice my strong support for the Plan of Restoration and Operation that Midas Gold has submitted. As a native of central Idaho, I believe that Midas will bring many positive changes to our region, including environmental restoration. Approval of this PRO will help the U.S. Forest Service accomplish its fundamental mission to protect our nation's forests and national parks.

For decades, the Stibnite-Yellow Pine region has been the site of complex mining operations. While mining has brought jobs and economic prosperity to central Idaho, it has also caused environmental damage and deforestation. Through a comprehensive environmental cleanup plan, Midas Gold intends to fix past mistakes, and serve as a responsible environmental steward. Midas has already planted 55,000 trees, and has reclaimed nearly 33 acres of forest previously lost to deforestation. I am confident that Midas will bring needed change to this region, and I look forward to the environmental cleanup that will come with the Stibnite Gold project.

Our children, grandchildren, and future generations of Idahoans deserve to enjoy the natural beauty of this region. So far, there have been very few initiatives to provide the level of environmental cleanup necessary for Stibnite. Midas has proven itself a company that we can trust, and we welcome their activity here. Once operations begin, Midas will provide over 500 direct jobs for hardworking Idahoans. With salaries averaging \$80,000 annually, families will be able to save and invest for their children's future. Miners, technicians, and contractors working at Midas facilities will be able to go to work confident that their paycheck is coming from a company that is helping our region.

As our nation faces an economic downturn caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, I am strongly urging the Forest Service to support Alternative 2 proposed by Midas Gold Idaho.

Thank you,

Stacie Willhoyt
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