

Payette National Forest Supervisor,

If Midas Gold Idaho is allowed to move forward with the Stibnite Gold Project, they will reclaim an area impacted by historical mining, create hundreds of well-paying jobs and provide a huge boost to our economy in the process. It is a win-win for Valley County. We need to permit the project.

I am impressed by Midas Gold's plans to clean up water quality conditions at the site by removing sediment and old materials blocking the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River. Today, steelhead and Chinook salmon cannot access spawning grounds because they are blocked by an abandoned mining pit. Midas will address this issue before mining even begins " reconnecting fish for the first time in more than 80 years. The company will build a fish passageway in the short term and eventually restore full access to 25 miles of perennial stream and 6 miles of fish spawning habitat above the Yellow Pine pit. If we do not allow Midas Gold to move forward with their plans, it is highly unlikely anyone else will provide the funds needed to reconnect fish to this currently lost habitat.

There has been more than sufficient time to comment on the Stibnite Gold Project. I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward and adopt Alternative two as the preferred alternative.

Best Wishes,

Name: Rhonda Morgan