



WE'RE READY WHEN YOU ARE.

500 North Mission Street
McCall, ID 83638

Dear Ms. Linda Jackson,

I work in the industry, at Western States CAT, and have been closely following Midas Gold's plans for several years. I am excited to finally have the opportunity to comment on their Draft EIS. Midas Gold Idaho presents a huge opportunity for companies like CAT and the Gem State.

Alternative 2 of the Stibnite Gold Project presents a plan to repair the environment and boost Idaho's economy. Historic mining operations, development of former town site, and natural processes have resulted in significant degradation of many elements of the environment. Loss of fish passage, potential water degradation from previous mining activity and excessive erosion are all a concern to Idahoans like myself. Right now, fish can't swim past the Yellow Pine pit to reach historical spawning grounds. Midas Gold will reconnect fish passage before mining ever begins. According to 4.12 of the draft environmental impact statement, providing access to these historically blocked areas can improve the genetic diversity of these isolated fish populations. The Stibnite Gold Project would finance reclamation efforts to address these problems and in turn boost Idaho's economy.

Midas Gold has already spent \$89 million in Idaho by prioritizing local vendors and contracts, and they are committed to hiring local if the project is approved. This will bring over 500 direct jobs to the region, and hundreds more indirect jobs – benefiting companies like mine.

Reviewing Midas Gold's plan it is clear to me the company really believes in taking care of the environment and supporting the community. I urge you to permit the Stibnite Gold Project as outlined under Alternative 2 and keep this project moving forward.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Travis Leutfer'.

Travis Leutfer

U.S. Forest Service, Payette National Forest
Attn: Linda Jackson, Payette Forest Supervisor