

## WE'RE READY WHEN YOU ARE.

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

I would like to thank the U.S. Forest Service's for its continued stewardship, looking to protect the state parks and the creatures who call it home. I am writing in regards to Midas Gold Idaho's proposed Stibnite Gold project. I understand that Midas has submitted a plan for your consideration and I would urge the U.S. Forest to approve the plan straightaway, because I believe Midas Gold will offer job prospects and economic boosts to Idaho that will be very beneficial post Covid-19.

As Covid-19 coronavirus has swept through the country and forced Americans to self-quarantine and work from home, millions have lost their job. As a CAT employee, I have seen this impact firsthand. This project could help alleviate the economic burden caused by Covid-19 by bringing hundreds of jobs to the state. During construction, this project would directly employ 600 to 700 people with annual payroll ranging from \$42 million to 49 million. This would increase the amount of money Idahoans could put back into the local economy, as workers spend at local restaurants and small businesses. The company has committed to hiring, contracting and purchasing supplies and services locally whenever possible. Midas will hire from our own Valley County for resources and talent, providing much needed, good paying jobs.

A study found the Stibnite Gold Project could produce 4 million ounces of gold and 100 million pounds of antimony. These are significant resources with this project's help us reach Idaho's full economic potential. The Stibnite Gold Project will also contribute a considerable amount in local and state tax revenue. This funding could go towards state expenses such as schools, first responders, repairing our roads, and more.

For these reasons, I encourage you to adopt Alternative 2 outlined by Midas Gold.

Sincerely,

**Justin McClure**