

Dear US National Forest Service Staff,

This letter is to express my support of Midas Gold's Stibnite Gold Project. I hope after reading my thoughts you will understand why my support for Midas Gold Idaho is unwavering.

While there are many benefits (economic and environmental) to bringing this project online locally, there are also many benefits on the national and global scale. By permitting local mining projects which produce raw materials we all use everyday, there is an assurance that all environmental regulations and guidelines will be followed and vetted in a sustainable manner. Similar projects potentially coming online elsewhere in the world where environmental regulations and requirements are not as stringent pose global economic and environmental risks. Midas has shown their ability to manage these risks locally by laying out plans and establishing critical controls to ensure their activities have the least amount of impact on the environment and will actually improve existing conditions. This is truly a win-win.

I am particularly 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.

Thank you for reviewing my comments. Again, I urge you to permit Midas Gold's carefully thought out plan as outlined under alternative two.

Thank You,

Nick Martin

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