

Attention payette national forest supervisor,

I am writing in support of the Stibnite Gold Project and the benefits it will bring to Idaho. This project has the potential to put hundreds of Idahoans to work, bring a \$1 billion investment into our state and restore an area of Idaho's backcountry desperately in need of repair.

Alternative Two as proposed by Midas Gold is the best solution to protect important fish populations and the environment. It includes several updates from Alternative One that reduce impact to salmon habitat and increase environmental safeguards. Alternative Two will facilitate action as soon as possible. Unfortunately, Alternatives Three and Four would delay the project by two years, slowing down the environmental and economic benefits the Stibnite Gold Project promises to bring. Right now, with the ongoing crisis caused by the pandemic, we need to build a strong domestic supply chain and provide well-paying jobs for Idahoans. A delay in the project would have negative impacts to rural communities. While I know Alternative Five must be considered, we have come too far in this process to take no action at all in the historical Stibnite Mining District. If Midas Gold is not allowed to move forward with its project, the problems facing the region will likely only get worse.

Midas Gold Idaho wants to invest \$1 billion in our state, bring more than hundreds of jobs to rural Idaho and still provide access to Idaho's public lands. This is the type of project our state needs. The U.S. Forest Service has provided Idahoans with meaningful tools to easily review the document and ample time to comment. I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to permit this project following alternative two.

My best,

Name: Joel Parnell