

U.S.F.S.,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Midas Gold Idaho's Alternative 2. Over the last several years, I've had the opportunity to hear a handful of presentations on the Stibnite Gold Project, sit down with project staff, and observe how the company has lived out its mission as it has grown. It is with this knowledge that I encourage you to permit the Stibnite Gold Project.

The Stibnite Gold Project is an opportunity to address high amounts of sedimentation and drainage of the wetlands that happened as a result of the dam failure at Blowout Creek in the 1960s. This has caused extensive, ongoing erosion for decades and the effects are concerning for fish habitat and water quality. Midas Gold intends to address these issues by repairing the damage and installing a French drain at the site of the old dam to permanently keep sediment out of the river and restore wetlands. According to the U.S. Forest Service's own draft environmental impact statement, their plan for mitigation and restoration will help address this issue. Chapter 4 states that the proposed mitigation will provide 1:1 replacement of wetland acres (4.11.2.3.1.1-2).

Midas Gold Idaho will also have a great impact on the economy through the jobs it provides, the money it spends, and the taxes it will pay. It is estimated Midas Gold will pay \$329 million in federal corporate income taxes and \$86 Million in state corporate income and mine license taxes.

The economic benefits of this project are huge and the project will transform an area in need of environmental repair. It is for all of these reasons that I encourage you to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward as outlined in alternative 2 within this 60-day comment period.

Respectfully,

Name: Nate Basey