

September 14, 2020

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

Dear Ms. Jackson,

I write today to voice support for the modified Plan of Restoration and Operation (ModPRO) that Midas Gold Idaho submitted to the U.S Forest Service and is under consideration in your draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Owning a place in Garden Valley, I have had the opportunity to track and monitor the Stibnite Gold Project.

During these difficult times, our nation faces an unprecedented threat caused by Covid-19. Unemployment has skyrocketed, and shutdowns have cost our economy dearly. Approval of the ModPRO will allow Midas Gold to begin the Stibnite Gold Project, which will create hundreds of jobs during the construction and mining phases of operation. Plus, the company plans to source all talent and resources from Idaho before looking elsewhere. Though I am retired, I know how important it is to have local jobs as my son in law currently is forced to travel to Alaska and back for his position.

In addition, Midas Gold will help protect and preserve our nation's forests and national parks. Learning from the mistakes of past mining projects, Midas has committed itself to complete environmental restoration of the Stibnite region. Midas has already planted 55,000 trees, and plans to reclaim dozens of acres of forest which have been lost to past mining projects.

I look forward to the comprehensive environmental restoration the company has planned and that the draft Environmental Impact Statement largely found would help fish and waterways. I strongly encourage you to support Alternative 2 as presented by Midas Gold.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Mendiola". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kathleen Mendiola

8 Squirrel

Garden Valley, ID 83622