



**WE'RE READY WHEN YOU ARE.**

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

Attention Ms. Jackson,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my feedback as part of Midas Gold Idaho's public permitting process. Western States CAT is a close affiliate of Midas Gold Idaho. As a company, we know them as our friends and neighbors. I found their DEIS to have many positive findings for Idaho's environment, that was clearly the result of a decade of study and planning solutions that would fix legacy problems.

Obviously, the project will bring huge economic benefits to the rural communities surrounding the project site. Midas Gold will directly employ 400-500 employees during construction and operations. Payroll is expected to exceed \$34 million and these numbers do not even capture the indirect jobs I am confident nearby towns will see from the Stibnite Gold Project.

The Stibnite Gold Project will also help restore the environment in our region. Under alternative two, Midas Gold has prioritized restoration work early in the project. For example, Midas Gold will build a fish passageway around the Yellow Pine pit to provide access to native upstream habitat. Your analysis shows this could increase and improve overall fish productivity and diversity.

The Stibnite Gold Project is the type of project our state needs. I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to permit this project, using the preferred alternative presented by Midas Gold, as expeditiously as possible.

Most Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Erika Schroeder' followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

WSECO Collection Manager

Erika Schroeder

Erika Schroeder, Collection Manager, Western States CAT