

To whom it may concern:

I have been closely following Midas Gold Idaho's plans for several years. I am excited to finally have the opportunity to comment on their Draft EIS. Midas Gold Idaho presents a huge opportunity and asset for the Gem State and most importantly the residents of Valley and surrounding Counties.

The site is rich in gold deposits but it also has antimony, which was recently deemed critical by the federal government. Antimony is used as a fire retardant and metal strengthener. It is used in everything from batteries, textiles, cell phones, plastics and cable sheathing. Right now, the U.S. doesn't have a domestic antimony mine. The Stibnite Gold Project could provide one-quarter of the American demand for antimony in the country. This is so important with the current tenuous trade relations in our country and our nations defense. Currently the US supply of rare and strategic metals comes primarily from foreign sources. This is a threat to our national security,

Midas Gold Idaho plans to invest \$1 billion in the state, bring more than 1,000 jobs to rural Idaho and still provide access to Idaho's public lands. This is the type of project our state needs. And with the coronavirus, we need it now more than ever. The USFS has provided sufficient time to review the document and provide comments. It is time to move forward. I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to pick alternative 2 as the preferred alternative for the Stibnite Gold Project. Approval of this project will also help our nation in its current quest to be rare metals independent from foreign sources which is critical to our national defense and therefore of utmost importance and of highest priority. Thanks in advance for all the time effort and investment made in the extensive planning, review and application process which I trust will prove beneficial to all concerned. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Name: William J Martin