

Payette National Forest Supervisor,

I have reviewed the Alternative 2 and met with members of Midas Gold Idaho to better understand the company's plans for the Stibnite Gold Project. Below are my comments on the plan to be included in the comment period.

I am pleased to see Midas Gold wants to take responsibility and clean up the damage left behind by mining operations in the early 20th Century - even though the company was not involved in any of the previous activity at the site. Midas Gold has a plan to reunite salmon and trout with their spawning grounds for the first time in 80 years. Their plan for the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River over the backfilled Yellow Pine pit will recreate natural conditions as close as possible. They plan to provide permanent access to approximately 25 miles of perennial stream and 6 miles of anadromous fish spawning habitat, and the company has agreed to install a temporary artificial fish passageway that will allow fish to swim past the old mining pit before mining even begins.

This Stibnite Gold Project is a huge opportunity for Idaho. I am grateful for the tools the Forest Service has provided to review the DEIS and learn more about the project. These tools have given Idahoans sufficient time to comment. Please permit alternative 2 and continue moving the project forward so our citizens can reap the positive impacts.

My best,

Name: Jesse Whitener