

To Concerned Payette National Forest Staff,

The Stibnite Gold Project will bring huge economic benefits to Idaho, particularly in Valley County. Midas Gold will directly employ 400-500 employees during construction and operations. Payroll is expected to exceed \$34 million. These numbers do not even capture the indirect jobs. Some third-party estimates show one indirect job will be created every time Midas Gold hires an employee. The project has the potential to have a positive, widespread impact on the state.

I encourage the USFS to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward and permit Midas Gold Idaho's project as outlined in their Modified Plan of Restoration and Operations, alternative 2 in the DEIS. The USFS has provided meaningful time to submit comments and already extended the comment period once, there should be no further delays.

Warm regards,

Name: Leon Punt