

Dear Ms. Jackson,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of the U.S. Forest Service's permitting process. This is an important project for Valley County and will have a significant impact on the community. As someone who explores, plays and cares about this region of Idaho's backcountry, I want to make sure the Stibnite Gold Project is done the right way.

Given the history of the region, it is clear that Midas is going out of their way to put environmental safety and restoration front and center. For example, according to the DEIS, "it is not anticipated that soils in most of these areas would recover naturally." However, Midas Gold can change the future of the site. The company is already composting and has further plans to help soils recover throughout the life of the project. After looking at the tools provided by the USFS, I feel strongly that Alternative 2 is the best option moving forward. It addresses the purpose and need of the agencies in a manner that provides environmental advantage and economic feasibility over the other analyzed alternatives. With so much promise for the site's future, I hope Alternative 5 is removed from the table. There is finally an opportunity to restore the site and it is an opportunity that shouldn't be passed up.

I would like to thank the U.S. Forest Service for providing the opportunity, and sufficient time, to comment on this important project's permitting process. I hope the U.S. Forest Service will realize the benefits this project and permit the Stibnite Gold Project using alternative 2.

Most Respectfully,

Name: Ward Donnell McDonald II