

Dear Payette National Forest Staff,

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Stibnite Gold Project. Idaho and the country need the jobs and economic opportunity it could present. We have seen in the current pandemic that mining jobs have provided a steady and important source of employment across the country. We need to support responsible mining projects and the Stibnite Gold Project exudes this.

The project will bring huge economic benefits to the rural communities surrounding the project site by 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 I am confident nearby towns will see from the Stibnite Gold Project.

I also write in strong support of their reclamation plans to clean up legacy problems near the proposed site. It is a win win - environmental improvements and economic opportunity. Additionally, the project team is top tier - they walk their talk. I write in strong support of responsible domestic mining.

I urge you to accept Midas Gold's plan as outlined under alternative two. The U.S. Forest Service has provided the public with helpful virtual tools and materials to submit meaningful comments on the project within the allotted timeframe. It is time to move this project forward.

Regards,

Name: Mike Heatwole