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Organization: House of Representatives, State of Idaho

Title: District 12, Seat B

Comments: I am writing to express my support for the Stibnite Gold Project examined in the U.S. Forest Service's draft Environmental Impact Statement. I believe that approving this project proposal and allowing it to move forward is the best choice for Idaho's future.

As the Co-Chair of the Joint Finance and Appropriations Committee it is important to point out the economic benefit of this project. The Stibnite project would provide an estimated \$1 billion investment in Idaho. Midas Gold's proposed mining project will bring much needed jobs and tax revenues to Idaho. The company has committed to hiring from within Idaho and will work with local businesses whenever possible - providing opportunities to countless businesses outside of the actual mining operations. Their business in Idaho will support Idaho entrepreneurs and families from across the state.

The local economic impact from direct job creation is estimated to be more than \$18 million per year during construction, \$18 million per year during operations, and close to \$4 million per year during reclamation. This revenue will support our state's infrastructure projects and support our local schools, helping to create an Idaho capable of taking on a next generation economy and workforce for the future.

I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to adopt Alternative 2 examined in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and allow Midas Gold Idaho to move forward with this economic boon for the Gem State.