

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/20/2020 6:00:00 AM

First name: Mark Francis

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Payette National Forest Supervisor,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of Midas Gold Idaho's Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Public participation is a huge part of the permitting process and I appreciate the opportunity to share my thoughts.

Mining provides jobs and opportunities that are important for our local economy. I am grateful to know Midas is committed to hiring locally and purchasing materials locally as much as possible. The Stibnite project will generate hundreds of job opportunities in construction and operations. This type of project will undoubtedly boost our local economy. Mining is an important contributor to a strong economy in Idaho and I know the Midas project will be no different. I support the Alternative 2 proposal because it is the safest way to bring these opportunities to life.

While the economic benefits of this project cannot be ignored, it also will transform an area in need for environmental repair. It is for all of these reasons that I encourage you to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward as outlined in alternative 2 within this 60-day comment period.