Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/26/2020 6:00:00 AM First name: McKinley Last name: Bateman Organization: Western States CAT Title:

Comments: This letter is to express my support of Midas Gold's Stibnite Gold Project. America needs this project to be permitted. I believe that the opportunities this project could provide would be monumental for our economy as well as the sustained longevity of our community. I am an employee of Western States CAT and I know Midas Gold well. I hope after reading my thoughts you will understand why I am in strong support of their project in central Idaho.

Midas Gold Idaho wants to invest \$1 billion into Idaho, bring more than 1,000 jobs to rural communities and contribute millions of dollars in taxes. This is an opportunity we cannot afford to pass up. Especially right now. As Midas Gold Idaho grows, it will help Idaho families grow along with it. The company has made a commitment to hire locally whenever possible. And they are going to help prepare Idahoans for these well-paying jobs by providing job training. The average salary of Midas Gold Idaho employees is anticipated to be \$80,000. Many individuals in this region have had to depend on seasonal work, having a steady paycheck could change many lives.

I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to continue to move the project forward and permit the site using alternative 2 as the guide.