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First name: Peter David

Last name: Hampton

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Payette National Forest Staff,

I am writing in support of the Stibnite Gold Project and the benefits it will bring to Idaho. This project has the potential to put hundreds of Idahoans to work, bring a \$1 billion investment into our state and restore an area of Idaho's backcountry desperately in need of repair.

Midas Gold has developed a plan to provide our nation with a domestic supply of antimony and protect the environment in the process. Today, the company is already help keep sediment out of the waterways and air by applying dust abatement materials to Johnson Creek Road. Midas Gold is mindful of its impact on the environment and the project is not anticipated to cause or contribute to an exceedance of air quality standards. In fact, I believe the project will have a net positive benefit on the environment. Under Alternative 2, the company will reconnect salmon to their native spawning grounds for the first time in 80 years, remove sediment from the waterways near site and safely store old mine material that is currently polluting groundwater. I believe Midas Gold can strike the balance of mining the materials we need safely, while also protecting and restoring the environment.

I encourage the USFS to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward and permit Midas Gold Idahos project as outlined in their Modified Plan of Restoration and Operations, alternative 2 in the DEIS. The USFS has provided meaningful time to submit comments and already extended the comment period once, there should be no further delays.