

U.S. Forest Service, Payette National Forest
Attn: Linda Jackson, Payette Forest Supervisor
500 North Mission Street
McCall, ID 83638

I am contacting you today because I understand the U.S. Forest Service has a matter of significant consequence to consider, Midas Gold's project for Idaho. I would like to express my support and urge the U.S. Forest Service to approve this project.

Idaho is fortunate to have large reserves of both gold and antimony that could provide an enormous economic prosperity for the state. Midas Gold has estimated that the Stibnite Gold Project will produce at least 4 million ounces of gold and 100 million pounds of antimony. In return, the Stibnite Gold Project will add hundreds of millions of dollars into Idaho's economy, contributing substantially through both local and state tax revenue. This funding could go to essential expenses in Idaho's budget including schools, first responders, repairing our roads, and others. This project will also bring hundreds of jobs to the state and Midas Gold has committed to hiring, contracting and purchasing supplies and services locally whenever reasonably possible.

Economic benefits aside, Midas Gold has committed to repair the extensive environmental damage left behind by previous mining projects. Idaho may be understandably concerned about this project causing more damage, but most of the previous projects took place before current environmental regulations were established. However, Midas Gold has ensured that it will meet and surpass all regulations. The company has also shown a willingness to work collaboratively with recreational groups to address any access concerns that have arisen during the project. In fact, many of the changes laid out in their Modified Plan of Restoration and Operations (Mod PRO) were a result of collaborative, open dialogues with recreational groups.

Midas Gold has also developed a plan that intentionally minimizes impact on aquatic wildlife, in particular anadromous and local fish populations throughout the duration of the project. This project will also include removing barriers that block fish migration, and will enhance and restore about 12 miles of perennial streams, which will add nearly 6 miles of additional stream habitat for migratory fish.

This is a unique opportunity and I would urge you to accept Alternative 2 proposed by Midas Gold Idaho.

Sincerely,


Kelsie VanKomen