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October 26, 2020

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

Dear Ms. Jackson,

As a candidate for the Idaho House of Representatives from Canyon County, I have an interest in Idaho mining projects. Prior to my campaign I learned of the Stibnite Gold Project and believe it will be positive for Idaho and the surrounding communities. This is why I am submitting the following comments in support of Alternative 2 outlined in the U.S. Forest Service's draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Stibnite Gold Project.

Idaho has consistently ranked lower than most states in its income and wages per capita. The Stibnite Gold Project will improve this figure as the company is committed to hiring locally while providing crucial job training programs for members of the community. Employees will carry this training throughout their careers, which is the first step toward creating a stronger workforce. The positions offered also pay more than four times the salaries common in Valley County – another welcomed improvement. Midas Gold is offering Idaho a chance to improve the everyday livelihood of its citizens all while being the much-needed catalyst to jump start a workforce ready for the jobs of tomorrow.

Although Idaho's environment has been challenged by past mining projects, the rules and regulations in place today require restoration and reclamation of all lands impacted. Midas Gold has not only offered to clean up after the Stibnite Gold Project they have committed to restoring the lands previously impacted decades prior – including restoring critical fish migration to the Salmon River for the first time in 80 years.

Midas Gold Idaho's Gold Stibnite Project is an opportunity to put our state on the path to creating the Idaho of tomorrow. Again, I encourage you to accept Alternative 2 and allow Idahoan to realize the benefits this project will bring to our communities and environment.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that appears to read "Bruce".

Bruce D. Skaug  
Candidate, Idaho House of Representatives  
District 12 - A