

Attention 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.

After reviewing the DEIS using the tools provided by the U.S. Forest Service, I believe Alternative 2 is the best option moving forward. It limits the project footprint, keeps traffic away from key waterways, improves water quality and is economically feasible. The project would also provide key economic benefits to the region, such as family-wage jobs and a boost to the local tax base, as well as environmental restoration. Midas Gold currently is the only company with a feasible plan to fix the long-standing legacy issues at the site, such as blocked fish passage and degraded water quality. I feel confident Midas Gold will follow through on its promises to restore the site because of federal and state financial assurance laws. The regulations will require Midas Gold to set aside the necessary funds for restoration and reclamation before any mining begins.

I appreciate your time and thoughtfulness. The USFS has provided plenty of tools to review the DEIS and make commenting within the 60-day timeframe possible. For the reasons I stated in my letter above, please permit the Stibnite Gold Project using alternative 2 and let Idahoans see the benefits of this important project.

In addition, my son is a recent graduate as a mining engineer and is looking forward to the opportunity to possibly stay local and work in Idaho on a project such as this.

My best,

Name: Ron Emerick