

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

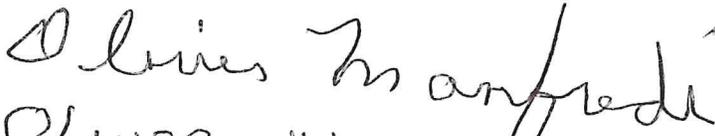
Thank you for your agency's work in developing the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Stibnite Gold Project (SGP) and for providing ample opportunity for public input. As a formerly deployed military veteran, I find it welcome news to see that we have a strong regulatory system that will provide sufficient oversight for this project.

Just as the U.S. Forest Service has been forthcoming in its analysis of the SGP, so too has Midas Gold been direct and responsive in providing information and responding to the questions and concerns of local residents and businesses. The lengthy process has entailed inputs from local, state, federal, and tribal officials. Alternative 2—the best and most recent proposal from Midas Gold—reflects and responds to these inputs.

Additionally, the Stibnite Mining District is home to the largest known supply of antimony in the U.S., a valuable resource that has been largely imported over the years. Mining the resource domestically would bolster the low national supply we currently have and be used to produce crucial military equipment.

While Midas Gold and its shareholders will benefit from mining our Stibnite region, the local community will benefit as well—from jobs, economic impact, tax revenues, and finally, a restored natural environment. I believe that Midas Gold will continue to be a good corporate citizen and a responsible steward to the land during the period that it operates in the area. It is time to pass Alternative 2.

Respectfully,


OLIVER MANFREDI