



## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 THE PROPOSAL

Midas Gold Idaho, Inc. (**Midas Gold** or the **Company**) proposes to undertake the restoration of the historically impacted Stibnite, Idaho, site before, during and after the development of a modern mining operation that produces gold, silver and the strategic mineral, antimony. Midas Gold's plan for the restoration and operation of the site means it will conduct site cleanup, mining, ore processing, and reclamation work at its Stibnite Gold Project (**Project**) site in central Idaho as that vision is described in this Plan of Restoration and Operations (**PRO** or **Plan**). This PRO has also been prepared to meet the requirements for a plan of operations for approval by the U.S. Forest Service (**USFS** or **Forest Service**), Idaho Department of Lands (**IDL**), and other applicable federal and state regulations, for Project operations on the surface of National Forest lands under regulations at 36 CFR 228 Subpart A, and includes a description of access/transportation, power supply and other Project infrastructure and operation components planned for Midas Gold private lands and other lands in the area. Appendix A provides a list of cross-references between this PRO and information required by 36 CFR 228 Subpart A.

### 1.2 ORGANIZATION OF THE STIBNITE GOLD PROJECT PRO DOCUMENT

This PRO has been organized in a manner that is consistent with our Company culture and Project goals, is logical with respect to the evolution of the development of the Project, and meets Forest Service requirements.

The outline of this Stibnite Gold Project PRO is as follows:

1. **Introduction** provides an introduction to Midas Gold, the Project and this PRO, and includes an outline of this document.
2. **Midas Gold's Core Values** provides a summary of Midas Gold's approach to protecting worker health and safety; protecting and enhancing the natural environment; and, the sustainability of our activities.
3. **Socioeconomics & Workforce Requirements** provides an overview of hiring objectives, current Valley County socioeconomics, and projected socioeconomic impacts during all phases of the Project.
4. **Past Mining & Mining Related Legacy Issues** provides an overview of previous mining operators in the Stibnite Mining District and their associated legacy impacts.
5. **Restoration & Mitigation** provides an overview of Midas Gold's key restoration and mitigation goals for the Project area.
6. **Environmental Protection** sets out goals and actions whereby Midas Gold has protected and intends to continue to protect the natural environment.
7. **Operations: Offsite Infrastructure** provides an overview of all necessary offsite infrastructure required to support restoration and mining operations onsite.
8. **Operations: Site Preparation & Onsite Infrastructure** provides an overview of all necessary onsite infrastructure required for restoration and mining operations.

9. **Operations: Surface Mining** provides a timeline and description of the techniques, equipment, facilities, and equipment for surface mining operations onsite.
10. **Operations: Ore Processing** provides an overview of ore processing and metal extraction techniques and information about associated facilities and water use.
11. **Operations: Thickened Tailings Management** provides information about the tailings storage facility design, associated facilities, and water use/reuse associated with tailings management.
12. **Operations: Project Logistics & Materials Handling** provides an overview of site access, road maintenance, traffic, necessary materials, and a schedule for the Project.
13. **Operations: Exploration** provides a summary of proposed surface and underground exploration and associated facilities as well as management practices.
14. **Restoration, Closure & Reclamation** provides an overview of the procedures, practices, plans, and budgeting associated with the closure and reclamation phase of the Project.
15. **Monitoring** provides an overview of the objectives and protocols for monitoring climate, air quality, surface water, groundwater, fisheries, and wildlife during all phases of the Project.
16. **References** provide a list of references cited in the text.
17. **Acronyms, Glossary & Scientific Terminology** provide definitions and images (where deemed helpful) for industry-specific terminology used in the text.
18. **Appendices** provide additional information not covered in the main body of this document including:
  - Appendix A, U.S. Forest Service Regulation 36 CFR 228A Checklist
  - Appendix B, Operator and Claimant Information
  - Appendix C, Claim Information
  - Appendix D, History of the Stibnite Mining District
  - Appendix E, Present Day Photos of the Stibnite Mining District
  - Appendix F, Draft Conceptual Wetland and Stream Mitigation Plan
  - Appendix G, Project Development Methodology Alternatives Analyses

### 1.3 LOCATION & DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AREA OF OPERATIONS

The Project is located in Valley County approximately 92 air miles (144 miles by road) northeast of Boise, Idaho, 44 air miles northeast of Cascade, Idaho, and 10 air miles east of Yellow Pine, Idaho. As shown on Figure 1-1, the current primary summer access from State Highway 55 to the Project area is:

- Cascade to Landmark – two-lane, paved Warm Lake Road - identified as Valley County 10-579 (35.6 miles)
- Landmark to Yellow Pine – single-lane, unpaved “Johnson Creek” county road - identified as Valley County 10-413 (25.3 miles)
- Yellow Pine to Stibnite – single-lane, unpaved “Stibnite” county road - identified as Forest Service 50-412 Road (14 miles)

The Stibnite Gold Project lies in all or part of the following sections (Boise Meridian):

- Township 19 North, Range 9 East, Sections 21 to 28 and 32 to 36;



- Township 19 North, Range 10 East, Sections 19, 30, and 31;
- Township 18 North, Range 9 East, Sections 1 to 30 and 32 to 36; and,
- Township 18 North, Range 10 East, Sections 5 to 8, 17 to 20, 29 and 30.

The Project area consists of a combination of public National Forest and private lands (see Appendix C). Public land is administered by the U.S. Forest Service, Payette National Forest, Krassel Ranger District. Portions of the Stibnite Mining District are located on the Boise National Forest and administered by the Payette National Forest, and the access road and powerline route are located on the Cascade Ranger District of the Boise National Forest or administered by those Ranger Districts.

The Payette National Forest is expected to be the lead Forest for purposes of administration and approvals and the Boise National Forest is expected to provide input to the Payette National Forest for those Project aspects that are located on Boise National Forest administered lands including:

- Burntlog Route;
- Power line upgrade;
- Landmark Maintenance Facility;
- Road construction and maintenance borrow sites along Burntlog Route; and,
- Communication sites along Burntlog Route.

Figure 1-1, Site Access Map

