



July 19, 2017

Attn: Forest Supervisor Keith Lannom – Stibnite Gold EIS
Payette National Forest
500 North Mission Street, Bldg 2
McCall, ID 83638
Email: comments-intermtn-payette@fs.fed.us

Re: Stibnite Gold Plan of Operations EIS # 50516

Dear Supervisor Lannom,

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed Stibnite Gold project on the Krassel Ranger District of the Payette National Forest and the Cascade Ranger District of the Boise National Forest.

This remote area of west central Idaho provides important wildlife habitat for elk, deer, moose, and wolves. The area creeks that flow into the East Fork South Fork Salmon River provide rich spawning grounds for Chinook salmon, as well as habitat for bull trout, westslope cutthroat trout, and rainbow trout. Given the critical role this land and water fulfills for wildlife, it is vital that the Payette National Forest's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) provide a thorough evaluation and disclosure of potential environmental effects of the proposed mining operation.

RMEF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit wildlife conservation organization with the mission to ensure the future of elk, other wildlife, their habitat, and our hunting heritage. Committed to conserving, restoring, and enhancing natural habitats, RMEF has protected or enhanced more than 7.1 million acres of vital habitat for elk and other wildlife.

We look forward to the opportunity to review and provide comments on the upcoming EIS.

Sincerely,

Blake L. Henning
Chief Conservation Officer