

U.S.F.S. Officials,

I am a native Idahoan who is strongly committed to the preservation and conservation of public lands, and at the same time I am a career mineral exploration geologist who is aware of society's need for mining. People often ask me how I can defend both of these positions, and my answer is simply, 'we need both'. As cliché as it sounds, the statement "if it's not grown, it has to be mined" isn't readily apparent to many conservation minded people. The raw materials we depend on have to come out of the ground via mining processes. While there will always be an environmental impact, I believe that the Stibnite project EIS proposes a responsible way of extracting these materials that society needs.

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