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March 6, 2020

*by e-mail and USPS, please confirm receipt*

Ms. Erin Vonderheit, FOIA Coordinator  
Payette National Forest  
500 N. Mission St. Bldg. 2  
McCall, ID 83638  
[erin.vonderheit@usda.gov](mailto:erin.vonderheit@usda.gov)

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Ms. Vonderheit:

On behalf of Save the South Fork Salmon (SSFS), I hereby request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552, the following records:

**Any and all records, electronic and print, of, concerning, or related to amendments to the Payette Forest Plan that will or may be necessitated by permitting, construction, or operation of the proposed Stibnite Gold Project.**

FOIA mandates that an agency release any portions of a document that are not exempt, provided the nonexempt portions are "reasonably segregable." This segregability requirement applies to all documents and all FOIA exemptions. Furthermore, to permit SSFS to reach an informed decision whether or not to file an administrative appeal of any material that is claimed exempt from release under FOIA, please describe any withheld portions and explain the basis for your claims.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii) and 7 C.F.R. §1.12(p)(3)(i-iv), SSFS requests a fee waiver for the search and production costs associated with this request. SSFS is a non-profit public advocacy group with no commercial interest in the requested information. Disclosure of the

information will contribute significantly to public understanding of the potential impacts that pertain to the proposed Stibnite Mine.

SSFS is concerned about the impacts to public resources related to the development of the proposed mine. The requested documents are essential to the public's understanding and assessment of the impacts from, and agency review of, the proposed Stibnite mine. SSFS has substantial ability to disseminate such information, both through publications, alerts and through postings on its Internet website, <https://savethesouthforksalmon.com>. The information received would be available to the public for free. Accordingly, we request a full fee waiver for this request.

We would be happy to work with you and your staff to facilitate production of the documents sought in this letter. Please do not hesitate to call should you need clarification about whether certain documents fit within the parameters of this request. As required by the Freedom of Information Act, a response to this request and production of the records must be made within 20 working days of your receipt of this letter (5 U.S.C. § 552 (a)(6)(A)(i)). Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

for Save the South Fork Salmon