

I am writing in support of the Stibnite Gold Project and the benefits it will bring to Idaho. This project has the potential to put hundreds of Idahoans to work, bring a \$1 billion investment into our state and restore an area of Idaho's backcountry desperately in need of repair. Today, fish cannot swim past the Yellow Pine pit and heavy metals are leaching into the ground and surface water. The Stibnite Gold Project can leave the conditions better than they are today.

The permitting process has made the Stibnite Gold Project better. Perpetua Resources has listened to input from the public and regulators and found ways to reduce its project footprint, improve fish habitat and eliminate the need for long-term water treatment. Reviewing the Burntlog Road option in the SDEIS, it is clear to me the company plans to mine the area responsibly and minimize its environmental impacts. I hope the USFS will move this improved plan forward.

It is with this knowledge that I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to select the 2021 Modified Mine Plan Perpetua Resources presented and permit the project.

Matthew Rickert