

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of the NEPA Comment Period. I have been closely following Perpetua Resources' plans since they first came into our state, in large part because some of the proposed project will take place on public land. The more I have learned about the project, the more excited I am about the possibilities. The Stibnite Gold Project could help us restore an abandoned mine site.

After reviewing the SDEIS, the 2021 Modified Mine Plan appears to be the alternative that best minimizes adverse environmental impacts as required in the Forest Service's regulations. The company has very comprehensive mitigation measures to protect the natural habitat, wildlife and fish. As a private citizen, I appreciate that in addition to the lengthy NEPA review provided by the U.S. Forest Service the Stibnite Gold Project will also be required to comply with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations, including those governing financial assurance. This knowledge makes me feel comfortable supporting the 2021 Modified Mine Plan and encouraging you to move it forward. Perpetua Resources has proven they are listening to community feedback. The company has gone back to reduce the footprint, improve water quality, so there is no need for long-term treatment, and ensure water temperatures stay at or below current conditions.

I encourage the USFS to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward and permit Perpetua Resources' project as outlined in the 2021 Modified Mine Plan. At this point, the Stibnite Gold Project has been studied by regulators for the last six year. That is enough. Now, it is time to let Perpetua get to work.

Paul Hardwick