

Perpetua Resources' Stibnite Gold Project presents Idaho, particularly rural Idaho, with a huge economic and environmental opportunity. The company has a plan to improve water quality, wetlands and the river and leave the site better than it is today. I am writing to encourage you to permit the project as quickly as possible.

Restoring the Stibnite Gold Project site will be an incredible investment. Work clearly needs to be done in the area but it should not be funded through taxpayer dollars. Fortunately, Perpetua Resources wants to make the investment. The company is proposing a mining project and full-scale restoration project. They have plans to reconnect fish with their natural spawning grounds. Perpetua will also improve water quality and temperature. After the comments from the DEIS were analyzed, the company recognized it could do more in those areas. They added wider and taller riparian vegetation plantings around stream channels, as well as including a widened and deepened portion of the East Fork of the South Fork Salmon River Channel in the Yellow Pine pit backfill. The company will also solve sedimentation issues by repairing Blowout Creek.

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.

Michael Combs