

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.

I support the Stibnite Gold Project. It presents the best opportunity to give this area of Idaho's backcountry the environmental attention it needs, while also securing a domestic source of the critical mineral antimony. Water quality at Stibnite has been negatively impacted by legacy mining activity for years. There are elevated levels of arsenic and antimony. Fortunately, the SDEIS concluded surface water concentrations of these elements downstream of the site would be reduced during mining and post-closure due to water treatment. Water quality at Stibnite will not improve unless Perpetua Resources is allowed to move forward with its plan.

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.

Gregory Johnson