

I am writing to express my views on Perpetua Resources' Stibnite Gold Project. The opportunity presented by the project is compelling for many reasons and I am committed to seeing come to fruition. This is the best opportunity to clean up legacy tailings and waste, reconnect fish to miles of spawning grounds that they have been blocked from for 80 years and restore a river. Without Perpetua Resources, the site will likely never get the environmental attention it deserves.

It is clear to me that Perpetua's refined plan, identified as the preferred alternative in the SDEIS, is the safest option for Idahoans. In this plan, Perpetua will utilize the Burntlog Route and not travel along Johnson Creek. This will help reduce the impacts of mine traffic on roads used by recreationalists. Burntlog is also a much safer option. In fact, the SDEIS says there are more avalanches and rockfalls along the Johnson Creek Route and these incidents are more significant in size. It would be unwise to route mine traffic on a road with so many known risks and would likely increase the possibility of accidents. Therefore, I support the preferred alternative using Burntlog Road.

The SDEIS reduces the size of the project footprint, improves water quality, eliminates the need for long-term water treatment and makes sure water temperature on site does not exceed baseline conditions – all while providing our nation with access to a mineral we desperately need. The permitting process has been thorough and complete. Now, I hope the U.S. Forest Service will realize the benefits this project and permit the Stibnite Gold Project using the 2021 Modified Mine Plan.

Barend Kruger