

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 agree with regulators and feel strongly that the preferred alternative is the best option for the Stibnite Gold Project moving forward. This option utilizes Burntlog Road. According to the SDEIS, this route would avoid environmental and safety risks associated with the avalanche and landside prone Johnson Creek Road. We need the minerals from Stibnite and Burntlog will allow mining to move forward while minimizing the impacts of mining on the community. Burntlog will reduce mine traffic interactions with the public and decrease the potential for spills near fish-bearing streams.

I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward. The permitting process is designed to advance the best plans possible. I believe the work of regulators over the past six years is proof this is what is happening with the Stibnite Gold Project. The thorough review process has been beneficial but there should be no more delays. The project should move forward in a timely manner.

Linda Willis