

I am writing to express my full support of Perpetua Resources and the Stibnite Gold Project. Perpetua has shown they are committed to Idaho and want to take care of the environment. The company designed its project to clean up legacy waste, reconnect salmon to their native spawning grounds and fix one of the watershed's largest source of sedimentation. The Stibnite Gold Project would leave water quality, wetlands and the river better than they are today. I hope you move forward and permit this project as quickly as possible.

Our lives depend on mining. We need minerals for our cell phones, computers, cars and pretty much everything in between. While mining is crucial, we cannot sacrifice our environment in the process. Mining must be done responsibly. When the USFS identified Perpetua's improved plan as it preferred alternative, it signaled they believe the company can limit community and environmental impacts and mine. Reviewing the SDEIS, I was pleased to see the preferred alternative would improve water quality conditions in Meadow Creek and the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River by removing the repurposing legacy tailings. The conditions on site are not going to fix themselves. Perpetua Resources is our best bet to improve water quality.

The Stibnite Gold Project has been under federal review for the last six years. That has given regulators and the public plenty of time to review the company's plan. I know this project will transform an area in need of environmental repair and secure a domestic supply of antimony. It is for all of these reasons that I encourage you to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward.

Ronald Bell