

I am writing in support of the Stibnite Gold Project. The project will help restore the site, secure the minerals we need for our national security and strengthen America's supply chains. Thank you for the opportunity to provide my feedback as part of the National Environmental Policy Act.

In reviewing the SDEIS, it is clear to me Perpetua has been thoughtful on how to minimize its impacts during mining. For example, the company is going to construct a passageway to reconnect fish to upstream habitat before mining even begins. Fish have not been able to swim past the Yellow Pine pit for more than 80 years. The analysis in the document says this will help limit the impacts of habitat reduction for fish. We need the minerals from the Stibnite Gold Project and I believe the company has demonstrated they can mine safely and protect the environment.

As the U.S. Forest Service and other state and federal agencies review the 2021 Modified Mine Plan and determine the course of action, I encourage you to consider the positive benefits Perpetua Resources will have on Idaho, especially now that the company has reduced its environmental footprint and made further improvements to water quality. This truly is a win-win opportunity for Idahoans and the environment. After years of careful scrutiny by regulators and the community, it is time for us to make these benefits a reality.

Sharon Vandesteeg