

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of the NEPA Comment Period. I have been closely following Perpetua Resources' plans since they first came into our state, in large part because some of the proposed project will take place on public land. I also followed the Stibnite project when Midas Gold was in early stages of looking to bring this mine back to life. The more I have learned about the project, the more excited I am about the possibilities. The Stibnite Gold Project could help us restore an abandoned mine site.

Given the history of the region, I was a bit skeptical when I first heard about this project, but it is clear that Perpetua is going out of their way to put environmental safety and restoration front and center. I also feel that Perpetua has done an excellent job in bringing in the specialists for fisheries and water resources to ensure that the Salmon River drainage isn't impacted. That is why the USFS identified the company's 2021 Modified Mine Plan as its preferred alternative. The refined plan eliminates the need for long-term water treatment, incorporates measures to manage stream temperatures and reduces impacts associated with access and transportation on Johnson Creek. The fact that regulators named the company's plan as its preferred alternative gives me great confidence in the company's plan. Plus, regulators have concluded the Modified Mine Plan will let Perpetua mine while giving consideration to environmental, economic and technical factors.

I urge you to approve Perpetua Resources' project. The Stibnite Gold Project will provide a huge benefit to our community and the local environment and the company has taken the time to reduce its footprint and improve water quality at site. The permitting process is designed to move the best plans forward and I feel that is what we will do with the 2021 Modified Mine Plan.

Clayton Protho