

It is with great pleasure that I write to the U.S. Forest Service to encourage you to permit the proposed activities outlined by Perpetua Resources during this public input process. This project could help restore Stibnite, secure an American source of antimony and strengthen our nation's supply chains.

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 its 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.

This Stibnite Gold Project is a huge opportunity for Idaho. Please permit the 2021 Modified Mine Plan and move the project forward so America can reap the positive impacts.

Donald Smith