

This letter is to express my support of Perpetua's Stibnite Gold Project. America needs this project to be permitted. It would produce our country's only source of antimony, a mineral we need for a secure and sustainable future. I hope after reading my thoughts you will understand why my support for this project is so strong.

Salmon have been cut off from miles of high-mountain spawning grounds and rearing habitats since roughly 1938, when the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River was diverted around the Yellow Pine Pit. We need to do better. Fortunately, Perpetua Resources plans to design and install a fish passageway to help connect fish to their native spawning grounds before mining even begins. While skeptics have questioned whether or not the passageway would work, the SDEIS concludes it will provide passage for all four special status fish species at Stibnite. And, once mining at the Yellow Pine Pit is complete, Perpetua would begin full restoration of the river, creating a long-term solution for salmon to spawn upstream. This is just one of the benefits of the preferred alternative.

Perpetua Resources wants to invest \$1 billion in our state, bring more than 1,000 jobs to rural Idaho and still provide access to Idaho's public lands. This is the type of project our state needs. After reviewing the project for six years, I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to move the project forward with the improvements laid out in the SDEIS.

Diane Wilkins