

I am writing to express my full support of Perpetua Resources and the Stibnite Gold Project. The project would finally address legacy mining issues that have been plaguing the site for decades and help secure the minerals we need for America's future. The company has shown its commitment to Valley County and the state of Idaho and I encourage you to adopt the proposed activities outlined in the company's 2021 Modified Mine Plan during the permitting process.

The SDEIS concludes there will be net benefits associated with the Stibnite Gold Project. Some of those benefits will occur before mining even starts. For example, Perpetua Resources will construct a fishway that allows fish to travel to upstream habitat that they have been unable to reach for decades. Because of this the SDEIS said the greatest benefit to Chinook salmon and steelhead passage will occur during construction, when the fishway is built. Perpetua eventually plans to restore the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River, so access to upstream waters is permanently restored for fish. I want to see the conditions at Stibnite improve. I know Perpetua Resources can make it happen.

I appreciate your time and thoughtfulness in the review process. The U.S. Forest Service has not cut any corners over the past 6 years analyzing the project and I've appreciated the opportunities to provide feedback. For the reasons I stated in my letter above, please permit the Stibnite Gold Project.

Fred Haneke