

Public participation is a huge part of the permitting process and I appreciate the opportunity to share my thoughts on the SDEIS. This project is important to me because it can provide America with a domestically mined source of antimony and restore an abandoned mine site in need of repair.

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.

It is with this knowledge that I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to select the 2021 Modified Mine Plan Perpetua Resources presented and permit the project.

Judy Strohl