

Perpetua Resources' Stibnite Gold Project presents Idaho, particularly rural Idaho, with a huge economic and environmental opportunity. The company has a plan to improve water quality, wetlands and the river and leave the site better than it is today. I am writing to encourage you to permit the project as quickly as possible.

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.

This project is a huge opportunity for Idaho. After 6 years of intense review, I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to permit the 2021 Modified Mine Plan so this brownfield site can finally be restored.

Victor Vaughan