

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.

One of the things that has always impressed me about Perpetua Resources is the company's commitment to using mining to leave Stibnite in better condition than they found it. It is no secret the site is not in great condition today. Water quality has been harmed by legacy mine waste and fish cannot swim past the Yellow Pine pit. Once Perpetua has mined the Yellow Pine pit, the company plans to backfill the pit and restore the natural flow of the river. This will permanently reconnect fish to high quality habitat further upstream. But instead of waiting until mining is complete, Perpetua is proposing to provide temporary access for fish by building a passageway around the pit. The SDEIS concluded this decision will limit the overall impact of habitat reduction for fish in the area of the active mine and also reduce the impacts of dewatering the diversion and stream channel elimination. Perpetua's decision to build a fish passageway proves to me that they are willing to go above and beyond to protect wildlife and the environment.

Reviewing Perpetua Resources' improved plans it is clear to me the company really believes in taking care of the environment and keeping the community safe. That is why they reduced water temperatures, improved water quality and shrunk the project footprint by 13 percent. I urge you to trust in your own review process and permit the Stibnite Gold Project.

Demian Guthmiller