

I am writing to express my full support of Perpetua Resources and the Stibnite Gold Project. Perpetua has shown they are committed to Idaho and want to take care of the environment. The company designed its project to clean up legacy waste, reconnect salmon to their native spawning grounds and fix one of the watershed's largest source of sedimentation. The Stibnite Gold Project would leave water quality, wetlands and the river better than they are today. I hope you move forward and permit this project as quickly as possible.

Looking at landside and avalanche data, it becomes obvious why the USFS named the Burntlog Route as its preferred alternative. According to the SDEIS, the Johnson Creek Route has 45 landside and 94 avalanche paths. While these natural hazards aren't eliminated on Burntlog, they are reduced. Mine traffic will only have to pass 26 landside and 38 avalanche paths while traveling on the Burntlog Route. Simply put, the Burntlog Route is safer. In fact, the SDEIS concludes utilizing Johnson Creek would increase the potential for accidents and spills associated with the project because of naturally occurring geohazards.

I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward. The permitting process is designed to advance the best plans possible. I believe the work of regulators over the past six years is proof this is what is happening with the Stibnite Gold Project. The thorough review process has been beneficial but there should be no more delays. The project should move forward in a timely manner.

Phil Meuse