



Idaho State Senate State of Idaho

December 21, 2022

U.S. Forest Service, Payette National Forest
Attn: Linda Jackson, Payette Forest Supervisor
500 North Mission Street
McCall, ID 83638

Ms. Jackson,

There is a competition for Idaho's land and natural resources. I understand the importance of protecting our land, as well as growing Idaho's economy. After touring the Stibnite Gold site and speaking with members of Perpetua Resources, I am strongly advocating for the Forest Service to approve the Supplemental Draft EIS for this project.

While this area has seen mining activity for the past century, Perpetua's plans for new mining provide a template for the industry moving forward. Perpetua has been invested in this project for more than a decade, conducting thorough studies and investigations of the environmental impacts throughout the process. Between an extensive reclamation plan and commitment to hiring local workers, the company has shown Stibnite Gold will be a community project.

Furthermore, the SDEIS for Stibnite Gold includes a 13% reduction in the project footprint over the original design, a 7 degrees F reduction in water temperature, elimination of waste rock storage areas, and development of additional habitat features to replace bull trout habitat. Utilizing best practices in design taken from similar systems around the world, this tunnel will allow fish populations to jumpstart their recovery concurrently with the mining operations, rather than waiting until after the fact.

Therefore, I ask the Forest Service to swiftly approve the SDEIS for Perpetua Resources' Stibnite Gold Project.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Van Burtenshaw". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Van T. Burtenshaw
Idaho State Senate
Legislative District 35