

Dear forest supervisor,

I've been working up at Stibnite on and off as a driller for T and J Enterprises who is currently contracted to install a groundwater well on the Stibnite project site. I wish to comment on the draft EIS document for the Stibnite gold project, specifically on the potential for the project to improve recreational access to the area. There is a vast swath of federal land all around this project. Opening of the Burnt Log access road, as recommended by the USFS to serve as the main access road into the Stibnite mine will provide access to a lot of the forest which is currently difficult to reach. Being able to traverse the new road and loop back through the mine area to the town of Yellow Pine would make for a fantastic ATV route to explore all that this area has to offer. I read the article in the Idaho Press in which Mary Farout says she's concerned that the public will be restricted from the work area. As someone who's worked at a lot of mining operations, I can confidently say that recreationalists like Mary shouldn't be anywhere near the active mining operation for their personal safety. Restriction of the public from the mine area is a common sense safety measure which will protect the public from haul traffic and mining operations. The proposed public access road through the project is a great solution as it will allow unfettered public access while maintaining public safety. Limiting access to the working mine site while improving access to other, better areas for recreation by opening up the Burnt Log road is a net-improvement in public access to the Idaho backcountry. Please approve the Stibnite gold project immediately so that work can begin!

Thanks,

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