

Payette forest Supervisor,

I am writing in support of the Stibnite gold project and selection of the MMP alternative in the supplemental draft EIS document, published October 28, 2022. The document is comprehensive and adequately identifies the MMP alternative as minimizing environmental impacts through a safer access road, temperature mitigation controls and water treatment & management plans.

This will be a major mine creating hundreds of jobs, but the environmental cleanup of the site is what really demands prompt approval of this project. You have to spend a lot of time up at Stibnite to truly begin to understand the extent of the environmental damage left from historic mining activities. I've been working on the site on and off over the last 10 years as an employee of T&J Enterprises, Perpetua's lead drilling contractor. I've driven all over the site & worked within all the three one deposit areas. The entire site is basically made ground with layer upon layer of mining waste, some old and some new. There are springs & seeps & buried pipes all over the place, many with bright orange mineral precipitates likely full of heavy metals. The only way that Stibnite is going to ever get cleaned up is with a major mining project, exactly what Perpetua has proposed with the Stibnite Gold Project. This is a really good project which promises to actually clean up the site by physically moving mine waste to a central location & covering it with engineered cover system to cut off interaction with rain & snowmelt. This is a much better approach than simply bulldozing over the problem. The EIS predicts the mine plan will improve surface water & fish habitat conditions, as well as restoring streams & wetlands & removing mine wastes. This is the type of action that the site needs; please approve the project under the MMP alternative without further delay.

Sincerely,

12/21/22

7426 East Stetson Drive

85251

~~3/6/22~~

Joe Keels