

Approval of the supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) would enable Perpetua Resources to move forward with commissioning the Stibnite Gold project. The mine would produce gold as well as antimony, a much-needed strategic metal that must currently be imported. The production of antimony by this operation would provide the United States with a domestic source of this metal, providing our armed forces with a secure and reliable supply for our national defense needs. It is vital during these times of unstable international supply chains to have this domestic resource available.

The team at Perpetua Resources has persevered to resolve existing environmental challenges as well that have prevented anadromous fish from spawning in their ancestral waters. The stream channel bypass of historical contaminant sites will allow the re-establishment of fish runs. This would not be possible without approval of the revised Stibnite mine operating plans.

I urge the U.S. Forest Service to approve the SEIS so that the nation can benefit from its contributions to our strategic mineral requirements and resolution of historical environmental impacts to fish spawning areas.

Walter Martin