

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the SDEIS for the Stibnite Gold Project. This project is important for Idaho's future and our nation's future. Perpetua Resources has a plan to leave the site better than they found it and produce antimony, a mineral we need for our national defense and clean energy future.

Today, steelhead and Chinook salmon cannot access spawning grounds because they are blocked by an abandoned mining pit. Perpetua will address this issue before mining even begins – reconnecting fish for the first time in more than 80 years. The company will build a fish passageway in the short term. Based on professional judgement and similar or longer tunnels, the SDEIS concludes Perpetua's tunnel would provide passage for all four special status fish species at site. It is important to note Perpetua will eventually restore full access to 25 miles of perennial stream and 6 miles of fish spawning habitat above the Yellow Pine pit. If we do not allow Perpetua to move forward with their plans, it is highly unlikely anyone else will provide the funds needed to reconnect fish to this currently lost habitat.

Perpetua Resources wants to restore the rivers, wildlife and habitat near the Stibnite Gold Project site. We should let them, especially considering the permitting process has worked and helped the company identify how to improve water quality and temperature in the SDEIS. Please permit the Stibnite Gold Project and continue to move this important project forward.

Patrick Weller