

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/28/2020 6:00:00 AM

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Comments: After reviewing the Stibnite Gold Project DEIS, there are several areas that as a concerned citizen I believe will impact Valley County and its residents that need to be addressed further prior to moving forward with the process. The current DEIS is lacking specific information regarding mitigation of the following areas:

Social and Economic factors- The DEIS fails to address any mitigation to the impacts on local communities based near the project area although they are identified within the document. Specific areas of concern are impacts to area businesses in competing for a limited workforce, strain on school systems with the addition of new families, increased call volume for EMS agencies and Law Enforcement, exacerbation of existing housing shortfalls both in terms of workforce/affordable housing and mid-level real estate/single family homes. In addition, other infrastructures within the area will feel the burden of an influx of mine employees and supporting workers. These include sewer and water within existing municipalities and districts, telecommunications throughout the valley and the impact on county roads. Valley County will receive very little compensation in the form of property taxes from this project and should not have to rely on these revenues alone to offset major impacts. A more detailed analysis is needed to determine what these effects will be and how they can be mitigated.

Recreation and access- None of the alternatives fully address the impacts to recreation. Winter recreation will be significantly impacted even with the development of new over the snow routes. Warm Lake Summit is a very popular snowmobile and back country ski location. No definitive plan on controlling or allowing access to this area or beyond has been developed to address the winter use of previously closed roads by the public. Avalanche hazard and steep roads with increased mine traffic including heavy truck traffic will be significant hazards to public safety and mine employees on the mine access route. Avalanche mitigation plans have been given only a cursory examination and need to be more carefully considered. Controlling or limiting access to the public has not been addressed. This poses a safety hazard to the public and mining traffic alike. Most of the existing roads were not built with 2-way winter traffic in mind. Summer recreation will also be impacted. Aside from the impacts to fish and wildlife that are discussed in the document, and the contribution that hunting and fishing provide to the economy and enjoyment of residents and non-residents, there are additional access issues that will impact the public's ability to recreate on public lands near the site. Specifically, during the construction phase, increased traffic, large truck traffic and construction on the existing roads will pose a problem to the many drivers accessing Valley County's backcountry areas. Communities like Warm Lake and Yellowpine rely entirely on summertime tourism to maintain economic health. Construction delays or road closures will have negative impacts on these communities. These issues have not been thoroughly addressed within the document.

Water quality- There is no mention of the effects from explosive residue from avalanche mitigation, these chemicals will be introduced into sensitive high elevation areas along many watersheds and will have effects on surface and ground water. The scale at which avalanche mitigation will be needed to maintain safe access will introduce significant amounts of explosive residues into tributaries with critical fish habitat and has not been discussed in any of the Alternatives. The use of Magnesium Chloride on both existing and proposed winter access routes has also been mentioned but with no determination of the effects. As we all have seen along our highways, the use of Magnesium Chloride has obvious effects on roadside vegetation. While water quality is well discussed throughout the document, no mention of the effects to local streams and watersheds from this source is discussed either. This is a major concern and has not been examined within the draft document.

As a member of the community that has been following this project and the NEPA process since it began, I fully recognize and appreciate the effort that has gone into this DEIS thus far from all the agencies involved. Please

take the time to finalize the work done and fill in the blanks throughout the document, we only have one opportunity to do this right.