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Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Attention: Payette National Forest Supervisor

McCall, Idaho 83638

Perpetua/Midas Gold Idaho's Stibnite Gold Project presents Idaho, particularly rural Idaho, with a huge economic and environmental opportunity. I am writing to encourage you to permit the project as quickly as possible.

During the summer of 1993 while a non-traditional BS student at Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston between semesters, I worked at stibnite as an assistant cook and the on-site emergency medical person after receiving training to resuscitate victims of cyanide poisoning and having prior minor emergency training for several years in the back country. During that time, I had the opportunity to witness the filthy, gray-green stream that ran through the camp maintained for the workers and often their families. The smell was so horrid that it was difficult for many of us to breathe. The showers operated for the workers were filthy and the water used for bathing was of the same condition. Water in the kitchen where the food was prepared also stank and was not clean. It should also be noted that following the mining season at least one member of a miner's family who lived in the campground died from an unknown cause.

Fast-forward to the fall of 2019: I was given the opportunity to again visit the Stibnite area. What a difference! The creek was crystal-clear, beautiful, and had no odor. The grounds were clean and well-maintained with newer buildings, and I so wished this was the time I could have been there working. If only people from McCall, the environmental groups and the Forest Service could have witnessed and experienced what I did! My personal observations and experiences have convinced me how important it is to send this letter to urge you to accept Perpetua/Midas Gold's plan and continue moving this project forward to benefit our local people, our country, and ultimately the fish and wildlife in the area.

Thank You,

Susan Ann Olson

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