Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/6/2023 7:30:22 PM First name: Norman Last name: Conrad Organization: Title:

Comments: As the son of a USFS ranger, I am opposed to the Stibnite Gold project. It's approval will destroy or severely harm multiple species living in the river systems adjacent to this project. It's approval will violate a wilderness area and make a "wilderness" designation meaningless. It must not be approved.

The preferred option in this EIS is fatally flawed, as so many of these are, because it vastly underestimates the impact on the River of No Return Wilderness by road construction, road use and the resulting dust and combustion pollution and noise pollution impacts on wildlife, not to mention the likely deaths due to collisions as recently took place in Montana when a speeding semi hit and killed at least a dozen buffalo in the Yellowstone area.

A 100 ft buffer zone is completely inadequate as the buffalo strike in Montana demonstrates. It is likely that the road will not merely skirt the Wilderness Area but will actually enter it.

Gold mining technology, especially when trying to extract what remains after earlier mining efforts, makes use of and creates a toxic stew of effluent that becomes a long lasting threat to all beings, whether from seepage into the ground and ground water or that happen upon holding ponds. The history of gold mining clearly demonstrates that the proximity to river systems and a Wilderness Area means that environmental damage WILL occur.

The recent history of such projects demonstrates that assurances and claims by project principals are largely meaningless and that an EIS that generally accepts those assurances is fatally flawed.

This project must not move forward. The USFS must not approve the permit for Perpetua Resource's Stibnite Gold Project and require Perpetua to finish cleaning up the mine site.