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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I am opposed to allowing mining activities to resume at the Stibnite mine. Mining in this location puts at risk one of the most important ecosystems, with negative impacts to habitat for keystone species highly likely to occur given the destructive nature of mining operations. The nature of open pit mining means there will unequivocally be environmental damages, and while mining companies regularly make promises to abate and address any damages, they regularly find ways to back out of such work leaving the cost of rehabilitation on the public, a burden for the USFS and the American taxpayer. The BLM has identified over 46,000 abandoned mines on public land alone, precedent that does not inspire confidence that Perpetua will somehow be an exception to the rule. Federal regulations are currently not strong enough to enforce or obligate these companies to pursue cleaner mining practices and follow through on cleanup commitments.

There are many places in the world where mining can produce needed ore with significantly less environmental impact. To approve mining activities adjacent to and, likely, encroaching into the Frank Church Wilderness is antithetical to the wilderness designation, and a contradiction by the USFS. I urge you to decline the proposal for mining activities at the Stibnite Mine.