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Comments: Thank You, USDA Forest Service for providing the thorough SDEIS for review and the opportunity to comment. I strongly support the No Action alternative. The SDEIS report details many high probabilities of negative impacts on the ecosystem, wildlife, and humanity near and afar. It would be very unwise to support any other alternative.

As an Idahoan, I am very proud to be a citizen of the state with the largest contiguous wilderness in the continental US. It provides us so much of what makes our state special and unique. We have a duty to protect this land and honor the Nez Perce and Shoshone tribes who protected and respected this land before the expansion of the USA. This project will temporarily and permanently damage the land, air, and water all for short-term gold profits. The majority of the profits will not be returned to the Forest Service nor the public, in particular the tribes and other Idahoans. Perpetua Resources or whoever owns the mine in the future will be very unlikely to live up to their promises and commitment to remediate and restore the land, leaving behind a legacy of pollution and destruction. The industry's track record speaks for itself. The pollution and failures will begin as soon as construction starts for new roads and facilities. The main objective of the operators will be to get to the gold as fast as they can, with little regard to protecting the environment or respecting the land and its inhabitants.

We only have less than 2.7% of the wilderness left in the continental US, the Stibnite Gold Project will be scar and invasive wound that will fester and lead to the destruction of this precious wilderness and contribute to the extinction of many species. This is chance for us, the United States, to not betray the tribes and planet earth once again.

As a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control, and a member of the construction site erosion control profession and a regulatory inspector, I am very concerned about the stormwater pollution prevention management of new roadway and facility construction. Post-construction stormwater management is also of great concern, as well the grading and vegetation removal for mine pits, fuel and chemical storage, and hazardous mine waste storage. As this point in the project, the proposed stormwater management plans have relatively little detail, and the risks seem to be underestimated. The mine location's climate brings severe weather, significant precipitation runoff, fugitive dust concerns during the dry season, and wildfire risks all with very limited to no natural buffer between operations and Waters of the United States. Traditional stormwater controls, erosion controls, and sediment controls will not work in this location. During winter and spring thaw, the site will be too muddy to manage or operate. Polluted runoff will run unchecked into all adjacent streams and rivers during all significant runoff events.

If approved, who will review the construction site stormwater pollution prevention plans? Who will review the grading and drainage plans? Who will inspect the construction, implementation, and operation and maintenance the project proposed stormwater controls? The requirements and effluent limitations of the Idaho Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (IPDES) Construction General Permit (CGP) for Stormwater Discharges will be impossible to achieve, and most likely controls will be incorrectly installed or maintained. Due to the remote location of the project, there will most likely be many months of operations and construction activities without agency inspections or oversight. During construction and mine operation, the public will be forbidden to access their land and be able witness the damage being done.

There are so many other reasons to not approve this project, but stormwater mis-management will have significant negative impacts on receiving waterbodies and Wild and Scenic Rivers part of the Salmon River drainage.

In 2021, I attended an online International Erosion Control Association event during which a firm involved with exploration and surveying at Stibnite shared a presentation on their erosion and sediment controls at the site. I was shocked at the pictures of ineffective and damaged erosion and sediment controls, dirty water, mudslides that they shared with the online audience. The presentation was clearly not reviewed by Perpetua's public relations department. When questioned by the online participants, the presenters seemed to not be able to address many of the challenges and issues observed in the presentation. The disturbance is too great, the terrain too challenging, the weather uncooperative, and the likelihood of human error or negligence very high. Gold is not worth causing all this damage.

Please choose the No Action alternative, this project clearly does not sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.