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Comments: Comment on Stibnite Gold FEIS
Forest Supervisor Matt Davis, Payette NF
Lodging a Objection to the Stibnite Gold Final EIS

This comment is based on my previous 2 comments to DEIS and the SDEIS letters #8033 on 10/28/2020 and #17741 on 1/9/2023.

In my letters I brought up many points I found most concerning including issues with the Burnt Log route and the wildlife disturbances and fragmentation of their habitat and travel corridors, the construction of a road in a Idaho inventoried Roadless area, the closeness and impact of that route on the nearby FCRONRW, the avalanche control work and its effects in a currently quiet and pristine part of the backcountry, and the fact that after mine closure this would be decommissioned instead of leaving an improved Johnson creek Route for the public to use indefinitely. I also brought up facts on degrading undisturbed public land for tailings storage, increasing stream temps, water and air pollution including CO2 emissions, failure of the tailings dam due to a seismic event, how would downstream water right holders and users of that water be notified if there was a spill contaminating the east fork, future ongoing water treatment, and social conditions in the community like schools, businesses, housing, traffic, increased power rates for us locals due to a huge increase in demand, and spills on the other rivers leading to and through or communities.

In response to my letters to FEIS FS comment response was " No further response required. General in nature or position statement. It is acknowledged and understood that concerns regarding potential long-term environmental impacts, ecological integrity, and the well being of potentially affected communities are valid and important to consider. During the decision making process, the Forest Service will seek to identify the best possible balance between environmental protection, community needs, and sustainable forest management."

This answer is wholly inadequate because the Forest Service FEIS did not address the concerns in my comments, and in addition I feel the choice in the in making the Burnt Log Route the preferred choice is caving into the wants of the Developer [Perpetua] and not recognizing the most important aspects of a complex problem which are environmental degradation of land, plants, and wildlife.

In my opinion the remedy for these violations of the process is for the Forest Service to withdraw the FEIS and DROD and not issue any decision or take any action based on the inadequate FEIS. The Forest Service must not take any action until a revised FEIS and DROD demonstrate full compliance with each and every law, regulation, policy, Treaty, and requirement that concerns this project proposal. The Regional Forester must withdraw the FEIS and DROD with instructions to the Payette National Forest to correct all errors noted before approving or taking any actions.

I am not trying to stop the mining of resources as I know they are important to our country, but the effects on our community and the environment are far too great to not give the time to adequately solve these issues so this project does the least harm to this place we call home. Thank you for the ability to comment on this proposal.