

I have been closely following Perpetua Resources' plans for several years. The Stibnite Gold Project presents an opportunity to restore an abandoned mine site and provide our nation with the critical minerals we need. I am grateful for the opportunity to comment on their SDEIS.

Perpetua Resources has made it clear reclamation efforts will start alongside operations. For example, before mining ever begins, fish will be reconnected to their native spawning groups upstream through a fish passageway. Perpetua Resources also identified more ways to help fish populations. Originally, the company proposed not replacing the pit lake at the Yellow Pine Pit, however, a pit lake is included in the 2021 Modified Mine Plan to make sure currently used habitat is replaced and available for the fish that use it today. The company is also adding more plantings along waterways to reduce water temperatures for fish. Perpetua also has proposed using Burnt Log Road in order to keep vehicles away from precious waterways. I am impressed by the improvements the company made to its plan based on public feedback.

Perpetua Resources wants to restore the rivers, wildlife and habitat near the Stibnite Gold Project site. We should let them, especially considering the permitting process has worked and helped the company identify how to improve water quality and temperature in the SDEIS. Please permit the Stibnite Gold Project and continue to move this important project forward.

Richard Gessford