

I am writing in support of the Stibnite Gold Project and the benefits it will bring to Idaho. This project has the potential to put hundreds of Idahoans to work, bring a \$1 billion investment into our state and restore an area of Idaho's backcountry desperately in need of repair. Today, fish cannot swim past the Yellow Pine pit and heavy metals are leaching into the ground and surface water. The Stibnite Gold Project can leave the conditions better than they are today.

The permitting process has made the Stibnite Gold Project better. Perpetua Resources has listened to input from the public and regulators and found ways to reduce its project footprint, improve fish habitat and eliminate the need for long-term water treatment. Reviewing the Burntlog Road option in the SDEIS, it is clear to me the company plans to mine the area responsibly and minimize its environmental impacts. I hope the USFS will move this improved plan forward.

The SDEIS reduces the size of the project footprint, improves water quality, eliminates the need for long-term water treatment and makes sure water temperature on site does not exceed baseline conditions – all while providing our nation with access to a mineral we desperately need. The permitting process has been thorough and complete. Now, I hope the U.S. Forest Service will realize the benefits this project and permit the Stibnite Gold Project using the 2021 Modified Mine Plan.

Larry Kelbaugh