

Date submitted (Mountain Standard Time): 9/10/2020 11:31:26 AM

First name: Doug

Last name: Ward

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Dear Payette National Forest Supervisor,

Please respectfully consider my support for the redevelopment of the Stibnite Project located in Valley County, Idaho.

I strongly believe the U.S. Forest Service, and any supporting agencies, should work to advance projects like Stibnite which offer the opportunity to mitigate past environmental damage by utilizing modern techniques and capital. By promoting these "re-mining" activities, benefit is not only gained through the economic output (direct, indirect, and tax) resulting from the investment, but we also gain through repair of drainages damaged by historic mining. In the specific case of Stibnite, the ability to improve the current and future water quality of the upper Salmon River caused by decades of mining in the Yellow Pine district, seems to a primary benefit of this project.

So in summary, I urge you to approve this project and move to a positive Record of Decision based not only on the economic benefits to the region, but also on the opportunity to substantially mitigate an historically damaged watershed.

Sincerely,
Doug Ward
Hayden, ID