



INSPECTION REPORT: KENSINGTON GOLD MINE

Tongass National Forest Minerals Group
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Date of Inspection: Thursday March 21, 2019
Date of Report: Monday April 15, 2019
USDA Forest Service Inspector: Richard Dudek

Ranger District: Juneau Ranger District
Weather Conditions: Cloudy. Temperature: High 40's °F.

Exploration in accordance with operating plan	Not Applicable
Timber removal following timber sale contract	Not Applicable
BMPs for erosion control	Satisfactory
Water Quality BMPs	Satisfactory
Public safety & fire prevention	Satisfactory
Reclamation work adequate and timely	Satisfactory
Roads maintenance adequate and current	Satisfactory
Tails placement in accordance with plan	Satisfactory
Waste Rock placement in compliance	Satisfactory
Company supervision of operation	Satisfactory
Operating in a clean and orderly manner	Satisfactory

Any conditions noted as UNSATISFACTORY will require follow up action by the Mine Inspector and a written memorandum to the operator, outlining the necessary work.

NEW REMARKS

Ward Air provided (Cessna 206) transportation to and from site.

Peter Strow (Environmental Engineer, Coeur Alaska) accompanied Richard Dudek (Geologist, USFS) Matthew Reece (Minerals Program Manager, USFS), and David Khan (Engineer, ADEC).

This inspection included the Access roads, the TTF area, Comet Development Pile, Comet Water Treatment Plant (CTWP), Sherman Creek Outfall, and Pit 4.

ACTION ITEMS:

- **No new action items to report.**

NOTEWORTHY ITEMS

- **A construction contractor continues to remove waste rock from site.**

ACCESS ROADS

During the inspection, the access roads were in good condition (2016 BMP Plan; Table 4-4).





TAILINGS TREATMENT FACILITY (TTF) AREA

The TTF's recorded water level on 3/22/2019 was 705.55 feet.

The TTF water treatment plant's net treatment rate was 1250-gpm. The reverse osmosis system and the microfiltration system were treating 465 gpm. The Upper Slate Lake water withdrawal rate was 282 gpm.

The Upper Slate Lake bypass and the water treatment plant's effluent plunge pool are working as intended (Photos 1-2).

The northern TTF acid rock drainage (ARD) collection ditches were covered in snow and ice (Photo 3).

COMET DEVELOPMENT PILE

Waste rock from the Raven drift is being deposited at this location (Photo 4).

COMET WATER TREATMENT PLANT (CWTP)

On 3/22/2019, the CWTP was treating 1500 gallons per minute (gpm). Pond-1 (Photo 5) was receiving mine site water. Pond-2 (Photo 6) was receiving backwash from the water treatment plant, and some overflow water from Pond-1. This spring, the CTWP personnel plan to dredge both ponds, which takes approximately three weeks for one pond.

No white material was observed on the test rock used for monitoring precipitation of white material from treated mine site water (Photo 7).

SHERMAN CREEK OUTFALL

Prior to this inspection, Coeur personnel have observed and reported white material in the creek. However, due to recent high flows, the white material was not observed (Photos 8-9).

PIT 4

Coeur personnel continue to relocate waste rock from the Kensington development pile to this location. The pug plant is currently online and Coeur Alaska intends to operate the plant until next winter (Photos 10-11).

FOLLOW UP ITEMS

- Inspect the access roads.
- Inspect the Comet water treatment plant and settling ponds.
- Inspect for white material in Sherman Creek.
- Inspect the TTF area.
- Inspect Bridge 1 and 2.

PHOTOS (Additional photos available upon request)





Photo 1. The Upper Slate Lake bypass plunge pool.



Photo 2. The TTF dam effluent discharge plunge pool.



Photo 3. Northern TTF laydown area.



Photo 4. Comet Development pile.



Photo 5. Pond 1



Photo 6. Pond 2



Photo 7. The CWTP test rock.



Photo 8. Sherman Creek Outfall.



Photo 9. Sherman Creek.



Photo 10. The pug plant at Pit 4.



Photo 11. The rock shaker located behind the pug plant.

Thanks to Kensington Mine for a safe visit.
U.S. Forest Service Officer: /s/ Richard Dudek

