

Department of Natural Resources

DIVISION OF MINING, LAND & WATER
Mining Section
Northern Office

3700 Airport Way Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-4699 Main: 907.451.2736

TDD: 907.451.2770 Fax: 907.451.2703

Fort Knox Inspection Report

Inspection Date: September 14, 2022 thru September 15, 2022

Weather: Overcast, Foggy, Rainy, 50 F

Time of Inspection: 10:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Operator Contact: Allison Hebard & Cassie Fetters

Agency Personnel: William Groom, Carolyn Curley & Sierra Clayton (ADNR – Mining)

Inspection Objectives: ADNR Mining Section conducted a site inspection of operations at the Fort Knox mine and Gil Extension with a focus on the Victoria Creek Waste Rock Dump, the Gil Extension Pit and associated waste rock dumps and overburden Stockpiles and the Walter Creek Heap Leach and Barnes Creek Waste Rock Dump reclamation.



Bottom of main pit at the Gil Extension.



Haul truck in bottom of Gil Extension main pit



Settling crack on waste rock dump at Gil Extension





Wier below freshwater reservoir freshly cleared out from beaver dam.



Freshwater Reservoir from dam.



Old sluice box exposed while stripping overburden for Victoria Creek waste rock dump



Edge of striping of vegetation for the Victoria Creek waste rock dump.



Barrier on eastern edge of Monzulla lane to stop public access to activities at Victoria Creek WRD



Walter Creek Heap Leach with regrading activities occurring.



Start of regrading on Northern edge of Barnes Creek WRD



Reclamation status of True North mine site

Conclusion: Fort Knox has started removing overburden for the Victoria Creek Waste Rock Dump expansion project. This work has necessitated the closure of Monzulla Lane for the foreseeable future and there is no area that would provide a reasonable alternative access around the development. Regrading of the Walter Creek Heap Leach is progressing towards completion and regrading of the Barnes Creek Waste Rock Dump is beginning to occur. Pit development activities are continuing in the main Ft Knox pit and stacking of material at the Barnes Creek Heap Leach are ongoing. The development of the Main Gil pit continues with additional buildout of the waste rock dumps and overburden stockpiles. Reclamation of the True North mine site is complete, and vegetation is still in a stable configuration. Financial Assurances for True North have been released and the site is open for public use.

Action Items: There appears to be settling cracks occurring along the western edge of the Gil Extension waste rock dump that should be monitored to ensure stability.

End of Report

Cc: Kyle Moselle (ADNR)

Ashlee Adoko (ADNR)

Steve Buckley (ADNR)

Allan Nakanishi (ADEC)

Tim Pilon (ADEC)

Ben Wagner (ADNR)

Adam Daniels (ADNR)

Kindra Geis (ADNR)

Jenny March (ADNR)

Carolyn Curley (ADNR)

Audra Brase (ADF&G)