

INSPECTION REPORT: GREENS CREEK MINE

Tongass National Forest Minerals Group
8510 Mendenhall Loop Rd
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Date of Inspection: Thursday February 6, 2020
Date of Report: Tuesday February 25, 2020
USDA Forest Service Inspector: Richard Dudek

Ranger District: Admiralty National Monument, Juneau Ranger District
Weather Conditions: Cloudy with some sun. Temperature: low 30's (°F).

Exploration in accordance with operating plan	Not Applicable
Timber removal following timber sale contract	Not Applicable
BMP for erosion control	Satisfactory
Water Quality BMP	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 a Cessna 206 floatplane to and from site.

David Landes (Environmental Engineer, (HGCMC)) accompanied Richard Dudek (Geologist, United States Forest Service (USFS)), and Shannon Kelly (ADNR).

The site inspection included: The B road, 920 area, 7.4 mile B-road Bridge (Killer Creek Bridge), 3.4 mile B-road Bridge (Falls Creek Bridge), 3.0 mile B-road Bridge (Zinc Creek Bridge), geotechnical drilling project site, and the Tailings Disposal Facility (TDF).

ACTION ITEMS

- **No actions items were observed during this inspection.**

NOTEWORTHY ITEMS

- **Contractors were on site for geotechnical drilling that is located north of the concentrate building.**

B-ROAD

On 2/6/2020, the B-road was in adequate condition. During this inspection, Surface Operations were plowing snow along the B-road. Also during the winter months, Surface Operations apply clean 3/8-inch crushed gravel to the access roads to increase traction for vehicles (Appendix 08 Road Operations and Maintenance; 3-2).

920 AREA

The recorded flow rate for Greens Creek (Photo 1) on 2/6/2019 was 10.3 cubic feet per second (cfs). The 920-area water withdrawal rate from Greens Creek was approximately 1.3-cfs.

The 920 Bridge's splash guards are preventing sediment splash over from vehicular traffic (Photo 2).

Good housekeeping practices were observed at The 920 warehouse (Appendix 5 BMP Plan page 39). All petroleum/chemicals were properly stored within appropriate secondary containment (Photo 3).

7.4-MILE B-ROAD BRIDGE (KILLER CREEK BRIDGE)

The bridge's splashguards are effectively preventing sediment splashover from vehicular traffic (Photo 4).

3.4-MILE B-ROAD BRIDGE (FALLS CREEK BRIDGE)

The bridge's splashguards are working as intended by preventing sediment splashover from traffic (Photo 5).

3.0-MILE B-ROAD BRIDGE (ZINC CREEK BRIDGE)

The bridge's splashguards are preventing sediment splashover from vehicular traffic (Photo 6).

GEOTECHNICAL DRILLING PROJECT

The purpose for the geotechnical drilling at this location is to collect data for a feasibility study on a potential location of a settling pond for the northern TDF area expansion (Photos 7-9).

TAILINGS DISPOSAL FACILITY (TDF) AREA

At the time of the inspection, Pond 7 (Photo 10) was collecting mine site water. Pond 10 (Photo 11) was covered in snow and ice.

HGCMC recently installed a continuous monitoring system for fugitive dust. The dust monitor is staged by the wet wells that are located to the south of the S3P1 containment area (Photo 12). The data collected will help with future mitigations for fugitive dust control.

Surface Operations continue to deposit tailings along the eastern ridge of the S3P1 expansion area (Photos 13-14).

On 2/6/2020, the TTF water treatment plant was receiving approximately 1296-gpm of influent water and was treating/discharging 1039-gpm. Good housekeeping practices were observed inside the water treatment plant (Appendix 5 BMP Plan; page 39)).

FOLLOW UP ITEMS

Inspect the 920 area.

Inspect the B-road Bridges and their associated BMPs.

Conduct a site inspection of the TDF area.

PHOTOS (Images available upon request)



Photo 1. Greens Creek.



Photo 2. The 920 Bridge.



Photo 3. The 920 warehouse storage container.



Photo 4. The 7.4 Mile B-road Bridge (Killer Creek Bridge).



Photo 5. The 3.4 Mile B-road Bridge (Falls Creek Bridge).



Photo 6. The 3.0 Mile B-road Bridge (Zinc Creek Bridge).



Photo 7. The entrance ramp for the drill rig used during the geotechnical drilling project.



Photo 8. At the time of the site visit, personnel were prepping the drill for a new drilling location.



Photo 9. One site where geotechnical drilling was going to take place.



Photo 10. Pond 7 was receiving influent water from the mine site.



Photo 11. Pond 10 was covered in snow and ice.



Photo 12. A continuous monitoring system for dust is staged behind the wet wells.



Photo 13. Tailings being desposited and compacted in the S3P1 area.



Photo 14. HGCMC is actively placing tailing along the eastern ridge of the S3P1 area.

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