



INSPECTION REPORT: GREENS CREEK MINE

Tongass National Forest Minerals Group
8510 Mendenhall Loop Rd
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Date of Inspection: Thursday May 7, 2026
Date of Report: June 30, 2026
USDA Forest Service Inspector: Scott Leslie

Ranger District: Admiralty National Monument, Juneau Ranger District Weather Conditions: Partly sunny, light breeze.
Temperature: mid to upper 40's (°F).

Exploration in accordance with the 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 is adequate and timely.	Satisfactory
Road maintenance is adequate and current.	Satisfactory
Tails placement is in accordance with the approved plan	Satisfactory
Waste Rock placement in compliance	Satisfactory
Company supervision of the 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 outlining the necessary work to the operator.

Any conditions noted as Requires Action will require attention from the operator, and suggestions for necessary work are listed below

Transportation to and from mine aboard the "Admiralty Wind".

Paula Lillesve (HGCMC Environmental Manager) accompanied Scott Leslie (Minerals Program Manager, Tongass NF USFS) during this inspection.

The site inspection included the A and B access roads, Freshwater Plant, DB-01, A Pond, 920 Area, C Ponds, Site 23, DB-03, 23 Pond and pump building, 7.4-mile B-Road Bridge (Killer Creek Bridge), Waste Site E, 3.4-mile B-Road bridge (Falls Creek Bridge), Gnome Ponds, 3.0-mile B-Road bridge (Zinc Creek Bridge), Tailings Disposal Facility (TDF), Pond 10, Pond 7, and North Expansion Project area.

NEW ACTION ITEMS:

Date/Item No.	Item Description	Status
N/A		

STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS INSPECTIONS:

Date/Item No.	Item Description	Status
07/24/2025 – 446-1	7.4, 3.4, and 3.0-MILE B-ROAD BRIDGES: Sediment draining in several places from beneath bridge to creek and area around abutments. Bridge deck liner appears to be failing.	HGCMC looking at scheduling bridge resurfacing in July. 3.0-Mile B-Road bridge was completed in April.





ACCESS ROADS

The A and B access roads were in good condition, and roadside stormwater BMPs were all in functioning condition.

920 AREA

Greens Creek Weir (Photo 1).

Freshwater Plant, Greens Creek weir discharge flow at 76 cfs and 1.13 cfs being withdrawn for the 920 facilities. Plant clean and orderly (Photo 2).

920 Bridge in good condition. Metal sheeting placed along the bridge decking to mitigate for smoother surface transition at abutment joints (Photo 3).

Degrit Basin (DB-01) Appears to be functioning as intended. Could use some mucking out soon. (Photo 4).

Pond A A=Liner appears in order with no visible overflow (Photo 5).

920 Warehouse Good housekeeping practices were observed at the storage containers with petrochemicals properly stored with secondary containment (Appendix 5 BMP Plan, page 37) (Photos 6 & 7).

Ore Pad in use staging ore from 920 adit actively being contoured to transport ore to mill (Photo 8).

C PONDS

The upper and lower pond liners are intact and with no visible signs of overflow (Photos 9 & 10).

D POND and Pump

Intact and no visible signs of overflow (Photo 11).

Degrit Basin BD-03 Runoff entering basin as designed and appears to be functioning as intended. The 23 Pond can be seen in the background (Photo 12).

23 POND and PUMP

The pump area was clean and orderly. Appeared to be operable with no visible signs of pond overflow or liner damage (Photos 13).

SITE 23

HGCMC continues to stage Class 1, 2, and 3 waste rock at this location. Class 4 waste rock is kept and disposed of underground (Appendix 11 Waste Rock Management Plan, page 11). Class 1 rock (argillite) is used as an inert capping material over top of Class 2 and 3. (Photo 14).

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

The bridge surface appeared in good condition, but sediment is still leaking out below the bridge and captured in waddles (Photos 15 & 16).

WASTE SITE E and E Pond

This is an old, early unclassified waste rock site. Material is being stored here to be moved to Tailings Disposal Facility (TDF). Much of the material has been moved to the TDF already. The site is now mostly used for road maintenance gravel and equipment storage. Pond liner intact with no signs of overflow (Photos 17 & 18).

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

The bridge surface appeared to be in good condition, but sediment leaks through and collecting beneath the bridge. (Photos 19 & 20).

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

Bridge was redecked in April. No new sediment observed below bridge. Waddles in place with sediment collected prior to redecking. HGCMC should clean out the collected sediment. (Photos 21 & 22).





GNOME PONDS near 3.0-MILE B-ROAD BRIDGE

Ponds functioning as intended and draining as designed utilizing flocculant logs to pull sediment out of the flow of water into the ponds (Photos 23 & 24).

Note: Small iron-rich surface drainage or seep flowing downslope down from gnome pond. Gelatinous material at end of seep near Gnome Ponds (Photos 25 & 26).

TAILINGS DISPOSAL FACILITY (TDF) AREA

Good housekeeping practices were observed in the TDF water treatment plant (Appendix 5 BMP Plan, page 37). The water treatment plant was discharging approximately **520 gpm** to Outfall 002 with a pH of **8.06**, and turbidity of **.67** NTU (Photo 27 & 28).

Pond 7 and Spillway. No evidence of water overflow (Photos 29 & 30).

Pond 10 Overview with tails bags in background and fill pipe in foreground. (Photo 31).

Portable Fugitive Dust Mitigation at the Tailings Facility (Photos 32).

North Expansion Project prework area, overview, and Vibrating wire piezometer (VWP) VWP PZ-T_26_01A (Photos 33 - 35).



PHOTOS (Image files available upon request)

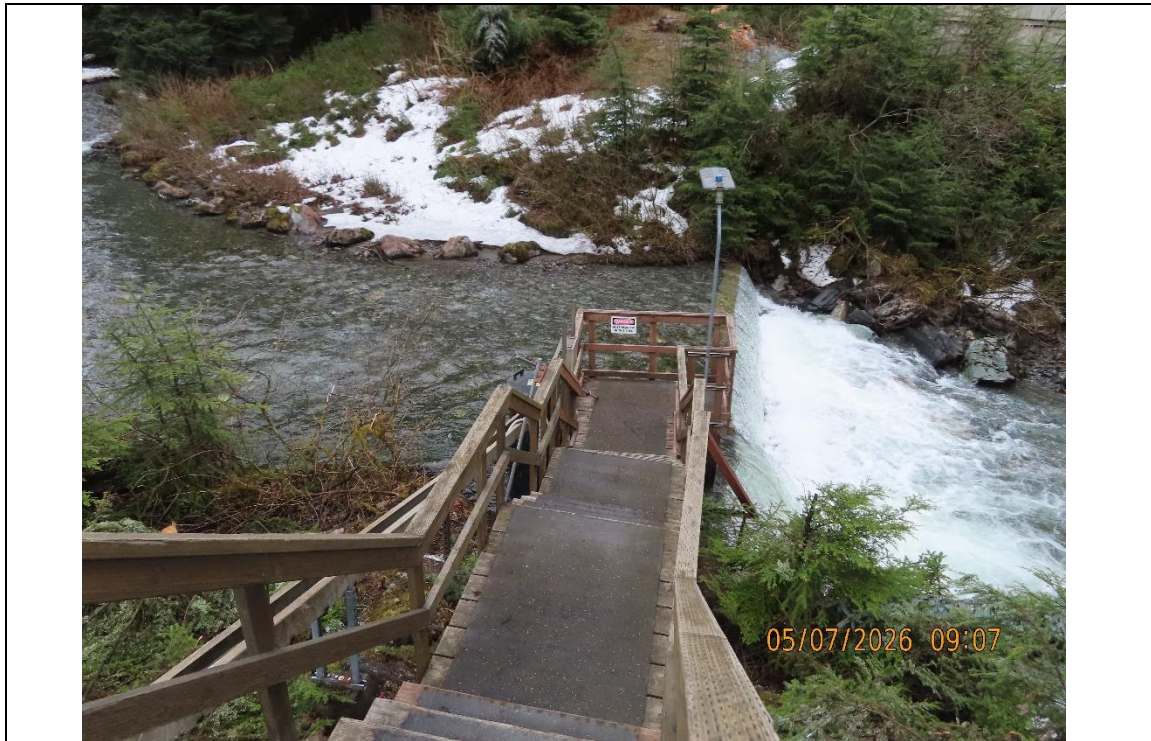


Photo 1: Greens Creek Weir.

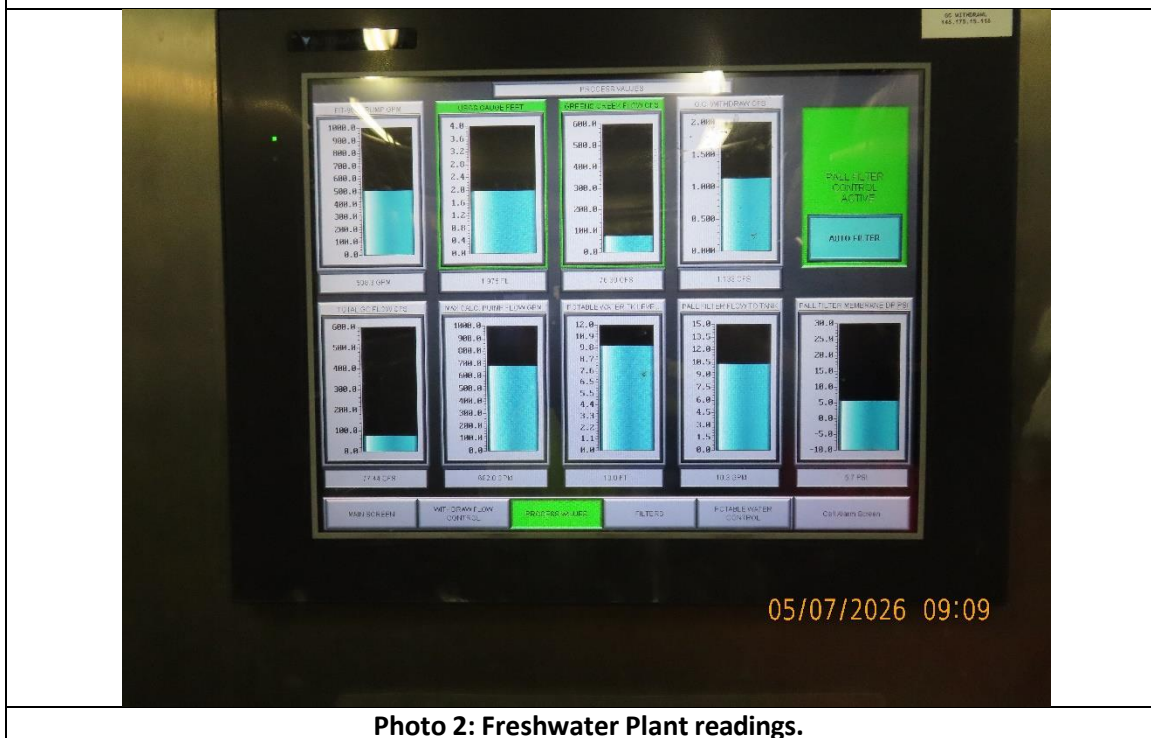


Photo 2: Freshwater Plant readings.



Photo 3: 920 Bridge.



Photo 4: Degrit Basin (DB-01) back side.



Photo 5: A Pond.



Photo 6: 920 warehouse storage container.



Photo 7: 920 warehouse area.



Photo 8: Ore pad.



Photo 9: Lower C Pond.



Photo 10: Upper C Pond. Evidence of raised pond level but no overflow outside of the pond.



Photo 11: D Pond and pump.



Photo 12: DB-03 and 23 Pond and Pump in background.



Photo 13:



Photo 14: Site 23 Class 2 & 3 Material on top of storage area.



Photo 15: 7.4 Mile Bridge.



Photo 16: 7.4 Mile Bridge (Killer Creek) waddles and hydroseed present collecting sediment.



Photo 17: Waste Site E. Much of the material has been moved to the TTF.



Photo 18: E Pond and pump



Photo 19: 3.4 Mile B-Road Bridge (Falls Creek).



Photo 20: 3.4 Mile B-Road Bridge (Falls Creek) sediment leaking through from under decking.



Photo 21: 3.0 Mile B-Road Bridge (Zinc Creek).



Photo 22: 3.0 Mile B-Road Bridge (Zinc Creek) sediment leaking through from under decking.



Photo 23: Gnome Ponds



Photo 24: Gnome Ponds outfall.



Photo 25: Small iron rich surface drainage or seep flowing downslope down from gnome pond.



Photo 26: Gelatinous material at end of seep near Gnome Ponds.

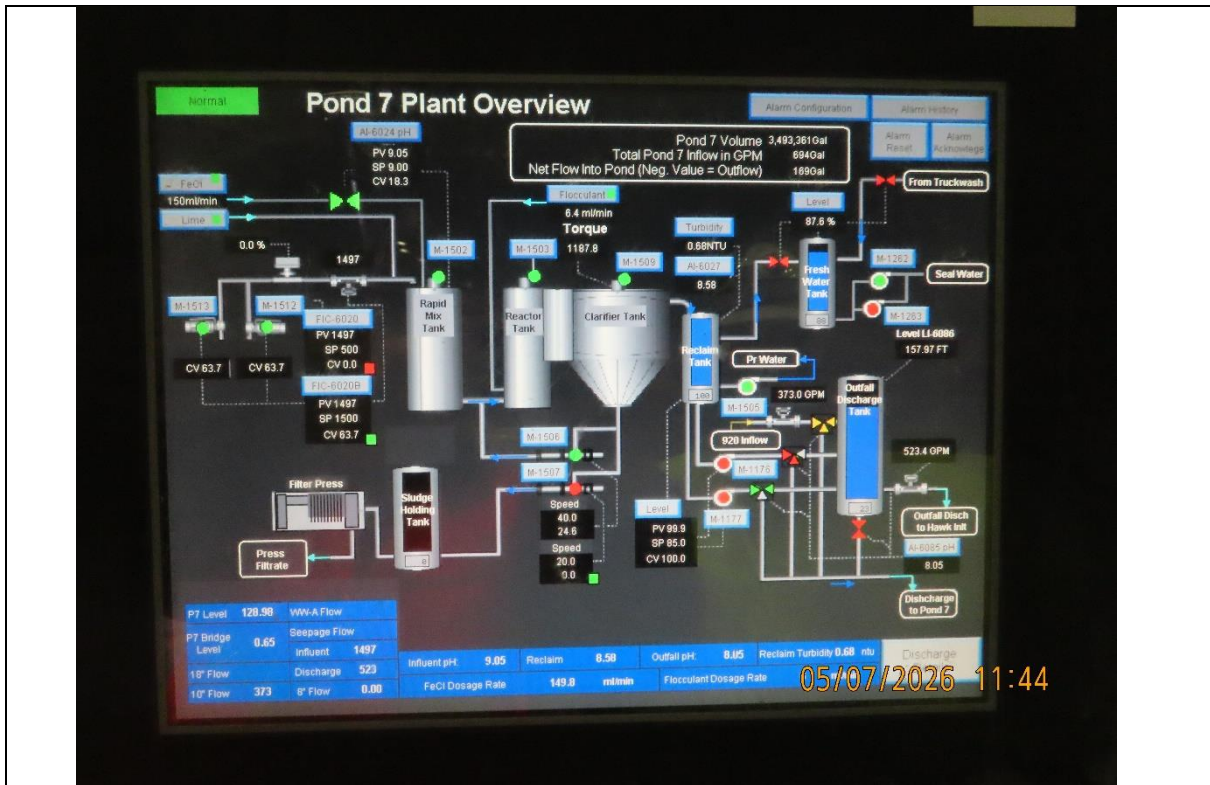


Photo 27: TDF Water Treatment Plant readings



Photo 28: TDF Water Treatment Plant.



Photo 29: Pond 7 receiving tailings and water from tailings pile and Pond 9.



Photo 30: Pond 7 tails to be dredged and pumped to bags in Pond 10.



Photo 31: Overview of Pond 10 with tails bags in background and fill pipe in foreground.



Photo 32: Portable Fugitive Dust Mitigation at the Tailings Disposal Facility.



Photo 33: North Expansion Project area.



Photo 34: North Expansion Project area looking back at B Road.



Photo 35: Vibrating wire piezometer (VWP) VWP PZ-T_26_01A at the North Expansion Project area.

Photo :

Thanks to HGCMC for a safe visit.
U.S. Forest Service: /s/ Scott Leslie