



INSPECTION REPORT: GREENS CREEK MINE

Tongass National Forest Minerals Group
8510 Mendenhall Loop Rd
Juneau, AK 99801
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Date of Inspection: Friday, October 16, 2015
Date of Report: Friday, October 23, 2015
USDA Forest Service Inspector: Curtis Caton

Ranger District: Admiralty National Monument, Juneau Ranger District
Weather Conditions: Light rain. Temperatures: 50's (°F).

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|---|----------------|
| 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 De Havilland Beaver provided transport.

Mitch Brooks (Environmental Engineer, Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company) accompanied David Wilfong (Engineer, ADNR), Matthew Reece (Minerals Program Manager, US Forest Service), Eddie Gazzetti (Hydrogeologist, US Forest Service), and Curtis Caton (Geologist, US Forest Service) on this inspection.

The site inspection included the A and B access roads, Young Bay, Pit 7, A Road Sandpit, 1350, 920, Site 23, Tailings Disposal Facility (TDF), Zinc Creek bridge, and Site E.

ACTION ITEMS

- **1350 Adit drains possibly clogged**
- **Site E pond needs to be relined or repaired**

YOUNG BAY

No recent activity to report at Young Bay, the area is well maintained and orderly. Hydroseeding has germinated on the disturbed areas around the light poles that were installed during the 2015 lighting project (Photo 01). Waddles are in position to intercept stormwater runoff from the crew bus loading area.

PIT 7





Reclamation vegetative matter adjacent to Pond 07 has been excavated and stockpiled at Pit 7 (Photo 02). The stockpile of reclamation material was originally excavated for the construction of Pond 7. The stockpile had to be relocated so that construction of Pond 10 can occur, which was approved in the 2013 TDF expansion ROD.

Improvements have been made to the ditches and settling ponds surrounding the footprint of Pit 7 and comply with the BMP Plan.

SAND PIT

Heavy equipment continues to excavate, sort, and haul material for use on construction activities related to the TDF expansion.

1350

Maintenance or mucking is required at the entrance to the 1350 adit. Stormwater has collected around the opening of the 1350 adit, a stormwater water recirculation pump may have gone out or the adit drain has become clogged (Photo 03).

SITE 23

The class three material that originated from the 1350 reclamation project had been stockpiled at Site 23 but was recently hauled underground and backfilled for permanent storage (Photo 04).

Site 23 ditch has been relined this summer (Photo 05). The interception ditch collects all stormwater runoff from Site 23 footprint along the B road. The stormwater collecting in settling pond 23 is pumped to the TDF water treatment plant before discharge.

ZINC CREEK BRIDGE

To reduce sediment from reaching Zinc Creek, HGCMC has lined the Zinc Creek Bridge with an 80-mil piece of HDPE underneath the timbered surface. The liner has visibly reduced the amount of sediment seeping between the timbered bridge surface to the vegetation and surface area beneath the bridge (Photo 06-08). The slit fencing has received some maintenance and the excess sediment has been mucked out from behind the barriers.

SITE E

Site E settling pond is in disrepair and does not comply with the BMP plan strategies listed for Site E in Appendix 5, Figure 8. The pond needs to be relined or repaired to prevent stormwater and sediment discharge into the watershed (Photo 09-10).

FOLLOW UP ITEMS

- **1350 adit drains**
- **Site E pond**



PHOTOS

(Images available upon request)



Photo 01. Young Bay lighting project, hydroseeding.



Photo 02. Pit 7.



Photo 03. 1350 Adit.



Photo 04. Site 23. Waster rock from 1350 moved to underground storage.



Photo 05. Site 23 stormwater interception ditch relined.



Photo 06. Zinc Creek Bridge lined with HDPE.



Photo 07. Zinc Creek Bridge lined with HDPE.



Photo 08. Zinc Creek Bridge.



Photo 09. E pond. Torn liner.



Photo 10. E pond. Torn liner.

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