



INSPECTION REPORT: KENSINGTON GOLD MINE

Tongass National Forest Minerals Group
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Date of Inspection: Wednesday April 24, 2019
Date of Report: Monday May 13, 2019
USDA Forest Service Inspector: Richard Dudek

Ranger District: Juneau Ranger District

Weather Conditions: Partially cloudy with sun. 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.

Kevin Eppers (Environmental Manager, Coeur Alaska) accompanied Richard Dudek (Geologist, 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, Comet Beach area, and Pit 4.

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Sediments have breached a ditch near Bridge 2. Mitigations are required to prevent sediments from flowing into nearby Johnson Creek.**

NOTEWORTHY ITEMS

- **This summer, a local construction company will be on site removing non-acid generating waste rock from Pit 4.**

ACCESS ROADS

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





COMET DEVELOPMENT PILE

Coeur Alaska continues to deposit waste rock from the Raven drift at this location (Photo 1).

COMET WATER TREATMENT PLANT (CWTP)

On 4/24/2019, the CWTP was treating 1,438 gallons per minute (gpm). Pond-1 (Photo 2) was receiving mine site water. Pond-2 (Photo 3) was receiving backwash from the water treatment plant, and some overflow water from Pond-1.

White material was observed on the test rock used for monitoring white material in treated mine water (Photo 4).

Coeur Alaska will be dredging the settling ponds once temperatures at night stay above freezing and the old dewatering bags are replaced.

SHERMAN CREEK OUTFALL

White material was observed in the creek (Photos 5).

COMET BEACH

Coeur Alaska has started storing drilling cores at the Comet Beach warehouse (Photo 6-7).

Cold Storage Facility

The facility was tidy and in order (Photo 8).

PIT 4

Approximately 59,000 cubic yards of waste rock is stockpiled at this location (Photo 9).

In 2019, the pug plant has generated 7,500 tons of GP/cement underground backfill (Photos 10).

The graphitic phyllite (GP) stockpile staged at Pit 4 is being utilized at the pug plant for cement underground backfill (Photo 11).

TAILINGS TREATMENT FACILITY (TTF) AREA

At the time of the inspection, contractors were prepping to pour concrete for the TTF dam's low-level structure (Photo 12).

The TTF's recorded water level on 4/24/2019 was 704.5 feet.

The TTF water treatment plant's net treatment rate was 837-gpm. The reverse osmosis system and the microfiltration system were treating 348-gpm. The Upper Slate Lake water withdrawal rate was 280-gpm.

The dam spillway/plunge pool and the ARD seepage collection drain are working as intended (Photos 13-14).

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 Comet development pile.



Photo 2. Pond-1.



Photo 3. Pond-2.



Photo 4. CWTP test rock.



Photo 5. Sherman Creek.



Photo 6. The Comet Beach core shed.



Photo 7. Drilling core stored inside the core shed.



Photo 8. Cold storage facility.



Photo 9. Pit 4 waste rock storage.



Photo 10. The pug plant.



Photo 11. GP stockpile at pit 4.



Photo 12. The TTF's dam low-level structure.



Photo 13. The dam plunge pool.



Photo 14. Acid rock drainage (ARD) seepage collection drain.



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

