# Kensington Gold Project 2012 Annual Report

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- 1. Kensington Marine Mammal Report 2012 Transportation Action Strategy, May 2012, Coeur Alaska, Juneau, AK
- 2. Terrestrial Wildlife Monitoring Plan Slate Lakes Basin, December 2012, Coeur Alaska, Juneau, AK
- 3. Mountain Goat Population Monitoring near the Kensington Mine, Alaska May, 2012, ADFG

### References

- 1. Coeur Alaska, Inc., 2012, Kensington Gold Project NPDES Permit AK-005057-1 Annual Water Quality Monitoring Summary Volume 1: Aquatic Resource Surveys 2012.
- 2. Coeur Alaska, Inc., 2012, Kensington Gold Project NPDES Permit AK-005057-1 Annual Water Quality Monitoring Summary 2012 Volume 2: Water Quality Data.

### Introduction

The Kensington Gold Project is owned and operated by Coeur Alaska, Inc. (Coeur) a wholly owned subsidiary of Coeur d'Alene Mines, Inc. The project is located on the western and southern flanks of Lions Head Mountain; between Berners Bay and Lynn Canal; and in the drainages of Johnson, Sherman, and Slate Creeks (See Figures 1-10). Coeur Alaska has prepared this annual report to comply with requirements of the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Plan of Operations (POO) for the Kensington Gold Project.

The Kensington Gold Project received authorization under the POO on June 13, 2005. The Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, U.S. Forest Service Record of Decision and all necessary major permits were issued prior to year end 2005. Coeur Alaska issued construction contracts and ground breaking was initiated during July 2005.

Following a suspension of construction activities during the litigation process for the 404 Permit, construction activities at the TTF that resumed in 2009 were completed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2010 and operations of the facility began in June of 2010. Gold production operations continued throughout 2012 consistent with the approved POO.

Section 1.0 contains a synopsis of the activities conducted at the Kensington Gold Project during calendar year 2012, and Section 2.0 contains projections of activities planned for calendar year 2013.

# **Summary of 2012 Activities**

# 1.0 Public Safety

Public access to the project site is managed as defined in the established Public Access Control Plan. Public access to the site must be controlled to ensure the safety of the public. During the construction and operational phases of the Project, hazards such as truck traffic, blasting, barge and tug operations, and earthwork could result in physical harm to unauthorized visitors.

During 2012, personnel accessed the site via boat and rotary wing aircraft. Agency inspections and other public personnel generally accessed the site by fixed winged aircraft and boat.

Supplies and equipment for the facility are delivered by barge to the Slate Creek Cove Marine Terminal.

### 2.0 Construction Activities

Stage 2 construction activities at the TTF were conducted during 2012 with the dam being raised 25 feet from a crest elevation of 690 feet to 715 feet. The stage 2 construction was started in July and was completed in October of 2012.

Additional infrastructure construction continued throughout 2012. This included the construction of an administration building and completion of the underground paste plant. All of these facilities were constructed on private land that had been previously disturbed during the initial construction of the site.

The majority of the surface disturbance associated with construction was completed in 2005 and 2006 as outlined in the project disturbance summary Table 1. No additional surface disturbance occurred in 2012.

### 2.1 Storm Water Controls

Construction operations on both the Jualin and Comet sides of the Kensington Gold Project were conducted in compliance with the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) requirements. Both temporary construction Best Management Practices (BMPs) and sediment pond BMPs were utilized to control excess sediment production from disturbed areas that otherwise might enter waters of the state. A full description of storm water controls can be found in the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for the Kensington Gold Project, April 2009.

Sediment ponds and silt fences were maintained, and existing check dams were also maintained throughout the site. Designs for these construction BMPs are discussed in the SWPPP. Most operational (long-term) sediment ponds were constructed during 2005, and all were constructed as designed in the SWPPP Addendum B.

The nature of construction BMPs is transitory; i.e., they change in response to site conditions and the rapidly evolving ground conditions encountered during construction. Therefore, designs are dependent on site conditions, which may change day by day. However, as construction elements are completed, operational BMP sediment ponds have been developed, which discretely demonstrate compliance with the SWPPP as amended.

In addition to SWPPP monitoring and inspections, site receiving water monitoring was also conducted in accordance with the current site APDES permit to further document compliance with state water quality standards. Receiving water sampling data are discussed below under APDES monitoring (section 9.1).

# 2.2 Corps of Engineers Wetland Disturbance

An annual summary of wetland areas impacted and reclaimed is a requirement of the Corps of Engineers (COE) 404 fill permit. Wetland areas impacted are tallied in Table 2. Overall, total fill in waters of U.S. as of December 2012 is 73.5 acres.

### 2.3 Access Corridors

Road improvements during 2012 were an ongoing priority of project. Continued road surfacing and interim reclamation seeding were major improvements to the road projects in 2012. The maintenance of storm water BMPs along the Jualin and Kensington access corridors were also a major ongoing priority for 2012.

# 3.0 Mine Operations

### 3.1 Ore Production

Mine operations occurred in all 12 months during 2012. Limited mining was conducted in January and February due to a focus on completing projects within the mine. Full production was conducted throughout the rest of 2012. Approximately 405,343 tons of ore was mined in 2012.

### 3.2 Development Rock Production

Approximately 203,463 tons of development rock was mined in 2012. Approximately 101,416 tons of development rock was brought to the surface and placed into stockpiles and 102,047 tons were placed underground as backfill. Development rock sample results for 2012 are contained in Table 4.

### 3.3 Dust Suppression Activities

Road watering was conducted as required via a water wagon to control any fugitive dust. The project's climate was exceptionally wet during the summer months of 2012 thus the need for dust suppression activities was only required on a few occasions.

# 3.4 Surface and Underground Drilling

A total of 137,619 feet of underground core drilling was completed in the period of January through December of 2012. The drilling was comprised of development and exploration programs.

The 2012 development drilling program included 77,730 feet. This drilling was completed by contracted drilling company using NQ2 and HQ core drill tooling. This program was accessed in the Kensington up-ramp and down-ramp.

The 2012 exploration drilling program included 59,889 feet. This was also completed under a drilling contract and used NQ2 and HQ core tooling. The underground exploration drilling was completed from drill stations located along or near the Comet Access Tunnel.

Diamond core drilling on the surface was planned to be conducted in 2012 and an exploration work plan was submitted to the Forest Service in February 2012. A maximum of twenty (20) sites were proposed to be utilized in 2012. Of the twenty sites, twelve of the proposed sites were located on patented lode mining claims and eight of the proposed sites were located on lands administered by the Forest Service. Difficulties with obtaining

a diamond drill contractor during 2012 resulted in no exploration work being conducted on lands administered by the Forest Service. Six holes (6,177 feet) were drilled on patented mining claims during the 2012 drill season.

# 4.0 Mill Operations

Limited milling operations were conducted in January and February due to a focus on completing projects within the mine. Full mill operations were conducted throughout the rest of 2012. Approximately 394,793 tons of ore was processed through the mill facility in 2012.

### 4.1 Gold Production

Approximately 10,525 tons of concentrate was shipped from the Kensington mine to an off-site refinery. Of the 10,525 tons of concentrate shipped off-site, approximately 81,935 ounces of gold was contained.

### 4.2 Tailing Production

Approximately 281,518 tons of tailings were conveyed to the Tailings Treatment Facility and 102,751 tons of tailings were conveyed to the underground paste plant for disposal in the underground stopes during 2012. Tailings samples were collected in each of the four quarters of 2012 and there results are contained in Table 5.

# 5.0 Solid/Hazardous Waste Generation and Transport

Solid waste was generated from the Comet and Jualin sides of the Kensington Gold Project, including: incinerator ashes, construction debris, worn cable, tires, and scrap metal. This material was managed in accordance with the approved ADEC Solid Waste Management Permit. Coeur Alaska generated approximately 460 tons of solid waste. Approximately 398 tons of scrap metal, 2.2 tons of batteries, and 12,000 gallons of used oil was recycled from the site. These materials were shipped to Juneau, then transported to disposal facilities or otherwise managed according to controlling regulations and permits

Hazardous waste, including Universal waste, generated at the site included:

- Lead/acid batteries
- Florescent Lamps
- Paint and paint related waste
- Wastes associated with the Assay Laboratory
- Water Treatment Plant laboratory waste
- Computer backup power supplies

# **6.0** Tailings Treatment Facility

Following the favorable decision from the Supreme Court, the Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE) issued Permit Modification POA-1990-592-M6 and lifted the suspension of Permit Modification POA-1190-592-M on August 14, 2009. Construction activities on

the tailings treatment facility began after the issuance of the permit modification and continued until the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2010 at which time construction of the facility was completed. Operation of the facility began in June of 2010 and continued throughout 2012.

# 7.0 Compliance

No Notice of Violation's (NOV) were issued to Coeur Alaska during 2012.

All reporting was completed as required by permit conditions. One component of this document is the reporting of spills. Each spill that occurred during 2012 was taken very seriously and all site resources were utilized, as appropriate for each occurrence. The spills were all properly reported and cleaned up in accordance with ADEC guidelines (Table 3). A bioremediation cell was designed, permitted, and constructed during 2008. Soil that was excavated in 2012 as part of hydrocarbon related spill clean-up efforts was placed in the bioremediation cell for remediation as approved by ADEC.

Graphitic Phyllite material that was removed as part of stage 2 construction activities were placed into a newly constructed containment cell for temporary storage until such time as the material can be placed in an underground stope and encapsulated with paste backfill for final disposal. An appropriate underground stope is anticipated to be available in 2014 for final disposal of this material.

During the 2012 year, the following eight guidelines were updated in various aspects of environmental management at the site to ensure permit compliance:

- Johnson Creek In-stream flow monitoring
- Daily TSS Sampling
- Hazardous and Non-Hazardous Waste Handling
- Spill Response Notification
- NOx Analyzer
- Purchasing New Products or Chemicals or Materials
- Sample Container
- APDES QA/QC

The Intelex tracking system was populated with new and/or revised permit requirements and reminders during 2012. The tracking system sends email reminders to employees responsible for the completion of the permit requirements to ensure site permit compliance.

### 8.0 Reclamation

No permanent concurrent reclamation was performed in 2012; however, interim seeding stabilization associated with topsoil stockpiles, road ditches, area adjacent to Tailings Treatment Facility, access roads, and tailings conveyance pipeline route was performed as a BMP under the approved SWPPP plan.

### **8.1** Revegetation Test Plots

A proposed test plot plan to evaluate the reclamation methods proposed in the reclamation and closure plan was submitted on April 18, 2012. Approval was received from ADNR on June 11, 2012 but no approval has been received from the Forest Service to-date. Revegetation test plots are planned to be installed in the spring/summer of 2013 in the Snow-Slide Gulch area if approval is received from the Forest Service prior to this time.

### 9.0 Monitoring

### 9.1 APDES

Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) permit number AK0050571 was issued on July 29, 2011 and became effective on September 1, 2011. Results of the extensive monitoring program are contained in the Kensington Gold Project APDES permit AK-005057-1 Volume 1: Aquatic Resource Surveys and Volume 2: Water Quality Data of the APDES Annual Water Quality Monitoring Summary 2012 (Coeur, 2012). These reports will be submitted to the US Forest Service, Juneau under separate cover.

### 9.2 Fresh Water

Fresh water monitoring requirements are contained within the USFS POO. Monitoring performed for the APDES permit are summarized in the Kensington Gold Project APDES Permit AK-005057-1 Annual Water Quality Monitoring Summary 2012 Volume 2. Water Quality Data are inclusive of the requirements under the USFS POO. This report will be submitted to the US Forest Service, Juneau and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) under separate cover, as the APDES 2012 Annual Report.

# 9.3 Water Usage

Under requirements of the ADNR water rights, certain water usage and stream flow submittals are prepared. Some of these filings are made monthly while others are submitted quarterly. These reports are available at ADNR's offices, Juneau.

# 9.4 Aquatic Resource Surveys

The USFS POO references aquatic resource surveys, which are to include:

- Annual photographs of stream habitat types.
- Fish surveys and minnow trapping in Upper Slate Lake.
- Salmon escapement surveys in Sherman, Slate, and Johnson Creeks.

Annual photographs of stream habitat types are included in the Kensington Gold Project APDES Permit AK-005057-1 Annual Water Quality Monitoring Summary Volume 1: Aquatic Resource Surveys 2012.

Adult salmon escapement surveys were performed in 2012 on Sherman, Slate, and Johnson Creeks. Tabulations of these data are presented in the Kensington Gold Project APDES Permit AK-005057-1 Annual Water Quality Monitoring Summary Volume 1: Aquatic Resource Surveys 2012.

### 9.5 Marine

The U.S. Forest Service Plan of Operations Appendix 4.d. contains a marine monitoring program for Berners Bay.

Between April 27 and May 18, fifty-eight marine mammal observation surveys were completed aboard the M/V Majestic Fjord. The official eulachon run transportation regulations as determined by Coeur Alaska and NMFS were put into effect on April 27, 2012. Special measures taken during the eulachon run included: having a marine observer on the vessel during all trips and maintaining a maximum speed of 13 knots within Berners Bay. Regular transit speed is approximately 21-25 knots. Transportation vessel trips during the eulachon run were limited to 1-2 trips daily. No more than 3 trips per day were conducted during the 2012 eulachon spawning window.

A total of 819 Steller sea lions were counted during the observation period; 646 of these sightings (78.9%) occurred within Berners Bay. The vast majority (99.9%) of the 793 harbor seal sightings also occurred within Berners Bay. Most of these sightings were at pinniped haulout areas, such as the entrance to Slate Cove and Point Saint Mary. Gatherings of up to 60 harbor seals on haulouts and rafts of up to 40 Steller sea lions were observed. Pinniped activity was highest from April 27-May 1 with activity peaking again on May 14 and 18. No recordable encounters with marine mammals occurred during the 2012 eulachon spawning season. Please refer to Attachment 1 for additional information related to the marine surveys.

### 9.6 Air

During the reporting period, bi-annual Facility Operating Reports, including fuel use summaries, were submitted to the Fairbanks office of ADEC Air Permits Program (610 University Avenue) in compliance with ADEC air quality permits. These reports are not reproduced here, but can be provided upon request.

### 9.7 Archeology

Surface disturbance activities within historic areas were completed during 2005. No additional surface disturbance occurred in 2012.

Mr. Urion had been to the mine site to film on both the Comet and the Jualin side in the fall of 2006. He filmed at the Comet side of the mine again in spring of 2007. Mr. Urion also completed his research and a script for a DVD format film. Mr. Urion was scheduled to complete the filming in the spring of 2008 after another visit to the Jualin side of the project area, but due to the unexpected death of Mr. Urion in 2008, the filming was not completed as scheduled in 2008. Coeur obtained the existing film that was

compiled by Mr. Urion, but no script could be found. Coeur was able to locate the script that accompanied the existing film during 2011. The cost of filming and preparation of the script were not invoiced by Mr. Urion prior to his unexpected death. On-going discussions were conducted in 2012 with Mr. Urion's wife on reimbursement for the cost of the filming and script preparation. An agreement was made with Mr. Urion's wife on a reimbursement for the cost of filming and preparation of the script in 2012. Additionally, a qualified local historian was located and is in the process of preparing an associated script documenting the history of the Berners Bay Mining district

No archaeological testing, monitoring, or other data recovery activities were conducted at the Kensington-Jualin mine during 2012. As indicated in Appendix A of the MOA, probing and testing of Features F and T will be conducted once the mine is in operations. Quotes were obtained in 2011 and the testing and probing was planned to be conducted in 2012 but due to lengthy contract negotiations with the proposed archeologist, the testing and probing was not completed as planned in 2012. Contract negotiations were conducted until July 2012 at which time the negotiations were ended due to the proposed archeologist not agreeing to the site contract terms and conditions. Another archeologist was located in late 2012 following the field season and a contract is currently being put in place for work to begin early in 2013. Operations of the mine are expected to remain for the next 8-10 years, based on the current gold reserve. The testing is required to be conducted during the operations phase of the project, thus completing the testing in 2013 would meet this requirement.

Training was conducted for all new employees as part of the new-hire environmental awareness training program in addition to the recurring annual refresher training for all Coeur employees in 2012. Additionally, all construction workers were provided this training as part of the construction environmental awareness training program. Newly hired employees and construction workers are not allowed to work on-site until they received this training. The training clearly stated Coeur's policy regarding unauthorized collections from private and public lands. Approximately 1700 hours of training, which included the Cultural Resource training was conducted in 2012 with employees and contractors.

### 9.8 Tailings Treatment Facility Ecological Monitoring Plan

Dolly Varden char spawning surveys in Upper Slate Lake were not conducted in 2012. In June 2011, USFS and ADF&G biologists met with Coeur staff and agreed to discontinue sampling as data collected between 2005-2010 met the intent of this study requirement. Additional sampling will not be required.

### 9.9 Berners Bay Transportation Plan

Marine vessel transport occurred between Juneau and Slate Cove or Comet Beach. Heavy equipment and supplies were transported via barge or landing craft and were received at Slate Cove or Comet Beach. Additionally, mine employees were transported via boat and were also received at Slate Cove. Marine waters located around the marine facilities discussed above were open to public access.

It is a requirement of the Berners Bay Transportation Policy, Mitigation, and BMP Plan to collect information on company marine vessel encounters with special fish, marine mammals, and important bird species during the eulachon spawning season in Berners Bay. This information is documented in Attachment 1.

### 9.10 Development Rock, Borrow Source, and Tails Material

Development rock and tailing sampling for acid base accounting (ABA) is a requirement of the POO. Development Rock sample results for 2012 are contained in Table 4. Development rock acid-base accounting results indicate minimal potential to generate acid rock drainage.

Quarterly tailings sample results for acid base accounting is contained in Table 5. Acid-base accounting results indicate that the tailings solids are net-neutralizing, thus minimal potential exists for acid rock drainage.

### 9.11 Construction/Excavation Dewatering (Non-Stormwater)

No construction/excavation dewatering (Non-Stormwater) occurred at the site during 2012.

Groundwater intercepted in the mine workings is treated and discharged to Sherman creek. This discharge is authorized under ADEC APDES permit AK-005057-1.

Tailings water was decanted and pumped from the TTF to the TTF Water Treatment Plant (WTP) where it is treated and discharged to East Fork of Slate Creek. This discharge is authorized under ADEC APDES permit AK-005057-1.

# 9.12 Tailings Treatment Facility Monitoring

Construction of the TTF was completed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2010 and operations of the facility began in June of 2010 and continued throughout 2012. Stage 2 construction activities at the TTF were conducted during 2012 with the dam being raised 25 feet from a crest elevation of 690 feet to 715 feet. The stage 2 construction was started in July and was completed in October of 2012.

Monitoring the TTF was conducted according to the approved Operation and Maintenance (O&M) manual dated August 13, 2010. The O&M manual was updated to reflect stage 2 and was submitted to Alaska Dam Safety in December of 2012 for review and approval. The O & M Manual describes procedures for operating the Lower Slate Lake Tailings Dam under normal and extreme reservoir level and flow conditions. Additionally, the O&M manual describes the daily, weekly and quarterly inspections that are required to be conducted at the dam along with any actions and maintenance activities that are necessary as a result of the inspection observations.

### 9.13 Wildlife

### 9.13.1 ADFG Goat Monitoring

Mountain goat monitoring in the Lions Head Mountain area associated with the Kensington Gold Project has been conducted intermittently since the late 1980's, in part to help determine potential future mine impacts on this population. An updated ADFG goat study is included as Attachment 3. Additionally, ADFG is planning on presenting the results of the study at the annual project meeting.

### 9.13.2 Terrestrial Wildlife Monitoring – Slate Lakes Basin

Wildlife Monitoring was conducted during 2012 in accordance with the Kensington Project Terrestrial Wildlife Monitoring Plan. This plan was designed to ensure that environmental impacts to wildlife resources in the Slate Lakes basin area are mitigated during both construction and operation of the Kensington Project and that the reclamation process includes a plan to support and encourage use by local wildlife. See Attachment 2 for the 2012 Terrestrial Wildlife Report.

### **10.0** Avalanche Safety Plan

Coeur Alaska maintains an avalanche hazard awareness and mitigation safety plan during the winter season. A qualified Avalanche Program Director is retained to:

- Identify and quantify the snow avalanche safety hazard
- Prepare recommendations on managing that hazard
- Train employees and contractors in pertinent requirements of the resulting safety plan
- Prepare daily hazard forecasts and perform potential avalanche control activities

Because of the steep terrain adjacent to the site and large quantities of snow-fall, risk avoidance cannot be accomplished in all cases. Therefore, an active avalanche risk mitigation program has been conducted at the site. This involves the use of explosives to initiate controlled release of smaller avalanches so as to reduce the risk of naturally triggered larger and more destructive avalanches.

During 2012, active control work was required and performed. During the 2012 reporting period,

- Areas of avalanche risk were placarded
- Crews were informed of avalanche hazards and the appropriate responses to those hazards
- Daily risk forecasts were prepared and communicated to crews, based on site weather and snow condition data
- Avalanche rescue equipment was located on-site
- Crews were trained in their roll in avalanche rescue operations and the use of the rescue equipment as appropriate

 Avalanche control was utilized on several occasions through the use of an avalancher and explosives.

During the reporting period, site activities were not curtailed as a result of identified avalanche hazards and no personnel were caught or injured in avalanches.

# 11.0 Dam Safety Oversight Status

Construction activities on the tailings treatment facility were completed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2010 and operations of the facility began in June of 2010 and continued throughout 2012. Detailed design applications to gain approval to modify the stage 1 dam were submitted to Department of Natural Resources (DNR) – Alaska Dam Safety (ADS) in the first quarter of 2012 and the certificate to modify the dam was issued by ADS on June 29, 2102. Following receipt of the certificate to modify the dam, construction of the stage 2 dam was conducted with the dam being raised 25 feet from a crest elevation of 690 feet to 715 feet. The stage 2 construction was started in July and was completed in October of 2012.

ADS conducted two site inspections of the stage 2 embankment construction during 2012.

A construction completion report, revised emergency action plan, revised operation and maintenance manual, and revised water management plan was prepared and submitted to ADS on December 9, 2012 as required by the certificate to modify the dam.

# **Projected Activities for 2013**

# **Key Issues and Permitting Activities**

A revised reclamation plan and cost estimate was prepared and submitted to the Forest Service, ADNR, ADEC, and ADFG on April 2, 2010. Comments were received from the agencies on three separate occasions with the latest in August 2011. A comment–response letter was submitted in December 2011 addressing the agency comments received in August. Additional agency comments were received on November 2, 2012. A comment-response and revised reclamation cost estimate is planned to be submitted in early 2013 addressing the latest comments received from the agencies.

An Integrated Waste Management Permit Application was submitted to ADEC on April 2, 2010. The application provides a description for the disposal of wastes from the Kensington Mine in accordance with the regulations in 18 AAC 60. The application was submitted to obtain an Integrated Waste Management Permit for the site. The new Integrated Waste Management Permit is expected to be issued in 2013.

Coeur Alaska, Inc. currently holds a Title I minor source air quality permit AQ0111MSS07 issued on October 17, 2012. An application was submitted in late 2012

to revise permit number AQ0111MSS07 to increase process throughput from 1563 tons per day to 2000 tons per day. The revised permit is expected in be issued in 2013.

A construction completion report, revised emergency action plan, revised operation and maintenance manual, and revised water management plan was submitted to ADS on December 9, 2012 as required by the certificate to modify the dam. A certificate to operate the stage 2 dam is expected to be issued by ADS in 2013.

### 1.0 Public Safety

No revisions to the Public Access Control Plan are contemplated for 2013.

# 2.0 Mine Operations

Ore production is planned throughout the entire year of 2013. Upgrades to the mine dewatering system are planned to be conducted with the installation of additional piping to convey solids from the underground triple sumps to the paste plant for disposal of the solids that settle out in the sumps.

# 3.0 Mill Operations

Mill Operations are planned to be at full production throughout 2013.

# 4.0 Tailings Treatment Facility

The majority of the tailings are planned to be conveyed to the paste plant for disposal into the underground workings in 2013.

Improvements are planned for the reclaim barge to facilitate accessing of the reclaim pumps for any future maintenance.

### 5.0 Access Corridors

Most access road and corridor upgrades were completed in 2006. Road maintenance of the access corridors will continue in 2013.

### 6.0 Reclamation

No final reclamation is anticipated to occur in 2013.

# 7.0 Surface Exploration

Difficulties with obtaining a diamond drill contractor during 2012 resulted in no exploration work being conducted on lands administered by the Forest Service. A diamond core drilling program totaling 15,000 feet (20 to 30 drill holes) was planned to be conducted in 2012 and an exploration work plan was submitted to the Forest Service in February 2012. A maximum of twenty (20) sites were proposed to be utilized in 2012. Of the twenty sites, twelve of the proposed sites were located on patented lode mining claims and eight of the proposed sites were located on lands administered by the Forest Service. Surface exploration is planned to be conducted on lands administered by the

Forest Service in 2013 and an updated work plan will be submitted to the Forest Service describing the proposed drilling program.

# 8.0 Proposed Modifications to Monitoring Plans for 2013

Modifications to the tailings treatment facility ecological monitoring plan are planned to be implemented in 2013 to reflect the revised plan to address comments received from the Forest Service and ADFG biologists.

# 9.0 Bonding

The Kensington Gold Project is currently bonded, including the tailings treatment facility, as described in the 2005 FSEIS and USFS Record of Decision. Bonding activities have been coordinated with US Forest Service as needed with each revision. An update to the current reclamation plan and associated cost estimate is expected to be finalized in 2013.

Table 1 Kensington Gold Project – Surface Disturbance

Tab	ole 1 Kensington Go	ia Project		isturbance
Area	Description	Status 2012	Permitted Disturbance Acreage – Total	Actual Disturbance - Acreage- Total
1	Kensington Comet Beach Camp	Existing / Permitted	3.2	3.2
2	Kensington Access Road	Existing / Permitted	8.1	8.1
3	Kensington Borrow Pit #1	Not built	1.5	1.5
4	Kensington Development Rock Stockpile	Existing / Permitted	14.3	14.3
5	Kensington Water Treatment Plant & Ponds	Existing / Permitted	4.3	4.3
6	Kensington Snow / Topsoil Stockpile	Existing / Permitted	2.1	0
7	Kensington 2050 Level Portal Development Rock Storage	Existing / Permitted	1.5	1.5
8	Jualin Process Area	Built	12.9	15.5
8A	Jualin Avalanche Berms & Road	Not built	0	0
9/9A	Jualin Development Rock Storage	Mostly Built	4.3	8.1
10	Jualin Storm Water Treatment Pond	Built	1.5	1.7
11	Jualin Process Area Snow/Topsoil Stockpile Area	Built	0.3	0.5
12	Jualin Pumphouse	Built	0.1	0.1
13	Jualin Access Road	Existing / Built	33.8	31.2
14	Jualin Laydown #1	Built	0.4	0.7
15	Jualin Laydown #2	Built	3.5	3.7
16	Jualin Laydown #3	Built	0.8	0.5
17	Jualin Administration Area	Built	2.5	5.7
18	Jualin Pit Source #1	Built	2	3.5
19	Jualin Pit Source #2	Built	1.3	1.3
20	Jualin Pit #3	Built	12.3	12.1
21	Jualin Pit #4	Not built	0.7	0
22	LSL Tailings Pipeline & Access Road (Upper)	Built	7.4	7.4
23	LSL Tailings Facility Access Road (Lower)	Built	9.2	9.2
24	LSL Tailings Lake	Partially occupied	39.9	29.8
25	LSL Tailings Lake Margin Working Area	Partially occupied	17.9	18.6
26	LSL Tailings Dam Borrow Source	Partially built	4.6	4.9
27	LSL Tailings Pipeline Road (Mill to Snowslide Gulch)	Built	10.1	10.1
28	LSL Tailings Dam & Plunge Pool Area	Built	6.8	7.1

Area	Description	Status 2008	Permitted Disturbance Acreage – Total	Actual Disturbance - Acreage- Total
29	Slate Creek Cove Marine Terminal	Built	1.9	0.9
30	Slate Creek Cove Snow/Stockpile Area	Built	0.2	0.2
31	Jualin Topsoil Stockpile	Built	0	0
32	Jualin Borrow Source #6	Partially built	0	3
33	Jualin Borrow Source #7	Built	0	1.6
36	Tailings Area Topsoil Stockpile	Not built	0	0
	TOTALS		209.4	209.2

**Table 2 - Kensington Gold Project - Wetlands Disturbance** 

Area	Description	Status 2012	Permitted Acres of Fill in Waters of the U.S. per 2005 Permit Table 1	Actual Waters of U.S. Acres Filled as of December 2012	Requested Acres of Total Fill in Waters of the U.S. 2009 update	Fill Volume (Cubic Yards)	Acres to be Reclaimed as Wetlands or Waters
1	Kensington Comet Beach Camp	Existing / Permitted	0	0	0	0	NA
2	Kensington Access Road	Existing / Permitted	0.9	0	0	0	NA
3	Kensington Borrow Pit #1	Not built	0.3	0	0	0	NA
4	Kensington Development Rock Stockpile Expansion	Existing / Permitted	5.1	1.1	4.5	220,000	8
5	Kensington Water Treatment Plant & Ponds and Expansion Area	Existing / Permitted	2.6	2.9	3.5	85,000	3.5
6	Kensington Snow / Topsoil Stockpile	Existing / Permitted	2.1	0	2.1	10,000	2.1
7	Kensington 2050 Level Portal Dev. Rock Storage	Existing / Permitted	0	0	0	0	0
8	Jualin Process Area	Built	1.1	2.0	2.0	97,000	NA
8A	Jualin Avalanche Berms & Road	Not built		0	0.3	23,000	NA
9/9A	Jualin Development Rock Storage	Mostly Built	4.3	2.0	2.5	121,000	1.7
10	Jualin Storm Water Treatment Pond	Built	0	0.1	0.1	1,500	NA
11	Jualin Process Area Snow/Topsoil Stockpile	Built	0	0.2	0.2	3,000	0.6
12	Jualin Pumphouse	Built	0.1	0.1	0.1	1,500	NA
13	Jualin Access Road	Existing / Built	8.2	7.7	7.7	37,000	0.6
14	Jualin Laydown #1	Built	0.4	0	0	0	NA
15	Jualin Laydown #2	Built	3.5	0	0	0	NA
16	Jualin Laydown #3	Built	0.8	0	0	0	NA
17	Jualin Admin. Area	Built	2.5	0.1	0.1	1,500	2.5
18	Jualin Borrow Source #1	Built	0	0	0		0.2
19	Jualin Borrow Source #2	Built	0.1	1.1	1.1	10,500	
20	Jualin Borrow Source #3	Built	2.4	1.2	1.2	11,500	6.0
21	Jualin Borrow Source #4	Not built	0.7	0	0	0	NA

Area	Description	Status 2012	Permitted Acres of Fill in Waters of the U.S. per 2005 Permit Table 1	Actual Waters of U.S. Acres Filled as of December 2012	Requested Acres of Total Fill in Waters of the U.S. 2009 update	Fill Volume (Cubic Yards)	Acres to be Reclaimed as Wetlands or Waters
22	LSL Tailings Pipeline & Access Road (Upper)	Built	4.7	4.3	4.3	41,500	4.3
23	LSL Tailings Facility Access Road (Lower)	Built	0.3	1.3	1.4	13,500	2.8
24	LSL Tailings Lake (tailings as fill)	Occupied	23.5	23.5	23.5	3,920,000	(23.5)
25	LSL Tailings Lake Margin Working Area	Partially occupied	8.5	10.9	10.9	500	8.7 (38.5)
26	LSL Tailings Dam Borrow Source	Partially built	0.3	0.3	0.3	3,000	0
27	LSL Tailings Pipeline Road (Mill to Snowslide Gulch)	Partially built	3.0	0.4	0.4	3,500	2.2
28	LSL Tailings Dam & Plunge Pool Area	Built	5.9	6.1	6.1	236,000	2.4
29	Slate Creek Cove Marine Terminal	Built	1.9	0.5	0.5	12,000	3.2
30	Slate Creek Cove Snow/Stockpile Area	Built	0.2	0	0	0	0.5
31	Jualin Topsoil Stockpile	Built		6.8	6.8	300,000	6.8
32	Jualin Borrow Source #6	Partially built		0.1	0.1	1,500	0
33	Jualin Borrow Source #7	Built		0.8	0		NA
34	Jualin Reclamation Material Area	Built	0	0	0	0	0
36	LSL Tailings Area Topsoil Stockpile	Not built		0	0.6	14,500	0.6
	TOTALS		83.4	73.5	80.3	5,168,500	110.0

### **TABLE 3**

### ANNUAL SPILL LOG

### FACILITY NAME, ADDRESS & Phone #:

Coeur Alaska - Kensington Gold Mine, (907) 523-3337 Quantity Location of Cause of Spill or additional Clean Up (Y/N) Reported to State Date of Spill Time of Spill **Product Spilled** Spilled Spill information Area(s) Affected 1/7/2012 10:00 AM Hydraulic Oil 3 Gallons Upper Camp The hydraulic hose on the rental JD Upper Camp Yes, Adsorbent pads were utilized to clean-up the Yes, Monthly Report Area 80 excavator broke resulting in Area spilled hydraulic oil. Additionally, the contaminated hydraulic oil being spilled onto the soil was excavated with shovels and placed into ground. drums. The excavated contaminated soil will be placed into the site bioremediation cell in the spring. The adsorbent pads were disposed of in the site incinerator. 2/7/12 3:00 PM Grey Water Sewage 5 gallons Upper Camp While excavating the foundation for Upper Camp The area was immediately contained, controlled, Yes, Verbally the new administration building, a 4 taped off and a 5% chlorine solution was placed on Reported to ADEC Area Area inch sewer pipe was hit by the the affected area. on 2/7/12 excavator and broken causing grey water sewage to be spilled onto the ground. 3/11/2012 11:00 AM Transmission Oil 4 Gallons Mill Bench Transmission injector plate came Mill Bench Yes, Adsorbent pads were utilized to clean-up the Yes, Monthly Report Adjacent to loose causing the seal around the spilled transmission oil. Additionally, a bucket was 30,000 inspection plate to begin leaking placed under the leaking injector plate and 2.5 gallons gallon tank transmission oil. of the spilled 4 gallons was captured in the bucket. The used adsorbent pads were disposed of in the site incinerator. 3/12/2012 2:00 AM Ferric Chloride 300 Gallons Mill Bench | See Spill Notification Form Mill Bench Yes, Adsorbent Pads were utilized to clean-up free Yes, Spill Report product along with vacuum truck. Approximately 160 Form on 3/12/12 gallons was recovered utilizing the vacuum truck and taken the water treatment plant for use in the plant. The contaminated soil was excavated and placed into drums for off-site disposal. The used adsorbent pads were placed into drums for off-site disposal. The contaminated snow was placed into a lined dumpster and taken to Water Treatment Plant for use in the plant. 3/25/2012 9:00 AM Diesel Fuel 2 Gallons Old landing A fuel filter was leaking on the fuel Yes, Adsorbent pads were utilized to clean-up the Old Landing Yes, Monthly Report zone line. Zone spilled diesel fuel. The used adsorbent pads were adjacent to disposed of in the site incinerator. new core shed. 5/26/2012 1:00 PM Hydraulic Oil 5 Gallons Adjacent to Hydraulic oil leak from faulty Surface Yes, Adsorbent pads were utilized to clean-up the Yes, Kensington Pit-3 Surface hydraulic oil line. Maintenance spilled hydraulic oil. The used adsorbent pads were Monthly Report Maintenance Shop disposed of in the site incinerator. The contaminated Shop Facility soil was placed into the site biocell. Five gallons of contaminated soil was excavated and placed into the biocell

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REPORT MONTH/YR: 2012 Summary

Date of Spill	Time of Spill	Product Spilled	Quantity Spilled	Location of Spill	Cause of Spill or additional information	Area(s) Affected	Clean Up (Y/N)	Reported to State
6/12/2012	3:30:00 AM	Hydraulic Oil	4 Gallons of Hydraulic Oil	Mill Bench	924 loader blew a hydraulic hose while working on the portal bench	Portal Bench comprised of gravel/soil	Yes, Adsorbent pads were utilized to clean-up the spilled hydraulic oil. The used adsorbent pads were disposed of in the site incinerator.	Yes, Kensington Monthly Report
6/21/2012	1:30 PM	Hydraulic Oil	3 Gallons of Used Oil & 3 Gallons of Diesel Fuel	Adjacent to Primary Generators at Mill Facility	Generator mechanic was carrying two - 5 gallon buckets from generator #6 to the used oil totes.  One bucket contained diesel fuel and the second bucket contained used oil. The generator mechanic tripped and fell while carrying the buckets spilling the used oil and diesel fuel onto the ground.		Yes, Adsorbent pads were utilized to clean-up the spilled used oil and diesel fuel. The used adsorbent pads were disposed of in the site incinerator. The contaminated soil was excavated and placed into drums for disposal into the site biocell. Twenty -five gallons of contaminated soil was excavated and placed into a drum.	
6/26/2012	9:30 AM	Used Oil	20 gallons of Used Oil	Slate Cove Port Lay- down Area	A tote of Used Oil leaked while be transported from the Mill Facility to the Slate Cove Port Lay-down. The tote was located in a connex and the connex was identified as leaking used oil after being placed at the Port lay-down area. The lid and locking band of the tote failed allowing used oil to spill from the top of the used oil tote and into the connex. The used oil then leaked from the connex onto the ground.	Port Lay-down area consisting of gravel/soil	Adsorbent pads were utilized to clean-up the liquid used oil and the contaminated soil was excavated and placed into drums for disposal into the site bio-cell.  Approximately 3 cubic yards of contaminated soil was excavated during the clean-up activities.	Yes, Verbally to DEC on 6/27/12 - 1:50 PM; Report submitted on 6/27/12.
7/17/2012	2:30:00 PM	Diesel Fuel	15 Gallons of Diesel Fuel	Mill Bench		Mill Bench comprised of gravel/soil	Yes, Absorbent pads were used for the free standing liquid including several gallons spilled onto an adjacent metal platform. The remaining fuel contained in 1.5 cubic yards of soil was picked up and placed into barrels for disposal into the site biocell.	Yes, Reported to DEC on 7/18/12.
7/20/2012	9:30 AM	Diesel Fuel	2 Gallons of Diesel Fuel		While conducting an inspection of the portable screen plant located on the portal bench, a leaking fuel injector was identified and adsorbent pads were placed under the fuel injector until the fuel injector could be fixed.	Portal Bench comprised of gravel/soil	Yes, Adsorbent pads were utilized to clean-up the spilled diesel fuel. The used adsorbent pads were disposed of in the site incinerator. The contaminated soil was excavated and placed into drums for disposal into the site biocell. Twenty -five gallons of contaminated soil was excavated and placed into a drum.	Yes, Kensington Monthly Report
8/16/2012	2:00:00 PM	Hydraulic Oil	1 Gallon	Mill Bench	A leak was identified coming from a 1/4 inch hydraulic line that feeds the CAT 924 Loader bucket release pins. The fluid reported to smooth hard packed material and the majority of the material was wiped up with adsorbent pads.	on smooth hard packed material	Yes, Absorbent pads were used for the free standing liquid. The remaining hydraulic oil contained in 4 hand shovel scoops of soil was picked up and placed into barrels for disposal into the site biocell.	Yes, Kensington Monthly Report

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Date of Spill	Time of Spill	Product Spilled	Quantity Spilled	Location of Spill	Cause of Spill or additional information	Area(s) Affected	Clean Up (Y/N)	Reported to State
8/25/2012	11:30 AM	Diesel Fuel	9 Gallons of Diesel Fuel	Comet Beach Water Treatment	A haul truck had a loose fuel cap which resulted in an overflow of diesel fuel out of the mouth and onto the road. All haul trucks were checked for proper fuel caps and replaced if needed. The fluid reported to smooth hard packed material and the spilled fuel was wiped up with adsorbent pads.	Access Road comprised of	Yes, Adsorbent pads were utilized to clean-up the spilled diesel fuel. The used adsorbent pads were disposed of in the site incinerator.	Yes, Kensington Monthly Report
11/9/2012	10:50 PM	Hydraulic Oil	3 Gallons	Mill Bench	Blown Hydraulic Hose on the Skid Steer Loader	8 ft by 8 ft area of compacted road surface	Adsorbent pads were utilized to clean-up the free product and the contaminated soil was excavated and placed into a 55 -gallon drum. One 55-gallon drum was filled with the material. The soil will be placed into the site bio-cell in the spring. The adsorbent pads were disposed of in the site incinerator.	Yes, Monthly Report
11/12/2012	4:00:00 PM	Diesel Fuel	16 Gallons	Portal Bench	CAT loader leaked approximately 16 gallons of diesel fuel onto the ground as a result of a leaking fuel filter/injector assembly.	4500 square feet area of compacted rock/gravel	Adsorbent pads were utilized to clean-up the free product and the contaminated soil was excavated and transferred to a new containment cell on-site.	Yes, Reported Verbally to DEC and a Written Report was submitted on 11/13/12
11/27/2012	1:00 PM	Hydraulic Oil	2 Gallons	Portal Bench	Blown Hydraulic Hose on the Excavator	5 ft by 5 ft area of compacted road surface	Adsorbent pads were utilized to clean up the free product on the frozen ground and the contaminated soil was excavated and placed into 55- gallon drum. Approximately 1/2 of a 55-gallon drum was filled. The soil will be placed into the site biocell in the spring. The adsorbent pads were disposed of in the site incinerator.	Yes, Monthly Report
12/2/2012	5:00 AM	Hydraulic Oil	3 Gallons	Mill Bench	Blown Hydraulic Hose on the Skid Steer Loader	4 ft by 4 ft area of compacted road surface	Adsorbent pads were utilized to clean-up the free product and the contaminated soil was excavated and placed into a 55 -gallon drum. One 55-gallon drum was filled with the material. The soil will be placed into the site bio-cell in the spring. The adsorbent pads were disposed of in the site incinerator.	Yes, Monthly Report
12/30/2012	3:00:00 AM	Hydraulic Oil	4 Gallons	Mill Bench	Blown Hydraulic Hose on the Skid Steer Loader	4 ft by 4 ft area of compacted road surface	Adsorbent pads were utilized to clean-up the free product and the contaminated soil was excavated and placed into a 55 -gallon drum. One 55-gallon drum was filled with the material. The soil will be placed into the site bio-cell in the spring. The adsorbent pads were disposed of in the site incinerator.	Yes, Monthly Report

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Table 4

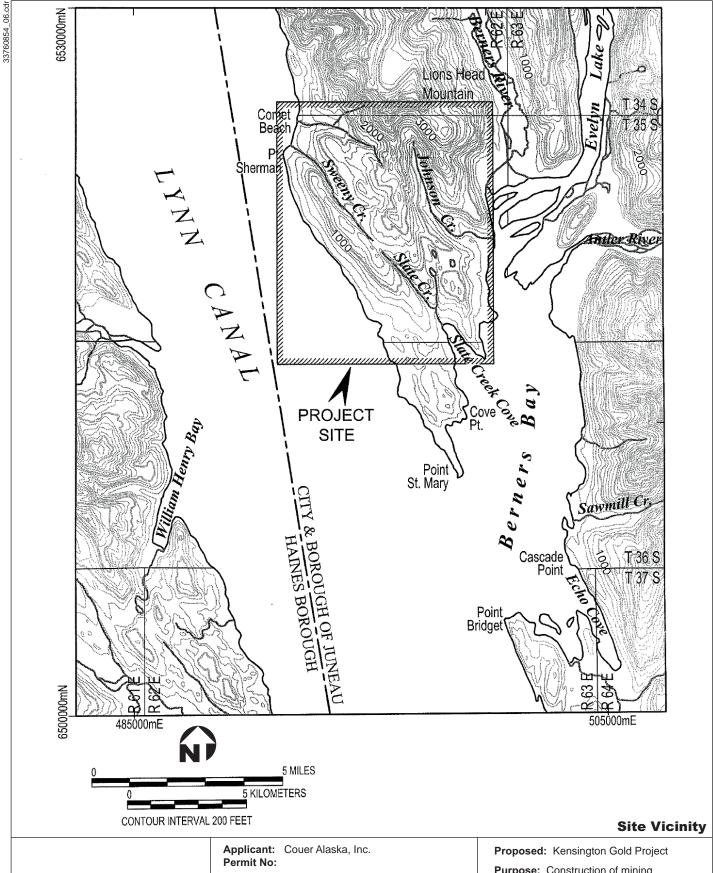
2012 Development Rock MWMP Results	TDS (mg/L)	pН	NH <sub>3</sub> (mg/L)	Al (ug/L)	Ar (ug/L)	Cd (ug/L)	Cr (ug/L)	Cu (ug/L)	Fe (ug/L)	Pb (ug/L)	Hg (ug/L)	Ni (ug/L)	Se (ug/L)	Ag (ug/L)	Zn (ug/L)
Development Rock 1st Quarter	82	8.16	0.118	88.00	ND										
Development Rock 2nd Quarter	80	7.86	0.270	ND	4.00	ND	ND	2.15	ND						
Development Rock 3rd Quarter	47	7.43	0.715	ND											
Development Rock 4th Quarter	72	7.85	0.43	268.00	ND										

	Sulfur,	Sulfur 1	Forms (Acid Extra extractable Sulf	actable and Non-	Acid	Neutralization	Acid - Base
2012 Development Rock ABA Results	Total		extractable Sulf	ur) 3.2.0	Potential	Potential	Accounting
	3.2.4	Sulfate	Pyritic	Non-extractable	1.3.1	3.2.3	1.3.1
	wt%	wt%	wt%	wt%	t CaCO3/1000t	t CaCO3/1000t	t CaCO3/1000t
Development Rock 1st Quarter	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	53.7	53.7
Development Rock 2nd Quarter	0.01	0.01	ND	ND	ND	54.6	54.6
Development Rock 3rd Quarter	0.03	0.03	ND	ND	ND	49.0	49.0
Development Rock 4th Quarter	0.05	0.05	ND	ND	ND	54.6	54.6

Table 5

2012 Tails MWMP Results	pН	NH <sub>3</sub> (mg/L)	Al (ug/L)	Ar (ug/L)	Cd (ug/L)	Cr (ug/L)	Cu (ug/L)	Fe (ug/L)	Pb (ug/L)	Hg (ug/L)	Ni (ug/L)	Se (ug/L)	Ag (ug/L)	Zn (ug/L)
Tails 1st Quarter	8.12	0.435	85.00	ND	40.00	ND								
Tails 2nd Quarter	7.95	0.03	ND	5.54	ND	ND	ND							
Tails 3rd Quarter	7.86	0.62	ND	3.11	ND	ND	ND							
Tails 4th Quarter	7.56	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	6.42	ND	ND	ND

2012 Tails ABA Results	Sulfur,	Sulfur Forms (Acid Extractable and Non- extractable Sulfur) 3.2.6			Acid	Neutralizati on	Acid - Base
	Total				Potential	Potential	Accounting
	3.2.4	Sulfate	Pyritic	Non- extractable	1.3.1	3.2.3	1.3.1
	wt%	wt%	wt%	wt%	t CaCO3/1000t	t CaCO3/1000t	t CaCO3/1000t
Tails 1st Quarter	0.05	0.05	ND	ND	ND	96.7	96.7
Tails 2nd Quarter	0.06	0.06	ND	ND	ND	97.9	97.9
Tails 3rd Quarter	0.08	0.04	ND	ND	1	86.9	85.9
Tails 4th Quarter	0.15	0.12	0.03	ND	0.8	102	101



**Location Address:** Approximately Lynn Canal at Berners Bay, Juneau, Alaska

**Adjacent Property Owners:** 1. U.S. Forest Service

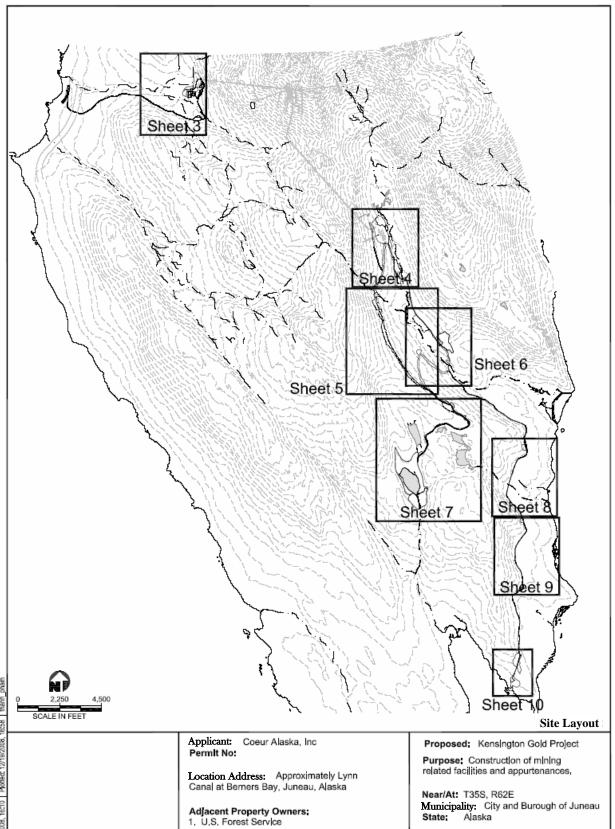
**Purpose:** Construction of mining related facilities and appurtenances

Near/At: T35S, R62E

Municipality: City and Borough of Juneau

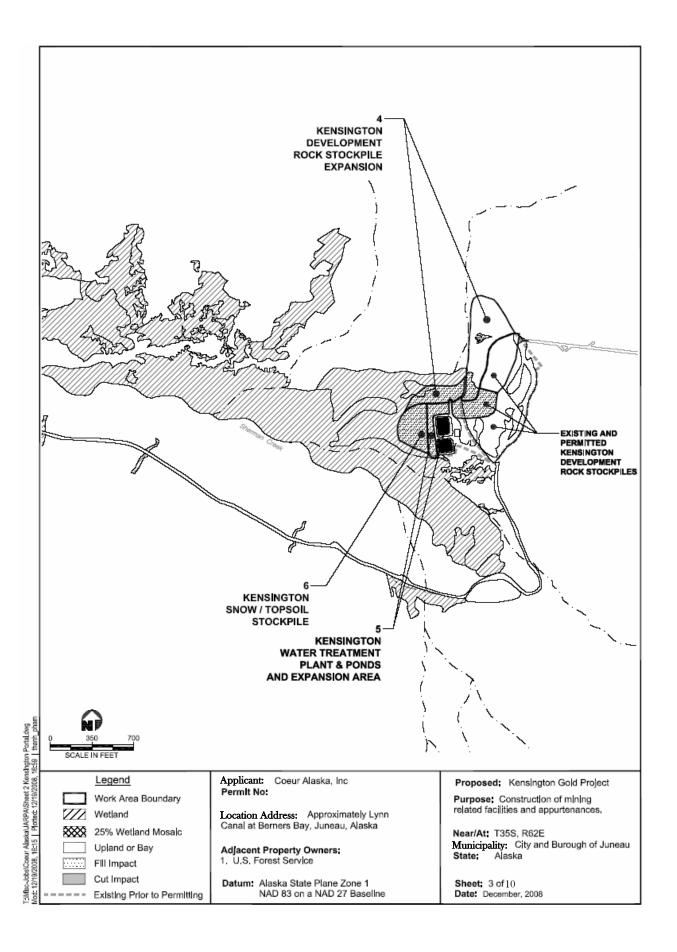
State: Alaska

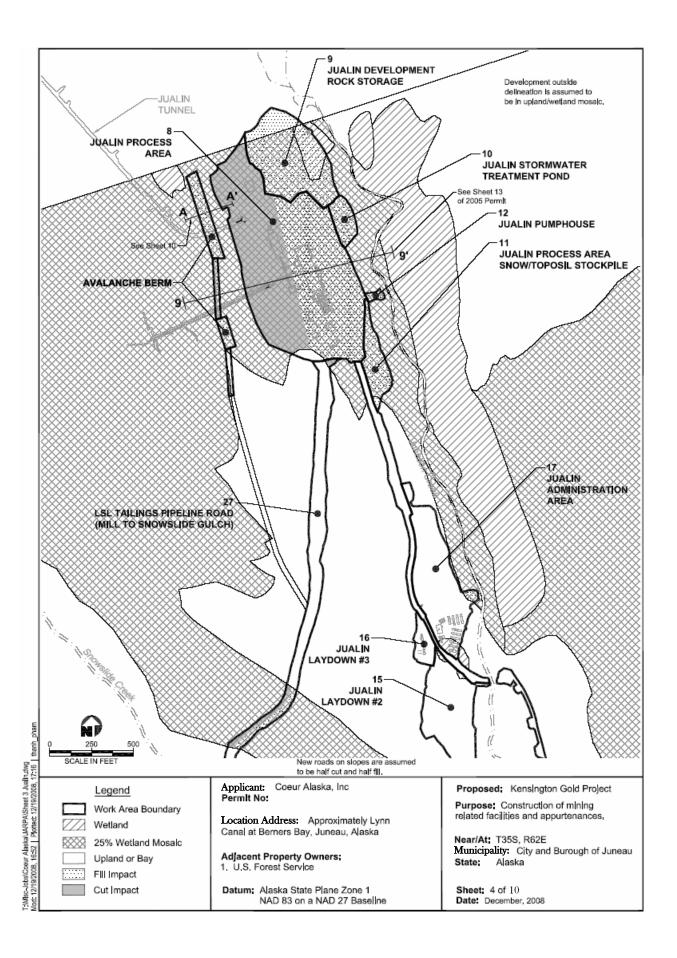
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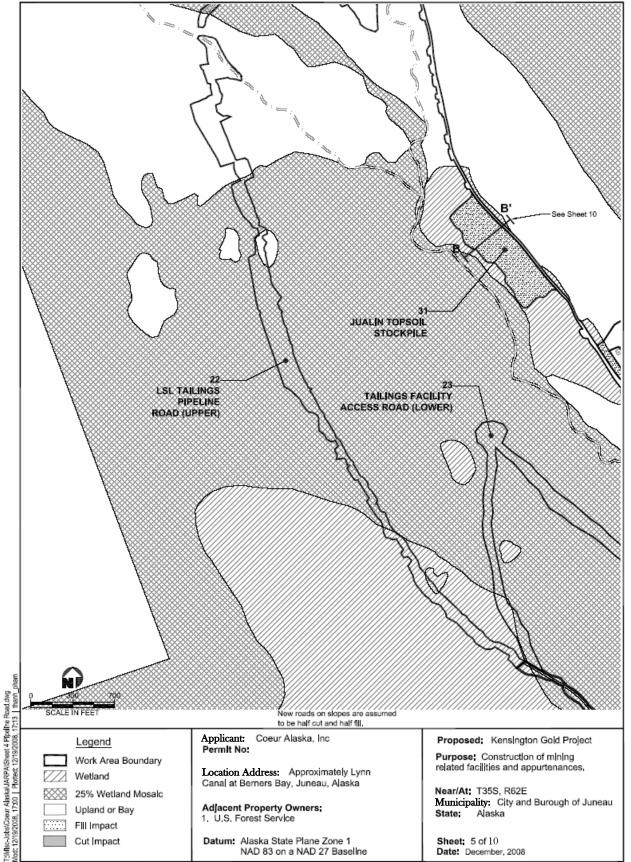


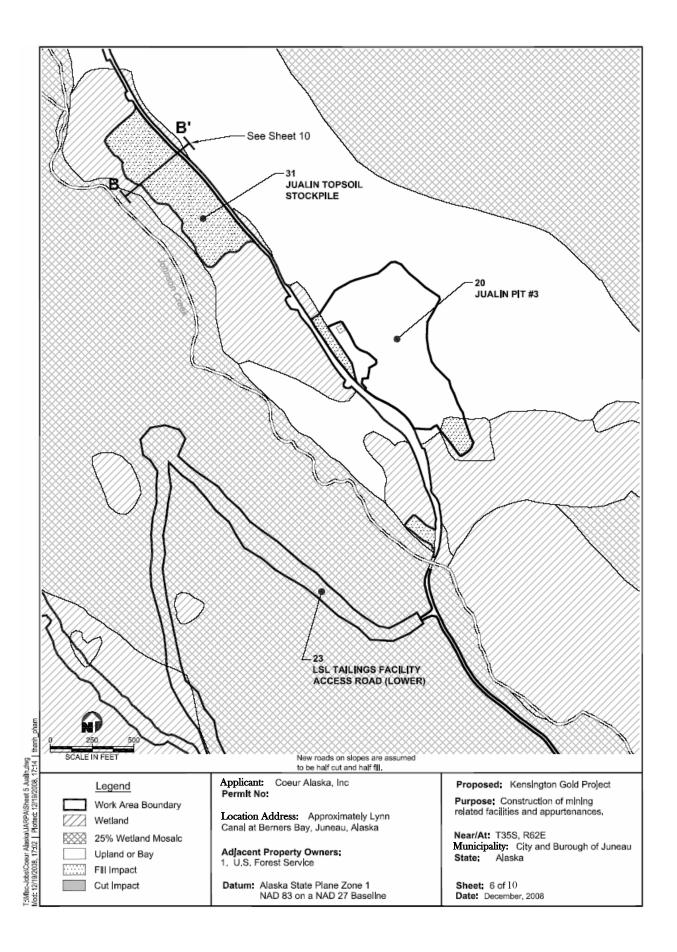
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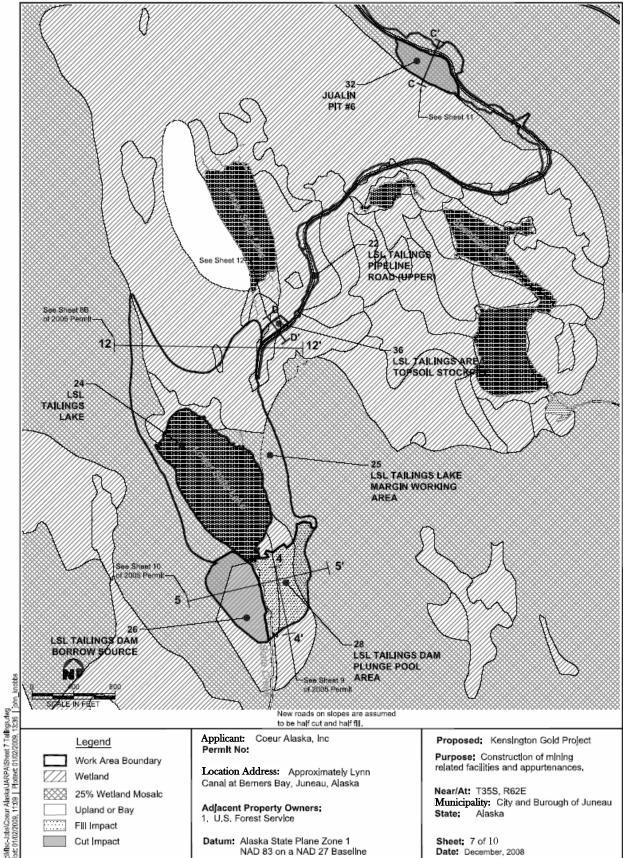
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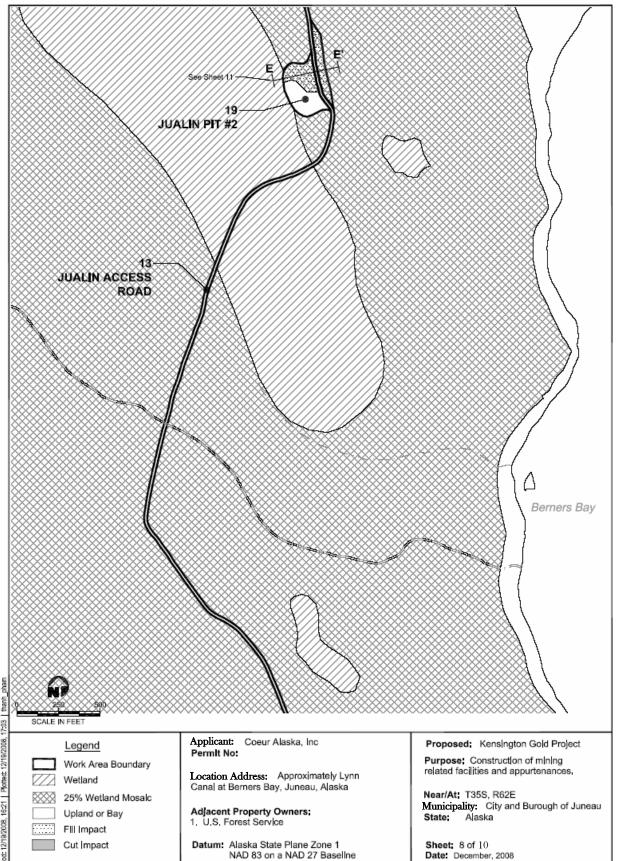




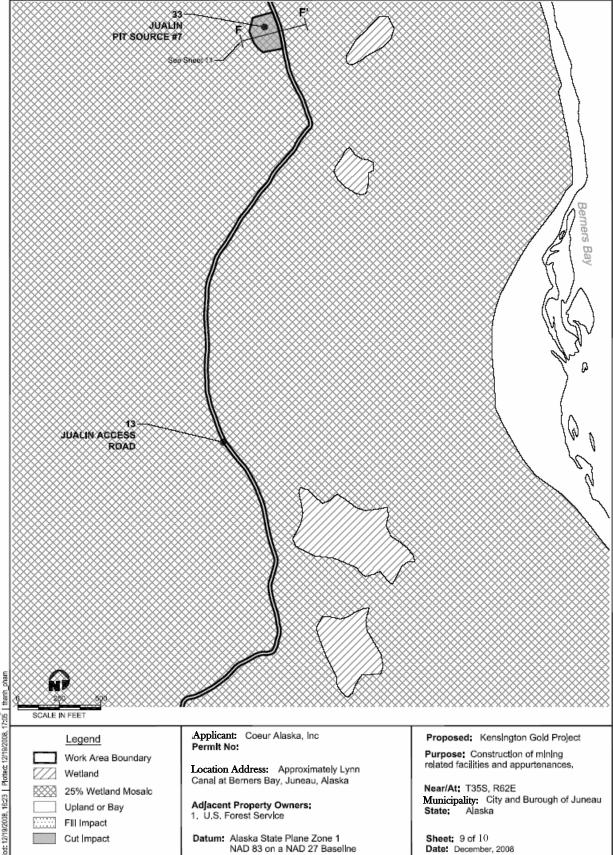




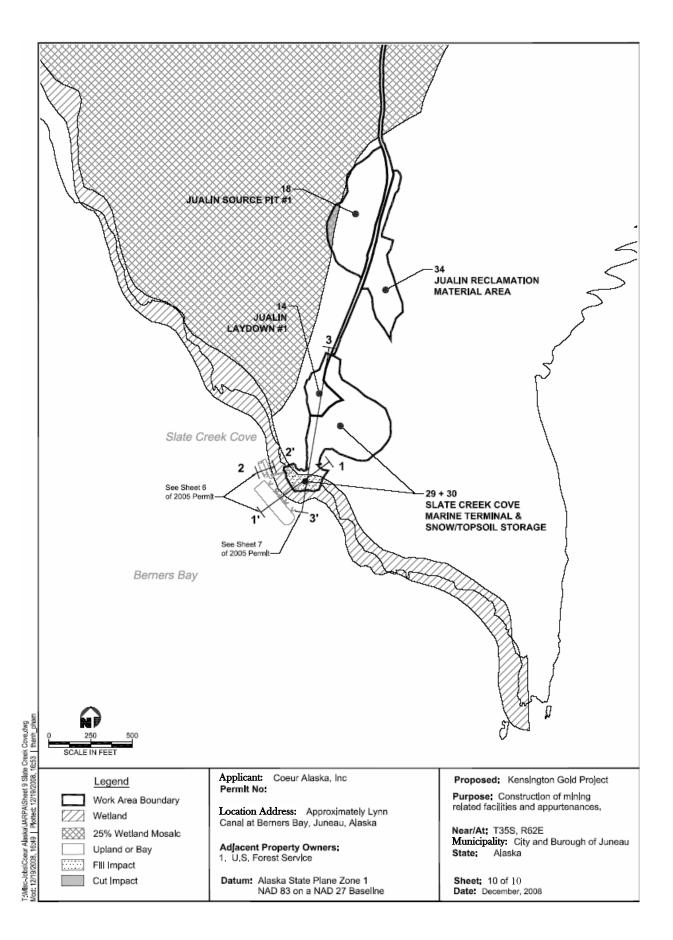




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T:Misc-Jobs/Coeur Alaska\JARPA\Sheet 8 Road.dwg Mod: 12/19/2008, 16:23 | Plotted: 12/19/2008, 17:05 |



# Attachment 1 Marine Mammal Monitoring Report - 2012

# Attachment 2 Wildlife Monitoring Report – 2012

# **Attachment 3**

Mountain Goat Population Monitoring near the Kensington Mine, Alaska – May, 2012