



INSPECTION REPORT: KENSINGTON GOLD MINE

Tongass National Forest Minerals Group
8510 Mendenhall Loop Rd
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 789-6275– office
(907) 586-8808 – fax

Date of Inspection: Thursday December 21, 2017
Date of Report: Wednesday January 10, 2018
USDA Forest Service Inspector: Richard Dudek

Ranger District: Juneau Ranger District

Weather Conditions: Sunny with some clouds. Temperature: High 20'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 transportation (Cessna 206) to/from site.

Peter Strow (Environmental engineer, Coeur Alaska) accompanied Matthew Reece (Minerals program manager, United States Forest Service (USFS)) and Richard Dudek (Geologist, USFS).

This inspection included the Access roads, Comet Development Pile, Comet water treatment plant, Sherman Creek Outfall, Kensington mill area, Kensington administration area, Pit 4, TTF area, and the Fuel Depot.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Residual fuel requires cleanup at the fuel depot when warmer temperatures persist.

NOTEWORTHY ITEMS:

The construction for the modular housing units is almost completed (Photo 1).

ACCESS ROADS

At the time of the inspection, the access roads were in adequate condition (2016 BMP Plan; page C-53).

COMET DEVELOPMENT PILE

No additional waste rock has been stockpiled at this location (Photo 2).





COMET WATER TREATMENT PLANT (CWTP)

On 12/21/2017, the CWTP was treating 1,625 gallons of water per minute (gpm). Pond-1 (Photo 3) was receiving mine site water, and Pond-2 (Photo 4) was receiving backwash from the CWTP. Good housekeeping practices (2016 BMP plan Table 4-1) were observed inside the CWTP.

No white material observed on the test rock/barrel used for monitoring white material in treated mine site water (Photo 5).

SHERMAN CREEK OUTFALL

No white material was observed in Sherman Creek (Photo 6). As part of the current APDES permit, Coeur personnel monitor the outfall weekly for white material.

KENSINGTON MILL AREA

Contractors continue with the construction of the new powerhouse station (Photo 7).

The 30,000-gallon day tank's new concrete pad with secondary containment is completed (Photo 8).

All waste rock generated from the underground workings is currently being deposited at the Kensington development pile (Photo 9).

KENSINGTON ADMIN. AREA

Contractors continue with construction of the new carpenters shop (Photo 10).

PIT 4

The Pug plant is inactive for the winter months (Photos 11). A temporary liner covers the graphitic phyllite (GP) stockpile that is used as feedstock for the pug plant (Photo 12).

TAILINGS TREATMENT FACILITY (TTF) AREA

The TTF was mostly frozen over and the recorded water level on 11/28/2017 was 700.6 feet (Photo 13).

The day of this inspection, the water treatment plant was treating 1,450 gpm. Good housekeeping practices (BMP plan Table 4-1) were observed inside the water treatment plant (Photo 14). At the northern TTF area, the ARD collection ditch was mostly frozen over and covered in snow (Photo 15).

FUEL DEPOT

On November 18, 2017, Petro Marine reported to Coeur Alaska that 20 gallons of diesel fuel spilled during refueling at tank 6. The water and residual fuel was pumped to the refueling pad's secondary containment, which allowed residence time for the hydrocarbon booms and absorbent pads to capture the diesel before the water was discharged. The cleanup was suspended until warmer conditions persist, and the hydrocarbon containment booms remain in place in the refueling pad's secondary containment (Photos 16-17).

FOLLOW UP ITEMS

Sherman Creek outfall

The construction of the powerhouse facility

Fuel depot



PHOTOS (Additional photos available upon request)



Photo 1. The new modular housing units.



Photo 2. The Comet development pile.



Photo 3. Pond 1 at the Comet water treatment plant.



Photo 4. Pond 2 at the Comet water Treatment plant.



Photo 5. The test rock/barrel used for monitoring white material.



Photo 6. Sherman Creek Outfall 001.



Photo 7. Construction is still ongoing for the new powerhouse station.



Photo 8. The new concrete pad for the 30,000-gallon refueling tank with secondary containment.



Photo 9. The Kensington development pile.



Photo 10. Construction for the new carpenters shop is nearly completed.



Photo 11. The Pug plant located at Pit 4.



Photo 12. The temporary GP stockpile covered by a liner at Pit 4.



Photo 13. The TTF area.



Photo 14. The TTF water treatment plant.



Photo 15. The northern TTF area.



Photo 16. The Fuel depot.



Photo 17. The fuel depot's refueling pad with secondary containment.



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

