

Left Hand Water District
Source Water Protection Plan Meeting
March 5, 2009

Topic: Completed and Pending Abandoned Mine Clean-ups

Attendees:

Hank Schmidt, LHWD Treatment Manager
Pete Lawrence, Town of Ward
Trez Skillern, USFS
Carl Chambers, USFS
Ed Baile, Left Hand Water District
Julie Annear, DRMS
Mark Williams, Boulder County Public Health
Jim Shelley, City of Boulder Water
Colleen Williams, James Creek Watershed Initiative/Colorado Rural Water Association
Ken Lanarcic, Town of Jamestown
Mary Boardman, CDPHE
Mark Rudolph, CDPHE
Danny Lutz, CDPHE
Sue Schaufler, Citizen Representative from Rowena
Elizabeth Russell, Lefthand Creek TAG Coalition

The meeting began with a round of introductions.

Each agency who has a completed or pending clean-up was asked to give an update on the work that has been done or will be completed. Below is a abbreviated list of the sites addressed:

LWOG: Porphyry Waste Rock Pile (formerly Joe Ryan Tailing or JRT) – The LWOG recently submitted the Sampling Analysis Plan (SAP) and is waiting for input from CDPHE. The funds are secured, but CDPHE has a backlog of work so we don't know when we will have approval to begin the project. The LWOG is committed to seeing this through. Julie at DRMS is going to double check that their matching funds will continue to be available despite the delay.

USFS: Golden Age Site- The FS will be fine tuning this site this spring/summer. Basically they will be doing some reseeded of some areas that failed to re-vegetate after the reclamation. The following sites: Streamside Tailings, Bueno Mill, and the Fairday Mine site are all complete.

DRMS: Julie Annear is going to start working (hiring someone this summer) to take GPS points of the sites where they have done closures. The will help us ascertain which of the sites (from the original 300+ listed as potential sources of contamination (PCOS) in the Source Water Assessment have been addressed at least in terms of safety. She is also going to rate the sites for their potential to impact the LHWD's source water.

Colleen Williams (who works on SWPP for CRWA) pointed out that we do not have to address every mine opening in the report. She said that for one SWPP plan she was involved in they went out into the field and double checked that the sites mentioned actually exist and a valid concern. They whittled their list down quite a bit so the report could focus on true issues of concern. Julie also told us about a few sites that may be a concern, but we have yet to study them fully.

Captain Jack- Mary Boardman gave us an update on the Captain Jack. All pertinent info is available here: <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/hm/CaptJack/#Related%20Web%20Sites>

The following are the tentative timelines for activities:

- September 2008: Issuance of Record of Decision, which selects the final remedy
- 2009 - 2010: Remedial Design
- 2010 - 2012: Construction
- 2013 - 2014: Monitoring and evaluation of Subsurface remedy Phase I
- 2015 - 2017: Subsurface remedy Phase II (if necessary)

Argo BOCO Brownsfield VCUP- Mark Rudolph gave us a brief update on the Argo. Plans are in the works for a summer clean-up. Currently bidding for the limestone/cement injection to fill the stope is underway.

Slide Mine – Mark Rudolph informed us that they state has not signed off on the VCUP so Gold Reef Mining has not been removed from liability. He doesn't expect that to happen this year. The Forest Service has been concerned about the condition of some of the waddles that were put in place. They may need to be replaced. Pictures from the few storm events that occurred last summer do seem to show some reduction in sediment entering the stream. Hopefully we will have more events this year to judge by. The adit below the Slide has not been monitored, but it has been occasionally sampled and does not appear to be greatly increasing toxicity. It is on the LWOG's list of sites to add if they get permission from the RiverWatch program.

Loder- Private/BLM ownership. Need more data. Problem may be during storm events/suspended sediments. Kathy Hernandez had promised to provide more data to Julie and Geneva, but the data never materialized.

A note from Kathy Hernandez from the EPA

I need to work with Joe Ryan on this issue and find out from him the best time to collect water samples in hopes of observing dissolved lead in the water column below the site.

This is often difficult. My understanding was that we needed samples that show that the site contributes elevated metals to the water column (metals that are documented in the 303(d) listing. When Ken Wangerud took over the site I was unable to get funds for sampling. If the group decides that the data is still useful for Julie, I can try asking the new RPM Christina Progress for funds.

John Jay- main issue is trash

There are 2 draining adits around the Escanada Property that should be monitored if possible (Rife Tunnel and ?)

Unaddressed and or Unknown Toxicity Part I

Jenks Adit

Emmett Adit (known loader)

Loder Site

Escanaba Property

 Rife Tunnel

 Unknown adit

John Jay (trash issue)-DRMS may be able to help with this.

Pending Clean Ups

Argo

Captain Jack

Porphyry Waste Rock Pile

For the completed clean-ups in the watershed (VCUPs, Forest Service, EPA Remedial Action) we developed a minimal list of info we need for our plan

-What is the clean-up date?

-What is the history of the problem?

-Who is the operation and maintenance entity?

-What is the monitoring plan?

-What was/is the cost of the clean up?

-What were the goals and objectives of the clean up?

-What amount of the clean-up is complete? What is the status of the clean-up?