

Bonita Peak Mining District Update

January 2020



<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/bonita-peak>

Site Updates

- In December 2019 EPA received comments from the Community Advisory Group, the Silverton Planning Group, and the public during a public meeting on the EPA's high-level site strategy options presented to the community in November. The comments provided were very constructive and will help shape the final site strategy. EPA plans to provide the final site strategy to the public in February.

- This winter, EPA has contracted with the Mountain Studies Institute to conduct sampling to get a baseline for winter data from six draining mine adits in Cement Creek and six in-stream gage locations throughout the district.



Creek and six in-stream gage locations throughout the district.

Winter travel to these sites is difficult requiring skis, snowmobiles, snowshoes and the occasional llama to transport the necessary monitoring equipment.



These monitoring and analysis efforts will help to improve EPA's understanding of the interaction between surface and groundwater, the region's complex geology, and the mining legacy of the BPMD. Ultimately, this effort will help inform decisions related to future remediation actions.

Site Team Changes Announced



Esther Godson is the new San Juan National Forest Public Affairs Officer. Esther came to the San Juan NF in November 2019 from the USFS National Technology and Development Program, where she was their Project Management Officer. Prior to that, she supported the USFS National Technology & Development Program as a Project Manager specializing in field data automation and mobile computing. Esther holds a Master of Science in Forest Sciences from Colorado State University and is a Project Management Professional (PMP, PMI-ACP). She is an avid trail runner, border collie wrangler, and novice cardamom gardener.