

Bonita Peak Mining District Update

November 2019



COLORADO
Department of Public
Health & Environment



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

Site Updates

- On November 7, 2019 EPA, USFS, BLM, and CDPHE, along with the Silverton Planning Group and CAG participated in an all-day work session to discuss site strategy plans and options as part of the adaptive management process.

Adaptive management supports a “learn by doing” site management approach, which allows for continued site progress while incrementally reducing site uncertainties.

During the all-day work session, EPA went over the high-level site strategy options list which showed different ways the cleanup at the site could be sequenced to meet EPA’s previously established goals. The conversation and feedback EPA received during the work session and public meeting was invaluable and will help shape future site work plans. The participants came up with additional alternatives and those were also presented at the public meeting later that evening.

EPA will continue to seek additional stakeholder feedback and select a site strategy by March 2020. EPA plans to present this site strategy to stakeholders and incorporate it into a final site management plan by June 2020.

Presentations used during the work session and public meeting are available on EPA’s website. If you have any questions or want to discuss the site options, please contact Katherine Jenkins, EPA CIC.

- Characterization of the Mayflower tailings impoundments as a potential long-term mine waste repository location was completed in October 2019. To complete this characterization, EPA drilled boreholes, excavated test pits, and collected geotechnical samples at each of the four Mayflower tailings impoundments. The characterization will determine strength characteristics of the tailings material and determine whether the tailings impoundments are suitable to support the addition of mine waste and sludge from the Gladstone treatment plant. This information will inform a focused feasibility study for the repository that will be completed in 2020 and the selection of long-term mine waste repository location.



Due to the holiday season this will be the last newsletter until 2020.
The Bonita Peak team wishes you a Happy Holiday season and a wonderful New Year!



New on the Web

- [Bonita Peak Mining District Update – Spanish, October 2019 \(PDF\)](#) (2 pp, 1.1 MB)
Novedades del distrito minero Bonita Peak, octubre de 2019
<https://semspub.epa.gov/src/document/08/100006994>
- [Site Strategy Options Forum Presentation \(PDF\)](#) (22 pp, 1.1 MB)
<https://semspub.epa.gov/src/document/08/100006811>
- [Administrative Record of the Ben Franklin Removal Action](#)
<https://semspub.epa.gov/src/collection/08/AR66092>