

# Bonita Peak Mining District Update

August 2021



**COLORADO**  
Department of Public  
Health & Environment



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

## Site Announcements

- EPA began work to dewater and open the portal at Terry Tunnel in mid-July. County Road 25 is closed for this work and EPA will announce when it will be reopened, now anticipated at the end of September.
- EPA continues to remove improperly stored chemicals and hazardous materials from the Pride of the West Mill building. For updates visit our [removal website](https://response.epa.gov/prideofthewestmill) (<https://response.epa.gov/prideofthewestmill>).



*Terry Tunnel drilling work*

## Site Updates

### Kohler/Junction Mines

- EPA is continuing work from the 2020 season at the Kohler/Junction Mines to remove sediment from settling ponds located at these mines. This work is expected to wrap up in August.

### Bandora Mine

- EPA has collected geophysical data to evaluate stability and the presence of water. Additional work will follow this summer, including mining influenced water diversion, culvert installation, and potential well installation above the collapsed portal. In a separate effort, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Restoration of Abandoned Mine Sites (RAMS) program will be conducting additional geophysical work at this location. This work was delayed from 2020.

### Gold King Mine

- EPA began drilling a horizontal borehole near the Gold King Mine in July. This borehole will gather geologic data to assist in evaluating options for long term stability and flow control. The borehole has reached 800 feet back with a goal of reaching 1,200 feet.



*Gold King Mine borehole work*

### Eureka Fluvial Tailings/Howardsville Tailings

- EPA will be collecting data on surface water and porewater (water that soaks into the tiny spaces [pores] between rocks and particles of soil) beginning in early September. This work is expected to last approximately three weeks.

### BLM/Mighty Monarch and Lackawanna Mill Site

- The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will perform work at Mighty Monarch and the Lackawanna Mill site in preparation for the transfer of these lands to the Town of Silverton. Once these lands transfer to Silverton, they will be in ongoing "operations and maintenance" as cleanup activities are completed.

## Brooklyn Mine

- Continuing the 2019 IROD work, the Colorado Division of Reclamation and Mine Safety completed the run-on and debris removal at Brooklyn as of July 17, 2021.

## State of Colorado/Campground 7 Site (Eclipse Smelter) and Pride of the West Mine Site

- The State of Colorado will begin site reclamation activities at the Campground 7 (Eclipse Smelter) site in mid-September 2021. Site work at the Pride of the West Mine site (Cunningham Gulch) is expected to begin in late September pending contractual arrangements.

## New on the Web

- [BPMD Update, July 2021 \(PDF\)](https://semspub.epa.gov/src/document/08/100010679) (2 pp, 1.3 MB)  
<https://semspub.epa.gov/src/document/08/100010679>
- [Pride of the West Mill Removal](https://response.epa.gov/prideofthewestmill)  
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