

Meeting Summary
Bonita Peak Community Advisory Group
April 28, 2022, 6:45—8:20 PM
Via Computer Conferencing

CAG members in attendance: Peter Butler, Chara Ragland, Susan Livenick, Parker Newby, Ty Churchwell, Charlie Smith, Terry Morris, Justin Elkins, Alyssa Richmond, and Russ Anderson. Not in attendance: Brian Devine, Anthony Edwards, Helen Mary Johnson, and Marcel Gaztambide.

Also in attendance: James Hou, Jessica Duggan, Christina Prograss, Joel Krech, Mark Rudolph, Athena Jones, Taryn Chaya, Ben Martinez, Tom Schillaci, and Meg Broughton, plus some others.

Introductions and Announcements.

Peter announced that the New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute was putting on its annual Animas and San Juan Watersheds Conference in Farmington on June 8-9. The conference began in 2016 in response to the Gold King release. He also noted a new published paper by MSI in the Science of the Total Environment titled *Forest Fire Mobilization and Uptake of Metals by Biota temporarily Exacerbates Impacts of Legacy Mining*.

Mark Rudolph announced there would be OSHA safety training classes in May for people who may want to work on the BPMD site. On May 8th, there would be an 8-hour class. The longer 40-hour class would take place May 9 – 13.

Update on WQ Standards Proposal for Upper Mineral Creek

Peter said the rebuttal statements for the WQCC hearing in June were due May 4th. It appears that all parties have come to a consensus on a proposal to go before WQCC. An aquatic-life use classification and aquatic-life Table-Value Standards (TVS) would be applied to the newly created segment for Mineral Creek from the confluence with Mill Creek to the confluence with the Middle Fork of Mineral Creek. The Statement of Basis and Purpose language would note that TVS appears to be infeasible to reach during spring runoff for lead, cadmium, and copper; and that TVS for zinc appears to be infeasible to meet year-round. Site specific standards would need to be developed for these metals during these time periods, but more information and analysis is needed prior to development. Also, a statement would be included that it is not WQCC's intent that these standards would drive remediation at the Ferrocrete mine which is a minor source of the metals mentioned above and is a source of water for ecologically important iron fens.

Update on SGC/U.S. Draft Settlement

The Sunnyside Gold Corp/United States settlement has been approved by the court. No changes were made from the original draft. The total settlement amounts to \$90 million with half from SGC and half from the U.S. government.

Planned Activities for this Season – EPA, BLM, FS, CDPHE, DRMS

All the different agencies discussed their plans for the upcoming field season.

EPA's list of activities included the following. They only discussed a few of the activities in detail.

Site-Wide	2022 Field Planning	EPA	Fall 2021/Winter 2022
Site-Wide	2022/2023 Annual Task List Update	EPA	November 2022
Repository	Pre-Final Repository Design	EPA	March 2022
Repository	Final Repository Design	EPA	May 2022
Repository	Interim Remedial Action Repository Construction	EPA	Summer/Fall 2022
Repository/Site Wide	Borrow Source Field Investigations	EPA	Spring/Summer 2022
Repository/Site Wide	Borrow Source Selection/Development	EPA	Summer/Fall 2022
Treatment Plant	Gladstone IWTP Operation	EPA	Ongoing
Treatment Plant	Gold King Mine Conveyance Maintenance	EPA	Ongoing
OU1 RI	Continued Sampling (High/Low Groundwater) - Fluvial Tailings/Howardsville/Kittimac - Alluvial Groundwater Focus Area	EPA	Spring/Fall 2022
OU1 RI	Fluvial Tailings Data Summary Report	EPA	Winter 2021/Spring 2022
OU1 RI	Howardsville Feasibility Study Sampling	EPA	Summer 2022
OU1 RI	Upper Cement Creek Data Gaps Report	EPA	Summer 2022
OU1 RI	Stormwater Characterization Strategy	EPA	Spring 2022
OU1 RI	Background Strategy	EPA	Spring 2022
OU1 RI	Long-Term Surface Water Monitoring	EPA	Fall 2022
OU1 RI	Goals 2/3 Summary Report	DRMS	Spring 2022
OU1 RI	Goals 2/3 Next Step Evaluation	EPA	Spring 2022
OU1 RI	Long-term sampling	EPA	Fall 2022
OU1 RI	Animas Forks Focus Area Work, funding dependent	EPA	Summer 2022
OU1 RI	Goals 2/3 work following DRMS reporting	EPA	
OU2 RI	2021 Annual Report Review	EPA	Spring 2022

OU2 RI	2022 Work Plan Review and Approval	EPA	Spring/Summer 2022
OU2 RI	Oversight	EPA	
OU3 RI	Install wells in former Lake Emma area	EPA	Summer 2022
OU3 RI	Infiltration study	EPA	Summer 2022
OU3 RI	Sampling program - Seeps and Springs, draining adits, and existing monitoring wells	EPA	Summer 2022
OU3 RI	Stream Bed Evaluation (Grand Mogul area)	EPA	Summer 2022
OU3 RI	Gold King Mine Alternatives Evaluation	EPA	Winter 2021/Spring 2022
IRA	Bandora well installation	EPA Removal	Summer 2022
IRA	Frisco-Bagley Design Work Plan (for 2023 implementation)	EPA	Spring 2022
IRA	Tom Moore Design Work Plan (for 2023 implementation)	EPA	Spring 2022
IRA	Yukon Tunnel Design Work Plan	EPA	Spring 2022
IRA	Anglo Saxon Mine - culvert adjustment	EPA Removal	Summer 2022
IRA	Mammoth Tunnel - continuation of work with BLM	EPA/BLM	Summer 2022
IRA	Yukon Tunnel Interim Action	EPA Removal	Summer 2022
IRA	Pride of the West Mine Interim Action	CDPHE	Summer 2022
IRA	Sunbank Group Interim Action	EPA	Summer 2022
IRA	Silver Wing Interim Action	EPA	Summer 2022
IRA	Bandora IRA - tie in liner	EPA Removal	Summer 2022
IRA	Terry Tunnel IRA – final grade	EPA Removal	Summer 2022
IRA	Campground 4	CPDHE/DRMS	Fall 2022
IRA	Columbus	CPDHE/DRMS	Fall 2022
IRA	Mountain Queen	CPDHE/DRMS	Fall 2022
IRA	Vermillion	CPDHE/DRMS	Summer 2022

The CAG asked for some more information on the stormwater characterization, background strategy, long-term monitoring, and installation of wells in Lake Emma. Peter again brought up the issue of putting something, mostly likely lime, on top of the mine waste at the North Star while the site was being remediated to reduce the impact of precipitation infiltrating through the pile. He also suggested that with the upcoming discussion about treatment options at Gladstone, it made sense to be testing some technologies that might reduce treatment costs. There was also a question as to if EPA would be sampling the areas SGC had been sampling around the Mayflower Tailing repository #4. EPA said they would be.

BLM discussed moving some mine waste at the midway station for the old Sunnyside mine tram (halfway up Eureka Gulch). They will also be doing investigations on other BLM sites.

USFS will be doing more cleanup work at the Brooklyn Mine. One area targeted is the ponds below the site that were used for ore processing in the late 1970's/early 1980's. They plan to drain and clean out the sediments.

CDPHE/DRMS said that there was a little more work to be done at what is known as campground #7. They also plan to finish up characterization at campground #4 and hope to conduct remediation this summer season. In addition, they will also be doing more work on certain IROD sites.

Administrative Items

Meeting Summaries:

Ty moved and Russ seconded a motion to approve the February and March meeting summaries. Support for the motion was unanimous.

Peter said there would be no May CAG meeting but that he would like to have a CAG discussion session in mid-May.

There was also some discussion about doing a tour of some sites this year, probably late August.

Future Agenda Items? *Tailings Sampling between Eureka and Howardsville, Plans for Howardsville Mill, Macroinvertebrate Data, Mayflower Repository, Site Specific Plans for Interim Remedial Actions, etc.*

8:20 PM Adjourn