

3.1 OPERATIONS AND RECLAMATION PLAN

The general operations and reclamation plan discussed in this section, as well as all sections of this permit application, address the proposed five-year permit term 2023 to 2027. This particular section discusses in general terms the methods, procedures and engineering techniques employed at the Trapper Mine. Maximum yearly disturbance, reclamation and tonnage are listed as well as the major equipment used at the mine. Subsequent sections supplement this section with more specific and detailed information.

3.1.1 Signs and Markers

Metal, plastic or wooden signs and markers are posted at the mine as required by regulation for each major public access and to identify the immediate blasting areas, topsoil stockpiles, and the permit perimeter. All signs and markers in or contiguous to mining or reclamation activities are maintained routinely as needed and as contemporaneously as practicable. All others are inspected and maintained each spring following snowmelt to ensure they are present and legible. Stream buffer zone markers are not used because there are no sites within the permit area that require them (see Section 2.7). Each type of sign or marker is of uniform design and conforms to local ordinances and codes. All measurements for signs as shown in Figures 3.1-1 through 3.1-4 depict approximate dimensions.

A mine permit and identification sign is conspicuously placed at each major public access to the mine property. Because the mine area is very large, approximately 11,298 acres, and many trails and unimproved roads intercept it, not all such trails and unimproved roads are marked with a mine permit and identification sign. Many of these unimproved roads and trails are in poor condition and travel is unlikely. However, most public accesses capable of vehicular travel and all roads maintained or established by public funds are posted (refer to Map M7). The mine permit and identification sign is blue with black lettering. The information included is the mine name and identification number; name, business address and telephone number of the operator (Figure 3.1-1).