



October 27, 2023

Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety
Attention: Minerals Program
1313 Sherman St., Room 21
Denver, CO 80203-2273

RE: 2023 Annual Report for Bulldog Mine Operation, Permit No. M-1977-215

Dear Minerals Program,

RGS began underground activities in June 2022 which was the first year of a planned multi-year rehabilitation, exploration, and pre-development program to determine if the project is economically viable before moving forward with the construction and operation of a water treatment plant for dewatering the Bulldog Mine Lower Mine Pool, additional waste rock and tailings storage facilities and mining and milling operations.

The following work was completed in June through September of 2022 by mining contractor Harrison Western:

- Inspection of the 9400L Decline and utilities.
- Dewatered the 9360L Upper Mine Pool. This involved pumping the water from the 9360L to the surface to keep the level dry for rehabilitation work and trucking it to the lined evaporation pond TP-2 for storage and evaporation.
TR-24 - Dewatering Operations was approved on May 9, 2022 accounting for the trucking and dewatering operations.
- Completed 1,000 feet of rehabilitation of the 9360L tunnel (See Figure 1).

Rehabilitation work ended in September while a water management system that will keep the 9360L dry was being designed. The pumps were shut off and the 9360L refilled with water.

RGS contracted Water Tectonics in early 2023 to design a water treatment process that will allow dewatering of the 9360L by treating and discharging the water into Windy Gulch. RGS received the design in May 2023. The planned water management system will involve treating the meteoric water in the 9360L Upper Mine Pool and discharge it into Windy Gulch. RGS submitted a Discharge Application to the Colorado Water Quality Control Division on August 1, 2023. The discharge application process takes a minimum of six months to approve and RGS anticipates receiving the Discharge Permit in the spring of 2024. During this time, RGS will keep electrical and ventilation operational in the 9400L allowing underground access.

RGS submitted TR-25, Dewater 9360 Level with Water Treatment – Surface Discharge to Windy Gulch to DRMS on September 14, 2023 and received conditional approval pending receiving the Discharge Permit.

Refer to TR-25 for all details related to dewatering of the 9360 Level.

TR-25 includes:

- Proposed Action
- ATTACHMENT 1-Bulldog Site Map
- ATTACHMENT 2-Bulldog Mine Discharge Pipeline Plans
- ATTACHMENT 2A-Bulldog Mine Discharge Pipeline Specifications
- ATTACHMENT 3-Water Tectonics Treatment Summary
Final Effluent Water Quality
Site Specific Standards
- ATTACHMENT 4-Bulldog Upper Mine Pool (UMP) Location Map
UMP Water Quality Data
- ATTACHMENT 5-Bulldog Discharge Application
- ATTACHMENT 6-Forest Service Receipt of TR-25

Disturbance

There was no new surface disturbance from October 31, 2022, through October 30, 2023.

Reclamation

Monitoring of re-seeded areas throughout the Bulldog Project was ongoing and no re-seeding was conducted from October 31, 2022, through October 30, 2023. RGS will continue to monitor these areas.

Weed spraying was conducted on September 6, 2023 in the 9400 Portal Area, see Figure 2, and on September 7 in the TP-2 area, Figure 3. Sparse, minimal Canada thistle was located and sprayed using Milestone with a four-gallon backpack weed sprayer. No Canada thistle was found in the 9700 Portal area, see Figure 4. Monitoring in these areas will continue until no sign of Canada thistle remains.

Other Items

Monitoring well water levels in BD-MW and HW-3 was recorded on October 26, 2023. HW-4 water level was recorded on April 14, 2023. See Figure 7. Monitoring Well locations are shown in Figure 8.

Annual water quality results for Windy Gulch surface and groundwater samplings are included in the annual report. Refer to the Bulldog Environmental Protection Plan Figure 3 for Surface water results and Figure 5 for groundwater results.

The Bulldog Mine Operation permit boundary map is included. See Figure 9.

Please call or email if you have any questions.

Randy McClure

Randy McClure
Site & Safety manager
PO Box 610, 625 USFS Road 504.1A
Creede, CO 81130
cell: 970.317.5355
rmclure@hecla.com