



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

<sup>FR</sup>  
Forest  
Service

Rio Grande National Forest

Divide Ranger District  
13308 West Highway 160  
Del Norte, CO 81132  
(719)657-3321 (719)657-6038 TTY  
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/riogrande>

File Code: 2800

Date: August 15, 2012

<sup>TO</sup>  
Randy McClure  
Rio Grande Silver, Inc.  
112 E. 12th Street  
Creede, CO 81130

✓ M-1977-215  
PLAN OF OPERATIONS FOR  
UNDERGROUND EXPLORATION

CERTIFIED MAIL RECIEPT REQUESTED: 7009 0820 0000 3169 8098

Dear Mr. McClure:

I received your proposed Plan of Operations (POO) for Underground Exploration and Development Program – Bulldog Mine Project Site on July 16, 2012. The POO has been designated USFS number: POO-2012-042939-BULLDOG-UE-0209. Nicolas Sandoval, Forest Geologist, acknowledged receipt of the POO by email on August 3, 2012. In accordance with Forest Service minerals regulations, located at 36 CFR 228.5 (4) (5):

*4) Notify the operator that the plan is being reviewed, but that more time, not to exceed an additional sixty (60) days, is necessary to complete such review, setting forth the reasons why additional time is needed: Provided, however, That days during which the area of operations is inaccessible for inspection shall not be included when computing the sixty (60) day period; or*

*(5) Notify the operator that the plan cannot be approved until a final environmental statement has been prepared and filed with the Council on Environmental Quality as provided in §228.4(f).*

I am requiring additional time to complete review of your plan. My staff and I will complete review within the next 30 days and will contact you at that time. I will not approve the plan until review is complete, all state and federal permits are acquired, and the appropriate analysis is conducted and finalized.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss please call Nicolas Sandoval at 719-852-6286 or contact him at [nasandoval@fs.fed.us](mailto:nasandoval@fs.fed.us).

Sincerely,

/s/ Thomas M. Malecek  
THOMAS M. MALECEK  
District Ranger

cc: Robert Oswald

