

## 2002 Annual Report Review

**Permittee:** Canyon Fuel Company  
**Mine Name:** Skyline Mine  
**Permit Number:** C/007/005  
**Date Report Received:** May 6, 2003

Assigned Reviewers:	Date Completed ▼
Stephen Demczak	May 7, 2003
Gregg Galecki, Hydrologist	July 14, 2003
Jerriann Ernstszen	August 7, 2003

**Instructions:** The assigned staff will review their respective portions of the Annual report and provide a written determination (findings) on how the mine has or has not met the permit requirements for reporting. If the report is deficient or remedial action is required to obtain compliance, this should be noted and the inspector notified. Once all reviewers have completed the report, they should initial it and a copy will be filed in the Mine Internal File.

### Assignments:

**Inspectors:** Review each cover sheet, AVS Legal/Financial, Mine Sequence Maps.  
**Hydrologists:** Review Water Monitoring Data, Precipitation and Climatological Data, Non-Coal Waste  
**Biologists:** Review Vegetation/Revegetation Success Monitoring, Raptor Survey  
**Engineers:** Review Subsidence Monitoring Data, Annual Impoundment Certification, Annual Overburden, Spoils, Refuse, Floor, etc.

SECTIONS TO REVIEW	SUBMITTED		FINDINGS
	YES	NO	
Cover Sheet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cover sheet is filed out
AVS; Legal/ Financial Update	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Information is submitted in the Annual Report. Legal and financial is missing the name John Slater. This name is on the AVS. Avs will need updated, permittee has additional names.
Mine Sequence Map	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mine maps included, P.E. certified.
Water Monitoring Data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Data was submitted electronically to the Division database on a quarterly basis.
Precipitation & Climatological Data	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No data was submitted and no commitment is made in the MRP to collect such data.
Non-Coal Waste report	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No report was submitted and no Non-coal waste was left underground in 2002.
Subsidence Monitoring Data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Information is on map. Contour lines give the degree of subsidence.
Annual Impoundment Certification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	P.E certified , no hazardous conditions.
Annual Overburden, Spoil, Refuse, Floor, etc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	P.E. certified, used information from quarterly refuse pile reports. The site was not accessible do to snow cover.

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	YES	NO	
Vegetation Data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Required and submitted as indicated in Annual Report 2002 cover sheet.</p> <p>The Permittee planted 200 seedlings each of rubber rabbitbrush, snowberry, and Woods rose along the conveyor bench on May 2nd, 2001. Later that year, approximately 20% of the seedlings survived. It is commendable that the Permittee planted these seedlings. To increase survival rate, however, the Permittee may choose to plant seedlings in the fall or in the spring. If spring is the best time for the site, then plant as soon as the soil is workable at least to the depth of the rootball. The Division believes that the May planting was too late to plant seedlings because of the dry, hot summer that had already begun in 2002.</p> <p>Note: elevation of the conveyor site is approximately 8500 feet.</p> <p>The Permittee plans to monitor the seedlings again in May 2003.</p>
Revegetation Success Monitoring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Required and submitted as indicated in Annual Report 2002 cover sheet.</p>
Raptor Survey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Required and submitted as indicated in Annual Report 2002 cover sheet.</p> <p>Canyon Fuel Company contractors and mine personnel conducted the goshawk survey for 2002. The Permittee submitted a map showing the area surveyed was near the southern end of the permit area in quadrants 27, 26, 25, 34, 35, and 36. Goshawk nesting area is located in the center of the ~rectangular survey area.</p> <p>This submittal is not accompanied with narrative describing the results. The Division can not determine whether there were active nest within the area surveyed. The Permittee must provide the results in a narrative format.</p>

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Other Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Required but not all report are submitted as indicated in Annual Report 2002 cover sheet.</p> <p>In an April 2002 memo from Susan White (DOGM), she writes, "The pipeline will be buried upslope from James Creek. The mouth of James Creek is critical to the Yellowstone cutthroat trout spawning. The Permittee has committed to sampling fish and macroinvertebrates in James Creek (page 2-71 and page 2-72). Sampling reportedly began in October 2000. A commitment should be provided to include the results of these studies in the annual report or as an appendix to the MRP.</p> <p>"The permit describes the sampling program as follows: Multi-pass electrofishing to estimate fish populations will be conducted in October for two consecutive years and then every three years thereafter. The fish surveys will be done in the fall. A macroinvertebrate study of James Creeks will be conducted twice a year for two consecutive years and every three years thereafter. The surveys will be done in the spring and fall."</p> <p>The 2002 macroinvertebrate report provides a summary of the data taken to date. It appears that sampling actually began in fall of 2001 and not 2000. For 2002, the contractor sampled in the spring and fall. To complete the two full years of required sampling, the Permittee must sample again in spring of 2003. Spring of 2006 is the timing for the first of the "every third-year" required sampling of macroinvertebrate.</p> <p>The 2002 annual report did not include data for Yellowstone cutthroat fish or anyother fish. The Permittee committed to sampling fish in the fall and must initiate the approved survey requirements. The Permittee must sample in the fall for two consecutive years and then every three years thereafter. Include the survey results in annual reports or as appendicies to the MRP</p> <p>Dennis Shiozawa of Mt. Nebo Scientific, Inc. conducted the macroinvertebrate and fish surveys for 2002.</p> <p>Macroinvertebrate survey for Eccles creek: Required and submitted as indicated in Annual Report 2002 cover sheet. This report covers the 2002 results of a benthic invertebrate monitoring program. The intent of the program is to biannually evaluate the impact of mining subsidence on macrobenthos in Eccles creek.</p>

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			<p>‘The results suggest that both streams are considered in good condition. The fall of 2001 impact to James Canyon appears temporary. Burnout Creek has a more consistent fall and spring signal than James Canyon. The indices and relatively consistent number of taxa suggest that these streams have not shown directional change towards greater degradation during the study period.’</p>