



Suzanne Steab <suzannesteab@utah.gov>

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## 2018 Annual Report Review Completion

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**Suzanne Steab** <suzannesteab@utah.gov>

Wed, Jun 26, 2019 at 2:07 PM

To: Kenneth Fleck <kenneth.fleck@pacificcorp.com>, "Dennis.Oakley@Pacifcorp.com" <dennis.oakley@pacificcorp.com>

Cc: Keenan Storrar <kstorrar@utah.gov>

Hello,

The Division staff have completed the review of the 2018 Annual Report for the Deer Creek Mine. Attached is a copy of the review with comments.

No hard copy will follow.

Thank you for your diligence in completing the Annual Report.

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 **Deer Creek.pdf**  
40K

# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Submit the completed document and any additional information identified to the Division by March 31, 2019.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Company Name	PacifiCorp	Mine Name	Deer Creek Mine
Permit Number	C/015/0018	Permit Expiration Date	2021-02-07
Operator Name	Interwest Mining Company	Phone Number	+1 (435) 687-9821
Mailing Address	PO Box 310	Email	ken.fleck@pacificorp.com
City	Huntington		
State	Utah	Zip Code	84528

## DOGM File Location or Annual Report Location

Excess Spoil Piles	<input type="checkbox"/> Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Required	
Refuse Piles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Required <input type="checkbox"/> Not Required	see note below
Impoundments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Required <input type="checkbox"/> Not Required	Quarterly reports submitted to DOGM for year 2018
Other:		

## OPERATOR COMMENTS

Refuse pile reporting requirements: Quarterly reports were mailed to DOGM for the 1st thru 3rd quarters of 2018. The Deer Creek Waste Rock Site was transferred to Castle Valley Mining LLC (Rhino Mine) on November 20, 2018.

Water Monitoring: Sampling of required ground water and surface water sites occurred throughout 2018. All required reporting was completed quarterly on a timely basis. Monitoring requirement were reduced to surface waters above and below the mine site and UPDES sites. This reduction was approved (Task ID #5770) by DOGM on November 14, 2018.

**REVIEWER COMMENTS**     Met Requirements     Did Not Meet Requirements

The annual report meets the State of Utah R645 requirements for Hydrology.

The water monitoring program for the Deer Creek mine has been followed and monitoring data submitted to the Division on a quarterly basis. (KS, 5/29/2019)

# COMMITMENTS AND CONDITIONS

The Permittee is responsible for ensuring annual technical commitments in the Mining and Reclamation Plan and conditions accepted with the permit are completed throughout the year. The Division has identified these commitments below and has provided space for you to report what you have done during the past year for each commitment. If additional written response is required, it should be filed as an attachment to this report.

**Title: RAPTORS**

**Objective:** To document the location and activity of nests that could be affected by mining.

**Frequency:** annually

**Status:** Ongoing

**Reports:** Annually in Annual Report

**Citation:** MRP, Section 322, Subsection Terrestrial Species

**OPERATOR COMMENTS**

On April 10, 2017, PacifiCorp received an NOV (NO21195) for not conducting a raptor survey FY 2016. Finding of Facts indicated that there were no surface disturbance activities. The abatement action required by the NOV was to conduct a survey FY 2017. PacifiCorp was advised by the Division to reduce the survey area or make the requirement dependent on the location of surface disturbing activities. A survey was performed in 2017 where an active nest was found in Deer Canyon. For 2018, ground truthing was conducted in both Deer Creek and Rilda canyons where no activity was noted. However, demolition activities were on-going in the Left Fork of Rilda Canyon from 2017 into 2018 and completed in February 2018. Activities continued in Rilda with the start of demolition of the 1st Right Facility. Similar activities occurred in Deer Creek Canyon extending from 2017 into 2018 with C1 and C2 belt removal, equipment sales, warehouse and bathhouse cleanout, etc. Ground truthing at this site also found no activities at the known nests. The Deer Creek Mine was closed and sealed as of April 2015 in Deer Creek Canyon, and December 2017 in Rilda Canyon. No underground mining activities occurred after January 7, 2015.

**REVIEWER COMMENTS**  Met Requirements  Did Not Meet Requirements

A raptor monitoring report and map were included in the 2018 annual report. Mine sites at both Deer Creek and Rilda Canyons were undergoing reclamation in 2018 and, as a result, only raptor nests within 1/2-mile of these activities were of interest. The Trail Mountain wildfire in June of 2018 severely impacted many of the raptor nests in the area, including those near the Deer Creek and Rilda facilities. No raptor activity was observed at any of those nest sites in 2018. In Rilda Canyon, no reclamation work was conducted within 1/2-mile of a known raptor nest with only one nest (#1205) being close to that buffer. That nest was observed throughout the year and no raptor activity was observed. It should also be noted that Manti-La Sal National Forest personnel routinely monitor nests in these areas independently of mining activities and that DOGM biologists have been in contact with the National Forest regarding raptor nesting in the area and no concerns were raised. TM

**Title: SUBSIDENCE MONITORING REPORT**

**Objective:** To Determine the effects of subsidence

**Frequency:** Annually

**Status:** Ongoing

**Reports:** Submit in annual report

**Citation:** Volume 3, Appendix X

**OPERATOR COMMENTS**

DOGM accepted the 2017 Subsidence report that indicated subsidence stabilized and complete. Therefore, no subsidence monitoring was conducted in 2018. An amendment to the MRP was approved January 3, 2019 to remove the commitment for annual subsidence monitoring and reporting. Refer to Task ID #5830.

**REVIEWER COMMENTS**  Met Requirements  Did Not Meet Requirements

Permittee discontinued all subsidence monitoring and subsequent reporting for all of their properties (Cottonwood/Wilberg and Deer Creek) in 2017 since the sites are stable and the maximum amount of surface deformation has been achieved. As mentioned above, the commitment for annual subsidence monitoring and reporting was removed from the MRP in January 2019. JE

**Title: WILDLIFE**

**Objective:** Adhere to wildlife exclusionary periods during reclamation activities

**Frequency:** During Reclamation

**Status:** Reclamation Pending

**Reports:** Not Required

**Citation:** MRP, Section 322, page 10; Section 330, page 16 #14; Section 342, page 32, #7

**OPERATOR COMMENTS**

This commitment requires that start up of reclamation activities not occur between December 1st and April 15th. No reclamation activities started between this time period. DOGM inspections occurred monthly at all Deer Creek and Rilda mining sites.

**REVIEWER COMMENTS**



Met Requirements



Did Not Meet Requirements

Startup of reclamation activity did not occur between Dec. 1st and April 15th. TM

**Title: DEMONSTRATION OF SELECTED OVERBURDEN AS BEST AVAILABLE MATERIAL IN THE PERMIT AREA FOR USE AS SUBSTITUTE TOPSOIL**

**Objective:** Monitor chemical quality of identified substitute topsoil to show reduction in sodicity.

**Frequency:** Sampling will occur once within each permit term until such time as the soils are found acceptable for substitute topsoil use. The current permit term is 2016-2021.

**Status:** To be conducted once in current permit term

**Reports:** Annual Report

**Citation:** Volume 2, Part 4, section R645-301-233, page 2-3

**OPERATOR COMMENTS**

Final reclamation will occur in Deer Creek canyon during the current permit term. All substitute topsoils will be analyzed to determine acceptability.

**REVIEWER COMMENTS**



Met Requirements



Did Not Meet Requirements

3/19/2019, PB. Deer Creek reclamation work is expected to resume in the spring of 2019. The pre-reclamation sampling (Vol 2, Part 4, p. 2-3) will ensure that the designated substitute topsoil is suitable with regard to pH, EC, SAR. If the best available soil requires a gypsum amendment (SAR greater than 15), than CEC & ESP determinations will be made by the laboratory as well. Random sampling of the graded subsoil for pH and EC prior to substitute topsoil placement will also be conducted (p. 2-4).

**Title: SUBSOIL TESTING**

**Objective:** Regraded subsoil will be sampled on 500 ft intervals to a depth of 4 ft (three or four samples for the 2,000 linear feet in the facilities area). Samples will be analyzed on site for pH and EC. Problem areas will be further sampled and sent to a laboratory for analysis.

**Frequency:** At final regrading

**Status:** Ongoing at reclamation

**Reports:** Laboratory analysis to be provided to the Division

**Citation:** Volume 11, Section R645-301-231.300

**OPERATOR COMMENTS**

Final reclamation is currently on-going at the Rilda 1st Right facility. Subsoils will be sampled in the Spring of 2019.

**REVIEWER COMMENTS**

Met Requirements



Did Not Meet Requirements

3/19/2019, PB. Deer Creek MRP Vol. 11, Section R645-301-231.300 (p. 16) describes the sampling of graded subsoils prior to topsoil redistribution.

**Title: TOPSOIL HANDLING TESTING PLAN**

**Objective:** Three composite samples will be taken from the facilities area and sediment pond. Samples will be analyzed for parameters to be compared with baseline information and to determine the need for amendments, including fertilizer.

**Frequency:** Final Reclamation

**Status:** Ongoing

**Reports:** Analysis to be provided to the Division

**Citation:** Volume 11, Section R645-301-242

**OPERATOR COMMENTS**

Final reclamation is currently on-going at the Rilda 1st Right facility. Topsoils will be sampled in the Spring of 2019.

**REVIEWER COMMENTS**

Met Requirements



Did Not Meet Requirements

3/19/2019, PB. MRP Volume 11, Sections R645-301-242 and R645-301-243 refer to topsoil laboratory sampling and analyses conducted during reclamation. Methods and parameters are not specified. The testing should be discussed with the Division prior to sampling. Since samples are being taken to determine fertility, the parameters will include nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. If needed, fertilizer will be incorporated with pocking of the surface.

# FUTURE COMMITMENTS AND CONDITIONS

The following commitments are not required for the current annual report year, but will be required by the permittee in the future as indicated by the "status" field. These commitments are included for information only, and do not currently require action. If you feel that the commitment is no longer relevant or needs to be revised, please contact the Division.

## **Title: FISH & MACROINVERTEBRATE MONITORING**

**Objective:** Monitor the fish and macroinvertebrates in Rilda Creek

**Frequency:** Spring/fall two years prior to and spring/fall one year immediately following start of construction. Spring every three years during operations and reclamation.

**Status:** Construction complete in fall 2008. Spring and Fall 2009 surveys complete. 2011 & 2014 surveys complete. Next survey expected for Spring 2017.

**Reports:** Annual Report

**Citation:** MRP, Volume 11, Biology Section, page 25

## **Title: REFERENCE VEGETATION SAMPLING**

**Objective:** Ensure that veg reference areas remain appropriate for comparison at time of reclamation.

**Frequency:** Reference area qualitative and quantitative monitoring will continue on a five year interval through mine reclamation and bond release.

**Status:** Next sampling to be conducted in 2017

**Reports:** Annual Report

**Citation:** MRP, Volume 1, Vegetation Monitoring Plan, page 2-174, paragraphs 4 & 5

# REPORTING OF OTHER TECHNICAL DATA

Please list other technical data or information that was not included in the form above, but is required under the approved plan, which must be periodically submitted to the Division.

Please list attachments:

No attachments needed for this reporting period.

**REVIEWER COMMENTS**  Met Requirements

Did Not Meet Requirements

# MAPS

Copies of mine maps, current and up-to-date, are to be provided to the Division as an attachment to this report in accordance with the requirements of R645-301-525.240. The map copies shall be made in accordance with 30 CFR 75.1200 as required by MSHA. Mine maps are not considered confidential.

Map Name	Map Number	Included		Confidential	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Annual Subsidence Map		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mine Map		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Raptor Survey within Permit Boundary		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**REVIEWER COMMENTS**     Met Requirements                       Did Not Meet Requirements