



OGMCOAL DNR &lt;ogmcoal@utah.gov&gt;

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**Fwd: FW: Monitoring Report South Fork of Quitchupah**

2 messages

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**Steve Christensen** <stevechristensen@utah.gov>

Wed, May 21, 2014 at 11:17 AM

To: Howard Strand &lt;hstrand@osmre.gov&gt;, "Dickinson, Flynn" &lt;fdickinson@osmre.gov&gt;, Roberta Martinez Hernandez &lt;rmartinezhernandez@osmre.gov&gt;

Cc: Daron Haddock &lt;daronhaddock@utah.gov&gt;, Amanda Daniels &lt;amandadaniels@utah.gov&gt;, OGMCOAL DNR &lt;ogmcoal@utah.gov&gt;, Dana Dean &lt;danadean@utah.gov&gt;, Joe Helfrich &lt;JOEHELFRICH@utah.gov&gt;, James Owen &lt;jamesowen@utah.gov&gt;

Good morning,

Yesterday afternoon we received an e-mail from the Sufco Mine personnel that an issue was discovered on the South Fork of the Quitchupah drainage. As part of their required monitoring, they identified an area where it appeared that cracks had developed on a section of the stream channel and disrupted the flow.

The e-mail read as follows:

*"We have discovered cracks in the deep canyon stream channel that have interrupted/diverted flow in the channel. We will be sealing the crack(s) as soon as we can get the grouting material delivered, we anticipate completing the repair this week using grout and/or native materials."*

I had a phone call this morning with three of the Sufco staff, and they are actively working on repairing the channel. Their hope is to have the cracks filled with a bentonite chip/dust mixture by the end of the week. The section of stream is in a remote, rugged area so it will be a challenge for them, but they expressed to me that they were confident that they could get in to perform the work. They'll fill the cracks that have been identified and then work their way down the channel and address any other cracks that may have formed.

In terms of our upcoming field visit the week of June 9th, we can certainly go and inspect the channel. I spoke with the Sufco staff about this possibility and they indicated they'd be happy to take us all up. The only consideration is that it would be a full day to accomplish that. The area is in a remote location and a fair amount of hiking is involved to access the site.

A couple of options could be to: 1) add another day to facilitate going up top at Sufco and adjust the schedule accordingly or 2) skip Crandall Canyon and go directly to Sufco. Food for thought. I raise the option of not inspecting Crandall Canyon as I believe OSM inspected it last year and nothing significant has changed at the site since that time

I will know more in the coming days and will certainly let you know what develops. Let me know what your thoughts are on potentially inspecting the stream channel.

Thanks,  
Steve

p.s. The attached pictures are one from the upper reach of the S. Fork of Quitchupah Creek, a lower section of the drainage in the area of the cracks and a mine map showing the timing of the mining activity.

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**3 attachments****IMG2496.JPG**  
1848K



**IMGP2517.JPG**  
1770K

 **May 18 2014 drawing.pdf**  
49K

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**Dickinson, Flynn** <fdickinson@osmre.gov>

Wed, May 21, 2014 at 12:55 PM

To: Steve Christensen <stevechristensen@utah.gov>

Cc: Howard Strand <hstrand@osmre.gov>, Roberta Martinez Hernandez <rmartinezhernandez@osmre.gov>, Daron Haddock <daronhaddock@utah.gov>, Amanda Daniels <amandadaniels@utah.gov>, OGMCOAL DNR <ogmcoal@utah.gov>, Dana Dean <danadean@utah.gov>, Joe Helfrich <JOEHELFRICH@utah.gov>, James Owen <jamesowen@utah.gov>

Hi Steve,

We can extend the trip by a day to incorporate the additional work at SUFCO regarding Quitchipah Creek and still have time to inspect Crandall Canyon. If that means we'll spend a day and a half at SUFCO then that's alright with me. Let us know what your thoughts are on the specified inspections times and how this will affect them. Even with three days, it still seems like we have plenty to look at.

Flynn

[Quoted text hidden]

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*Flynn Dickinson*

*Hydrologist*

*Office of Surface Mining, Denver Field Division*

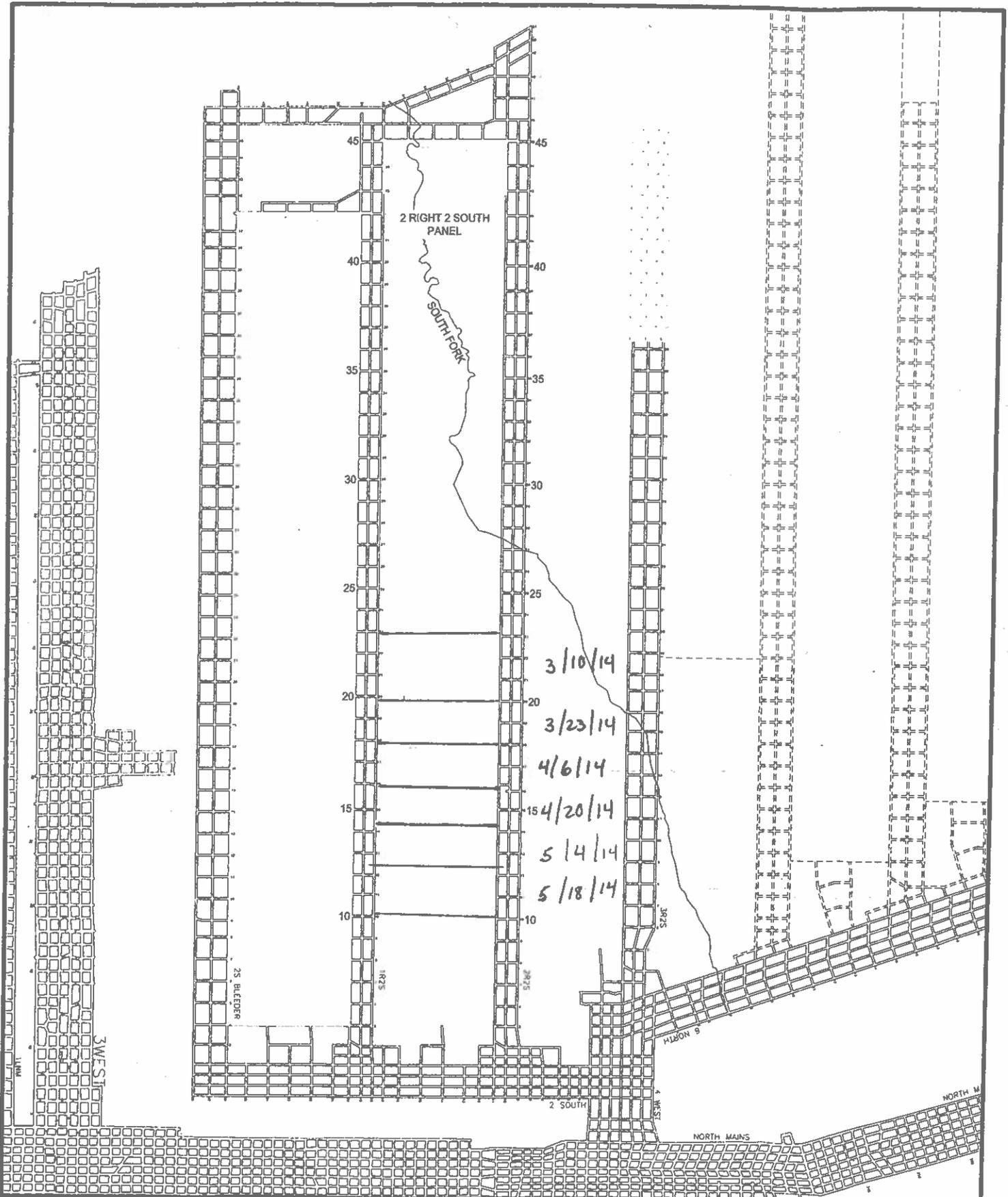
[303-293-5013](tel:303-293-5013)



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**Canyon Fuel Company, LLC**  
**SUFCO Mine**  
 597 South SR 24 - Salina, UT 84654  
 (435) 286-4880 Phone  
 (435) 286-4499 Fax

<b>SUFCO MINE</b>		
<b>2 RIGHT 2 SOUTH - SOUTH FORK</b>		
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