



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

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## FW: South Fork of Quitchupah Creek Monitoring

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**Vicky Miller** <vmiller@bowieresources.com>

Fri, Oct 9, 2015 at 8:54 AM

To: Steve Christensen <stevechristensen@utah.gov>, Amanda Daniels <amandadaniels@utah.gov>, "Hamilton, Rob -FS (rhamilton@fs.fed.us)" <rhamilton@fs.fed.us>

Cc: OGMCOAL DNR <ogmcoal@utah.gov>, Jacob Smith <jsmith@bowieresources.com>, John Byars <jbyars@bowieresources.com>, Vicky Miller <vmiller@bowieresources.com>

We monitored the South Fork of Quitchupah on September 23, 24, 29, 30 and October 2, 7, and 8<sup>th</sup>. We are reporting three weeks instead of the customary two because the mining of the panel shown on the mine map was completed on Monday October 5<sup>th</sup>. We will be in a longwall move a minimum of two weeks when we will be providing a new mine progression map. On October 1<sup>st</sup>, the Forest Service began diverting water from the Quitchupah drainage into the Skutumpah drainage, decreasing the flow from approximately 60 gpm to 25 gpm in the South Fork of Quitchupah. Repair work continues through the rubble area, we continue to lose a percentage of the surface flow below the rubble area. We will continue to repair cracks until the upstream flow falls below 15 gpm, at that time there will be insufficient water to reconstitute the repair materials or until bad weather makes it unsafe. The area is being heavily used by cattle, including the springs which are still flowing at their normal rate. When checked on September 23, October 2 and 7, all three ponds were dry. Some water in the creek has ice on it in the early mornings.

The Fish Lake Forest is conducting a controlled burn west of the where the culvert crosses the road, due to safety we did not hike above the road to check flow in the upstream springs until October 8<sup>th</sup>. This burn will likely effect the vegetation monitoring in the area of Quitchupah creek committed to in our mitigation plan, on October 8<sup>th</sup> the northern hillside was burned. Amanda Daniels and I have discussed ending the monitoring this year due to this proposed burn which was supposed to happen in the Spring of 2016 instead of this Fall.

A map showing the area mined from 9/20 to 10/5 is attached.

If you have questions or need additional information please contact me at this e-mail or at (435)286-4481.  
Regards, Vicky

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**From:** Vicky Miller

**Sent:** Thursday, September 24, 2015 1:15 PM

**To:** Steve Christensen <stevechristensen@utah.gov>; 'Amanda Daniels' <amandadaniels@utah.gov>;

'Hamilton, Rob -FS (rhamilton@fs.fed.us)' <rhamilton@fs.fed.us>

**Cc:** 'OGMCOAL@utah.gov' <OGMCOAL@utah.gov>; Jacob Smith <jsmith@bowieresources.com>; Wyatt Shakespear <WShakespear@BowieResources.onmicrosoft.com>; Vicky Miller <vmiller@bowieresources.com>

**Subject:** FW: South Fork of Quitchupah Creek Monitoring

We monitored the South Fork of Quitchupah on September 8, 10, 11, 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. The flow at the culvert where it crosses beneath the road ranged from 130 to 93 gpm. We continue to do maintenance and repair work in the canyon rubble area, there appeared to have been some heaving with additional rock falls in the area during the week of September 7th. The flow below the repaired rubble area is approximately 30 gpm, which is an improvement from two weeks ago. We anticipate a consistent gain in flow as the maintenance and repairs continue.

However, it is expected that the flow to Quitchupah creek will be diverted into the Skutumpah drainage in early October, where it will remain until Spring. When this is completed the majority of the South Fork channel will be dry except adjacent to the flowing springs. The act of diverting the water to a small reservoir is done annually in October.

The springs along the drainage continue to flow at a consistent rate. The ponds being monitored continue to be dry. The creek area is being heavily used by livestock. A drawing showing the location of mining is attached.

Please contact me with questions or if you require additional information. Thanks, Vicky

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**From:** Vicky Miller

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2015 8:15 AM

**To:** Steve Christensen <stevechristensen@utah.gov>; 'Amanda Daniels' <amandadaniels@utah.gov>;

'Hamilton, Rob -FS (rhamilton@fs.fed.us)' <rhamilton@fs.fed.us>

**Cc:** 'OGMCOAL@utah.gov' <OGMCOAL@utah.gov>; Jacob Smith <jsmith@bowieresources.com>; John Byars <jbyars@bowieresources.com>; Wyatt Shakespear <WShakespear@BowieResources.onmicrosoft.com>; Vicky Miller <vmiller@bowieresources.com>

**Subject:** South Fork of Quitchupah Creek Monitoring

We monitored the creek on August 13, 14, 18 and 19, 2015. Flow at the culvert where it crosses the road was 65, 70, 90 and 80 gpm consecutively. Exploration drilling had been using a small amount of water upstream from the measuring location on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> and the upper diversion flow was adjusted to direct more water from Skutumpah to South Fork, which likely accounts for the rise in flow on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. The Diversion was adjusted back to the original flow on Aug. 21<sup>st</sup>.

8/13 and 14 – Flow in the springs above the road ranged from 1 gpm at 006 to 4.5 gpm at Robert's Spring.

Vegetation is still vigorous with wildflowers blanketing the ground beneath the sagebrush. No livestock was observed during the monitoring but there was evidence of large animals bedding down in the meadow areas. Cracks repaired last year in the channel were checked, all were still in good repair. Water could be seen and heard flowing at the three photo locations (top of where the canyon becomes deep to confluence with North Fork). The ponds were dry.

8/18 and 19 – Springs above the culvert were flowing at the rate observed previously. The three ponds were empty. Water could be seen and heard flowing at the three photo locations (top of where the canyon becomes deep to confluence with North Fork). Cracks were reworked and repaired in the rubble area with native materials and bentonite, water is flowing at 20 gpm through the majority of the repaired area. The rubble area is monitored weekly and repairs will continue until available water is flowing through the entire 200 feet of surface previously dry. The water does flow the entire length of the South Fork of Quitchupah, it had previously dropped into the alluvium for approximately 200 feet of the channel and then reappeared in the channel and continued to flow to the confluence with the North Fork of Quitchupah.

A drawing showing the location of mining is attached. Please contact me with questions or if you require additional information. Thanks, Vicky

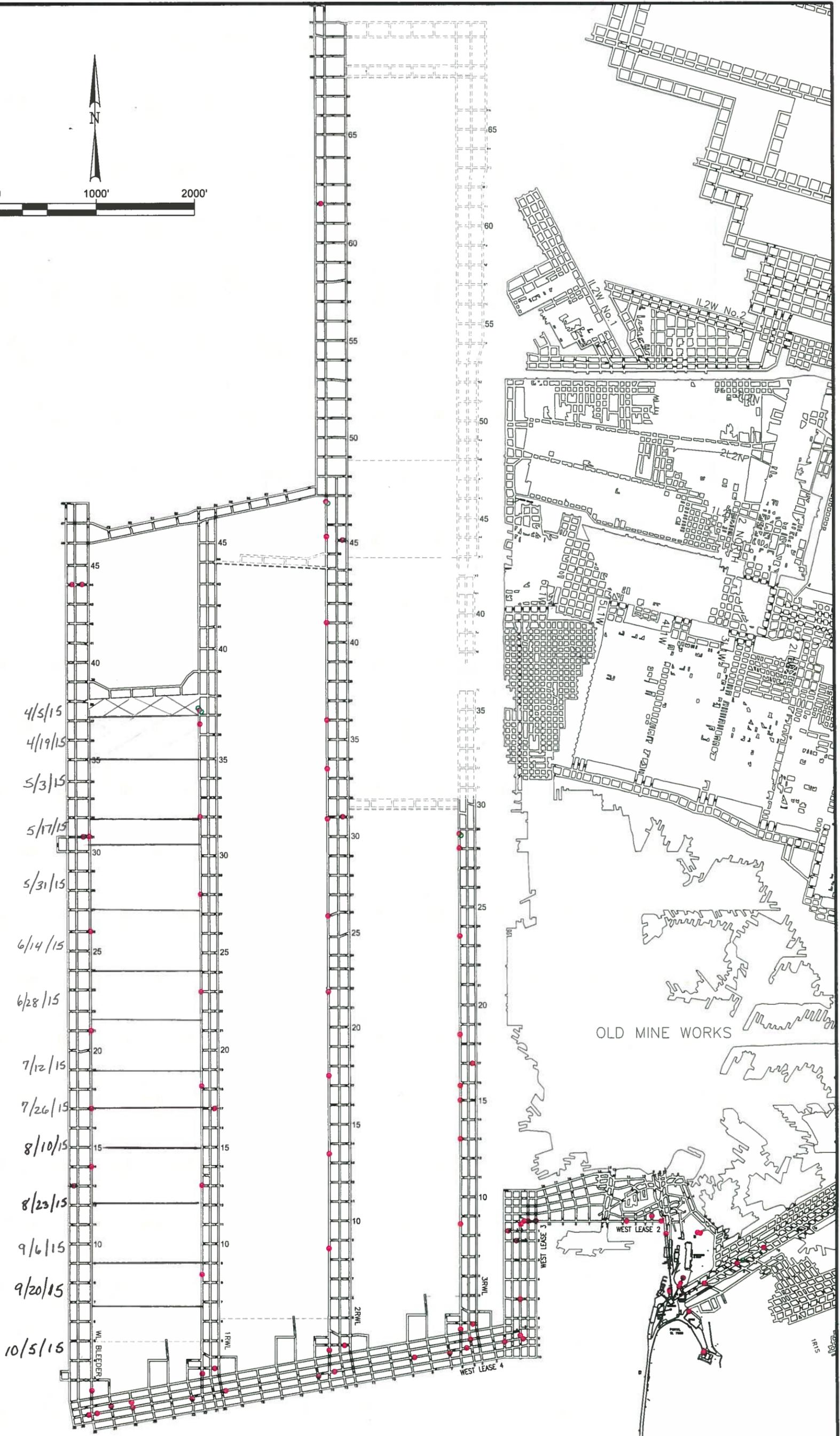
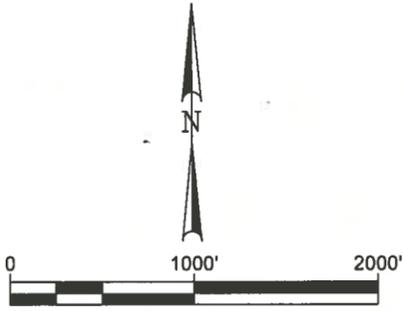
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**2 attachments****Mine Map 10 5 15.pdf**

246K

**October 9 Presentation.pptx**

550K



Trent Brown: 3/30/2015 10:03 AM



**Canyon Fuel Company, LLC**  
**SUFCO Mine**  
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 (435) 286-4880 Phone  
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<b>WEST LEASE</b>			SHEET NO.  <b>1</b>
<b>LONGWALL MINING SECTIONS</b>			
SCALE: 1" = 1,000'	DATE: 3/30/2015	DRAWN BY: T.R.B.	
ENGINEER:	CHECKED BY:	PROJ: ####	
FILE NAME: H:\DRAWINGS\LONGWALL\WESTLEASE\LONGWALL_PANELS.dwg			



