

Site Update

Silver Dyke Adit and Drainage Site

Operational Period 2

July 24 - 30, 2023

Site Description

The Silver Dyke Mine Adit and Drainage Site is located within Operable Unit 3 (OU3) of the Carpenter-Snow Creek Mining District National Priorities List (NPL) Site (CSCMD Site), near the Town of Neihart, Cascade County, Montana. This emergency response includes initial activities to address severe erosional damage to the area around and down drainage of the Silver Dyke Mine adit that was caused by a high level of snowmelt followed by extremely heavy rains this past Spring.

Site Goals

1. Improve water management and erosion control across the Site.
2. Divert water away from the drainage above the Silver Dyke Adit.
3. Stabilize the slope above the Silver Dyke Adit.
4. Construct containment ponds below the Silver Dyke Adit.
5. Prep the “Glory Hole” to receive waste.
6. Remove waste rock from below the Silver Dyke Adit to the Glory Hole.
7. Provide a stable flow channel for the Adit drainage.
8. Prep drill site(s) above the Silver Dyke Adit.
9. Drill into and drain the Silver Dyke Adit.
10. Open and stabilize the Silver Dyke Adit.
11. Repair the toe of the two large fluvial tailings ponds.
12. Upgrade the bridge/water crossing at Carpenter Creek.
13. Reclaim disturbed areas.

Operational Period Objectives

The following are the Objectives for the Operational Period 2, July 24 to July 30, 2023:

1. Continue hauling waste rock to the Glory Hole.
2. Continue slope stabilization/benching above the Adit.
3. Continue road improvement and erosion control work.
4. Harvest rock for armoring containment ponds and drainage areas.

Accomplishments - Operational Period 2

1. 3200 yds³ of waste rock was moved to the Glory Hole.
2. Three benches have been roughed in above the adit.
3. A road to the lower section above the Adit and the potential drill site was roughed in place.
4. Downstream locations for the containment ponds were identified.

PLANNED ACTIVITES

For the Operational Period 3, July 31 - August 6, 2023, the following operations are planned:

1. Continue hauling waste rock to the Glory Hole.
2. Continue work on slope stabilization/benching above the Adit.
3. Continue road improvement and erosion control work.
4. Harvest rock for use on drainage controls.

For additional information please visit the EPA Silver Dyke Adit and Drainage Site Response page: response.epa.gov/silverdykeadit



Dumping waste rock at the Glory Hole.



Excavator loading waste rock below the Silver Dyke adit.