

Cleanup work will begin in July at Stibnite Mine

Cleanup actions to address discrete areas of contamination at Stibnite Mine will begin in July. Perpetua Resources and their contractors, under U.S. EPA and Forest Service oversight, will:

Divert **Hennessy Creek** and construct an impermeable riverbed to prevent clean water from infiltrating the Northwest Bradley Waste Rock Dumps. The diversion is about 3,000 feet long. It will follow the existing channel as closely as possible and will not encroach on Stibnite Road.

Divert an unnamed creek in the **Smelter Flats** area and construct an impermeable riverbed to prevent clean water from infiltrating the buried smelter and mining waste. The diversion is about 1,200 feet long and will follow the existing channel.

Excavate about 10,000 cubic yards of waste rock from the **DMEA Dump**, place the excavated materials on top of the Northwest Bradley Dumps, and reconstruct the drainage and floodplain to match natural conditions.

Why are we performing the cleanup?

Hennessy Creek and the unnamed creeks at Smelter Flats and at the DMEA Dump come into contact with mine waste dumps and transport high amounts of metals to the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River. The cleanup actions taken this summer will prevent the creeks from contacting mine waste in the removal areas and are expected to improve their water quality.

Schedule

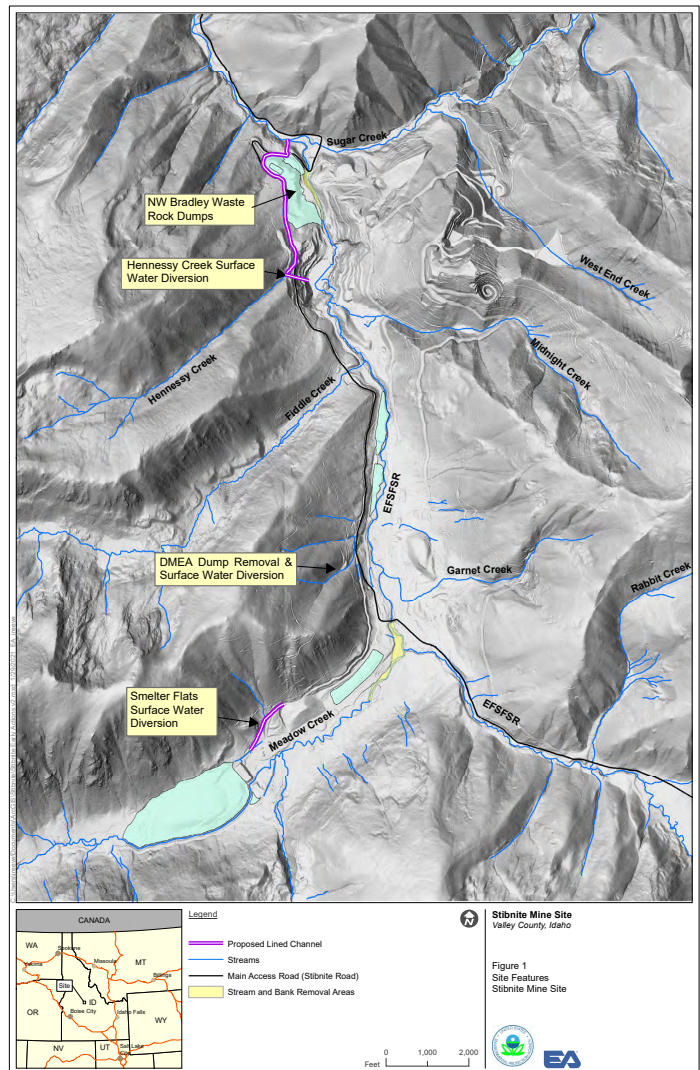
Construction will begin after the July 4 holiday weekend and will likely continue through October 2022. There will be a break in construction August 5-7, 2022, to avoid disruptions to the Yellow Pine Music & Harmonica Festival.

What to know

Construction equipment will mobilize to the site from State Highway 55, north of the town of Cascade. Work crews will follow Warm Lake Road (County Road 10-579) to Johnson Creek Road (County Road 10-413) to Yellow Pine, and from Yellow Pine to the site via East Fork Road (FR 50412, also known as Stibnite Road). Truck traffic should be minimal.

Stibnite Road will remain open to the public during construction. However, drivers may experience short delays between mile markers 10 and 12, while work is occurring next to the roadway. Signage will be placed along roads to provide advance warning of construction equipment.

Best management practices will be used for dust, erosion, and sediment control to prevent fugitive dust or increases in stream turbidity at the construction sites.



Background

The Stibnite Mining District sits along the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River. It is 14 miles southeast of Yellow Pine, Idaho, in the Payette National Forest. The 3,000-acre site is on both private and public National Forest Service lands. The mine produced gold, antimony, and tungsten from the 1900s to 1990s. Mining, milling, and mineral processing left behind a complicated situation. There are underground mine workings, open pits, rock dumps, tailings deposits, heap leach pads (areas where minerals were extracted), spent heap leach ore piles, a ruptured water dam, an abandoned water diversion tunnel, a mill and smelter site, and so on. Metals contaminate the area, including the river and its tributaries. EPA and the U.S. Forest Service have overseen past environmental cleanups near Meadow Creek, the Spent Ore Disposal Area/Bradley Tailings pile, and the NW Bradley Dumps. Remaining contamination still presents a risk to people's health and the environment.

For more information

Questions?

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