

Caribou-Targhee NF
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Phosphate Newsletter

<i>North Maybe Mine</i>	<i>South Maybe Mine</i>	<i>Pole Canyon Update</i>
<p>A time-critical removal action was initiated on September 8, 2008, to remove selenium-containing material from sediment retention ponds located at the north end of the East Mill Dump. This project will also restore sediment retention capacity at that location and implement erosion control on the lower face of East Mill Dump. To date 17,000 cubic yards of waste material has been excavated from the ponds and disposed of on the West Mill Dump. Construction of a new dam downstream of the dump toe is completed. Installation of an energy dissipation structure within the sediment retention area has begun and a toe berm will be constructed at the base of the dump to control erosion. Weather permitting, the project will be completed on October 24, 2008. The Forest Service anticipates publishing a notice of availability for the Administrative Record for this time-critical removal action in the very near future. Publication of the official notice will mark the beginning of a 30-day public comment period.</p> <p>Future work will include a geotechnical evaluation of waste dump stability at the North Maybe mine and an aquatic habitat assessment of East Mill Creek. Results of these studies will be used to complete the Site Investigation (SI) and Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) under the existing 2004 agreement and/or will be utilized during the upcoming for the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS).</p> <p>The Forest Service entered into negotiations with Nu-West Industries, Inc., and Nu-West Mining, Inc., (collectively Nu-West) and other potentially-responsible parties (PRPs) to perform an RI/FS at the North Maybe Mine. Data collected during the Site Investigation are being evaluated to identify data gaps. Once, agreement(s) between the Forest Service, support agencies, and the PRPs are in place, these data gaps will be used to develop work plans for the RI/FS.</p>	<p>Based upon information in the Site Investigation Report and the EE/CA for South Maybe Mine, the Forest Service and Nu-West are evaluating the installation of a cap on the cross valley fill (CVF) and removal of selenium-containing materials from ponds and upland areas along Maybe Creek. Pending agreement on the scope of work, field preparations could begin as early as the 2009 field season.</p> <p>The Forest Service and Nu-West are preparing for negotiations to perform an RI/FS at the South Maybe Mine site. The scope of the RI/FS will consist of investigation and remedy evaluations for those releases not addressed under the current agreement dated 1998.</p> <p>Information Highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next newsletter will be early 2009. <p>For more information and to download documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.fs.fed.us/r4/caribou-targhee/ • http://giscenter-ims.isu.edu/SISP/ 	<p>The Pole Canyon Removal Action at the Smoky Canyon Mine is a three-part construction project designed to reduce selenium contamination from the Pole Canyon waste rock overburden disposal area (ODA) into Pole Canyon Creek. The project consists of the pipeline diversion, an infiltration basin, and a run-on control channel. The pipeline diversion and infiltration basin construction was completed in 2007. Construction of the run-on control channel began in August 2008 with construction completion anticipated by the end of October 2008, followed by reclamation of the construction area.</p> <p>A new groundwater monitoring well was installed in September as part of the effectiveness monitoring plan for the Removal Action.</p> 