Pinyon Plain Mine
2026 Q1 Monitoring Summary



January - March 2026
Kaibab National Forest

Forest Service
United States Department of Agriculture

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the USDA Forest Service's administration and monitoring of the Pinyon Plain (formerly Canyon) uranium mine on the Tusayan Ranger District of the Kaibab National Forest.

The 1872 Mining Law requires the Forest Service (FS) to make minerals from National Forest System lands available to the national economy (30 U.S.C. 21-54). The FS is also responsible for minimizing the adverse impacts of mining activities on other surface resources (36 C.F.R. 228.8). Once a mining operation is approved, the FS monitors the mining company's compliance with the plan of operations and requirements imposed by the environmental review process. At Pinyon Plain Mine, the FS accomplishes this through visits to the mine site and regular communications with the mine's owner, Energy Fuels Resources. The FS will also ensure surface reclamation is conducted in alignment with all regulations and bonding once mining operations are completed.

This report is intended solely to inform interested parties about the Forest Service's monitoring of activities occurring at Pinyon Plain Mine during the specified time period.

Additional information about Pinyon Plain Mine can be found at https://www.fs.usda.gov/r03/kaibab/forest-products/nonwood-products/pinyon-plain-mine-formerly-canyon-uranium-mine.

Summary

Regular ore hauling activities began on February 12, 2025, after EFR and the Navajo Nation reached an agreement on hauling across Navajo Tribal Lands. As of March 2026, EFR averages 10 – 14 haul trucks per day, a decrease from the 15 – 17 truck average in Q4 2025. The maximum volume of ore on the ore pad during Q1 2026 was approximately 7,970 tons in January and the lowest in March, with a reported 4,600 tons on the ore pad.

Throughout Q1 2026, EFR continued to decrease the amount of ore on the ore pad. This decrease began in Q4 2025. The ore pad contained approximately 12,600 tons of ore in the first month of Q4 2025 and 4,600 tons by the end of Q1 2026. Ore stockpile heights, as reported by EFR, fluctuated between 15 and 17 feet during the majority of Q1. The lowest stockpile height reported during Q1 was 10 feet on March 30, 2026. The amount of ore on the ore pad is limited to 13,100 tons and 20 ft in height by the air quality permit EFR has from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. All numbers EFR reported to the Forest Service during Q1 of 2026 were within these limits. EFR estimates a conversion of 1.68 tons per cubic yard of uranium ore.

During the October 2024 coordination meeting, EFR notified the FS of exploration activities in the "Juniper Zone" (JZ). This ore zone sits beneath the current ore body that is being extracted. The JZ is discussed throughout a technical report available on EFR's website and is depicted in a figure on pg. 7-5 of EFR's technical report.

In March 2026, EFR confirmed that the analysis of the Juniper Zone indicates the deposit has probable mineral reserves. EFR has not committed to extracting ore from the JZ and production

mining of the JZ is not occurring. However, EFR continues to examine the profitability of the deposit for potential extraction in the future if it is economically feasible to do so.

Site Visits

Site visits occur approximately once a month at the Pinyon Plain Mine. Site visits focus on visual inspection of the main areas within the perimeter of the mine, including structures, the development rock stockpile, and ore pad. The site visits also involve discussion with mine personnel about operations and ongoing, recently completed, and planned activities. The site visits described here occurred on January 22 and March 10, 2026.

The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) was at the mine during the January site visit to conduct a quarterly site inspection. During the March site visit, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) was on site to conduct quarterly sampling activities.

Structures

EFR maintains the parking area and structures in a well-organized manner. All vehicles were found parked in the designated parking area throughout Q1. Staff on site continue to maintain safety areas using cones, steel barricades, and other high-visibility barriers to restrict machinery access and allow safe passage for pedestrians (Photos 1 – 4, Photos 27 – 29).

In Q3 2025, EFR used locally sourced gravel to reinforce areas within the mine perimeter, specifically the areas used by haul trucks. The gravel continues to maintain its integrity and EFR hasn't reinforced the original layer it since initially using the aggregate (Photos 3 – 6). No visible signs of trash were present near the structures or work areas. No signs of heavy rutting in the area were present.

Water Tanks and Non-Stormwater Impoundment

The water storage tanks are in good condition; no visible leaks were observed. The areas around the tanks are kept clean and organized. The rainwater catchment between the storage tanks remained dry during Q1 (Photos 7 – 8). A safety barrier has been placed near the entrance of the rainwater catchment to prevent traffic from entering the depression.

The evaporation system in the non-stormwater impoundment was offline during both site visits in Q1 (Photos 9 – 12). Although all five evaporators are located within the impoundment, one evaporator remains under repair. EFR reports the evaporation system was seldomly used during Q1. The area near the impoundment and fence line remains free of weeds (Photo 13).

Ventilation Shaft

The ventilation system (Photo 14) continues to operate at 50% of its capacity. Ear protection was not necessary while walking near the perimeter of the ventilation system and non-stormwater impoundment.

The propane tanks were refilled throughout Q1 at an average of about once a week due to colder weather conditions. The tanks are designated for the mine shaft heater, which is only activated

when the temperature reaches a specific range during the winter or as needed. The propane tank maintenance truck arrived at the mine during the January site visit (Photo 15).

Ore and Development Rock Stockpile

The volume of the development rock stockpile slowly increased in Q1 (Photos 16 – 19). Dust abatement for the development rock stockpile occurs using two methods, sprinkler hoses and a water tender (Photo 20).

The amount of ore on the ore pad decreased throughout Q1. During the January site visit, there was approximately 6,972 tons of ore on the ore pad. Approximately 6,171 tons of ore remained on the pad during the March site visit (Photos 21 – 25). When needed, a water tender is used on the ore stockpile for dust suppression efforts.

Ore Hauling and Access

A shed was previously installed near the entrance of the mine, designated for the Navajo Nation. This shed was replaced by a conex box in Q4 2025 and will be relocated to another location (Photo 26). The future location of the shed is yet to be determined as of March 2026.

In Q4 2025, the average number of haul trucks departing the mine was 15 – 17 trucks per day. This number decreased to 10 – 14 trucks per day during Q1 2026, remaining dependent on production rates, truck availability, and driver schedules. As of March 2026, the highest number of trucks used in one day, as reported by EFR, remains to be seventeen. EFR has indicated that 17 haul trucks is most likely the upper limit due to operational limitations and schedules. Hauling occurs Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays and ten additional Navajo National Holidays that may be observed. Safety barriers have been placed near the headframe and adjacent structures to restrict haul trucks from entering active areas within the perimeter (Photos 27 – 29).

The haul route continues to be in good condition (Photos 30 – 32). In an effort to raise awareness about the haul route and in response to a stakeholder request, the USFS installed orange carsonite signs affixed with “URANIUM HAUL ROUTE” and directional arrow stickers along Forest Service roads 305, 305A, and 305AB. Signs were initially placed at all intersections or at visible locations approximately 0.5 miles apart. These signs continue to be maintained and replaced when necessary.

Coordination Calls

The Forest Service has continued to meet with EFR regularly to stay informed of the current operational status at the mine and share information. These coordination calls generally occur once every two weeks. During Q1, the main updates from these conversations were the number of haul trucks used per day, the Juniper Zone, and any monitoring occurring at the site.

EFR continues to seek approval from the State of Arizona and private landowners to use the northern haul route that would connect from Highway 180 to Highway 89.

EFR reported that a total of 1,885 haul trucks had left the site in 2025, removing a total of 47,025 tons of ore.

EFR continues their analysis of core samples from the Juniper Zone. The data analysis is necessary before EFR commits to extracting ore from the Juniper Zone. Although EFR has confirmed the existence of a resource, EFR is still analyzing the profitability and economic potential of the ore deposit.

Other Activities

The Forest Service participated in a Coconino County Uranium Working Group meeting on February 2, 2026.

The Forest Service continued its work connected to recent studies related to groundwater hydrology in the Grand Canyon area. Primary activities were coordinating with Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, United States Environmental Protection Agency, and the United States Geological Survey (USGS) on a proposed study to better understand groundwater hydrology in the vicinity of the mine. The Forest Service also continued its close coordination with the USGS and its ongoing work related to informing future decision making on uranium mining in Arizona.

In Q1 2026, EFR submitted a proposal to use treated "ring water" gathered within the mine shaft for dust abatement. Tribal Consultation is scheduled for April 2026, where this topic will be presented to the tribes.

PHOTOS



Photo 1 – View of the headframe from office trailer, facing south. (Jan. 22)



Photo 2 – Overlooking headframe, facing south. (Mar. 10)



Photo 3 – Parking area adjacent to office trailer. (Jan. 22)



Photo 4 – Conex box storage for gear and safety equipment, adjacent to office buildings. (Jan. 22)



Photo 5 – Overlooking central work area. Propane tanks and ventilation system on righthand side. (Jan. 22)



Photo 6 – Overlooking central mine area. (Mar. 10)



Photo 7 – Rainwater catchment (empty) between the two water tanks in NW perimeter. (Jan. 22)



Photo 8 – Rainwater catchment. (Mar. 10)



Photo 9 – Non-stormwater impoundment with ventilation system in background. (Jan. 22)



Photo 10 – Overlooking the safety berm adjacent to non-stormwater impoundment. (Mar. 10)



Photo 11 – Non-stormwater impoundment. All evaporators were offline. (Jan. 22)



Photo 12 – Non-stormwater impoundment, facing NE. All evaporators were offline. (Mar. 10)



Photo 13 – Western perimeter/safety berm of non-stormwater impoundment. (Jan. 22)



Photo 14 – Overlooking area where central rainwater catchment previously existed. Ventilation system in background. (Mar. 10)



Photo 15 – Propane truck arriving during site visit. (Jan. 22)



Photo 16 – Entrance of development rock stockpile. (Jan. 22)



Photo 17 – Overlooking upper surface of the development rock stockpile. (Jan. 22)



Photo 18 – Overlooking upper surface of the development rock stockpile. (Mar. 10)



Photo 19 – Overlooking entrance and access to the upper surface of development rock stockpile. (Mar. 10)



Photo 20 – Hoses used for dust abatement located on upper surface of development rock stockpile. (Jan. 22)



Photo 21 – Overlooking ore stockpile from the development rock stockpile. (Jan. 22)



Photo 22 – Overlooking ore stockpile from the development rock stockpile. (Mar. 10)



Photo 23 – Overlooking ore stockpile and loading ramp. (Jan. 22)



Photo 24 – Overlooking loading ramp, ore is dark grey material on righthand side. (Mar. 10)



Photo 25 – Overlooking ore stockpile and loading ramp. Headframe and central mine area in background (Jan. 22)



Photo 26 – Previous location of Navajo Nation shed near entrance. Shed replaced by a conex box. (Jan. 22)



Photo 27 – Safety barriers near the ore hopper. (Jan. 22)



Photo 28 – Safety area between headframe and hoist room. (Jan. 22)



Photo 29 – Overlooking headframe and central work area. (Mar. 10)



Photo 30 – Overlooking the portion of FSR 305 directly adjacent to Hwy 64. (Jan. 22)



Photo 31 – Overlooking intersection of FSR 305 and FSR 305A. (Mar. 10)



Photo 32 – Entrance of Pinyon Plain Mine. (Mar. 10)