

# Mount Polley Community Update



December 2024



Mining in the Springer Pit, October 2024

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## Message from the Mine Manager

As the new Mine Manager at Mount Polley, I am honoured to step into this role after working with the Mount Polley team since 2022. Working with this skilled team has allowed me to personally witness our commitment to responsible mining, environmental stewardship, and safety, and I am excited to uphold these values in my new role.

Since July, we have advanced mining operations, focusing on the development of the Springer Pit. Our team's efforts in the third quarter resulted in 9.8 million pounds of copper and over 9,500 ounces of gold, showing stable production as we near year-end. Safety remains a top priority and we continue to reinforce a safe working environment through regular monthly departmental safety meetings and weekly safety audits. The Joint Occupational Health and Safety and Environmental Committee meets monthly to monitor and improve our culture of safety across our operations, and the mine rescue team has weekly training sessions.

Environmental stewardship remains essential to our work at Mount Polley. Our efforts in restoring fish habitats and local ecosystems have been recognized with the Jake McDonald Annual Mine Reclamation Award in 2023, and a recently published report highlighted the success of this remediation work.

We are committed to being a good neighbour and an engaged partner to the local communities. Supporting local events and initiatives is one way to give back, and we are proud to help foster growth and well-being in the communities that our employees and their families call home.

I would like to extend my gratitude to our hard-working employees for their dedication, as well as to our local communities and First Nations partners for their support. Together, we look forward to building on our achievements and meeting the opportunities ahead with dedication and integrity.

Warmly,  
John Thummerer



Mine Manager, Mount Polley Mining Corporation

# Mine Operations



## Springer Pit Development

Mining operations remain focused on developing the Springer Pit, with excavation work planned on the north wall and pit base. As part of our ongoing pushback for Phase 5, we have mined approximately 3.97 million tonnes to the end of September 2024, and much of this material was hauled to the tailings storage facility (TSF) for buttress construction.



Springer Pit, November 2024



Processing Plant

## Strong Production Growth

Production has seen positive growth. Compared to the third quarter of 2023, mill throughput increased by 8.6%, processing 1.694 million tonnes versus 1.560 million tonnes. Copper production in Q3 of 2024 was up 21.9% over the previous year, thanks to higher copper grades, recovery, and mill throughput.

Gold production in Q3 was 9,527 ounces, slightly lower than the previous year's third quarter due to lower grades and recovery, partially offset by higher throughput.

# Community

Williams Lake Stampede, July 2024



## Supporting our Community

Mount Polley is proud to support our local communities through various events and initiatives. Recent highlights include sponsoring the Williams Lake Stampede, including entering a Flinstones-themed float in the parade, supporting Halloween fireworks in Likely and Big Lake, participating in the Remembrance Day ceremony in Likely, and installing a new playground in Cedar Point Park.

## Public Tours

This fall, Mount Polley also welcomed public mine tours and school field trips, fostering community engagement and education. In November, a public meeting and tour were held, offering attendees the chance to ask questions and take a tour of the site. The small group size allowed for a more tailored experience, providing more time to address questions and areas of interest.

Playground Installation, October 2024



# Celebrating our Team

Our Staff Family Day events in September allowed us to express our appreciation and gratitude for our team's hard work and dedication. We provided a fun and educational experience for staff and their families as a genuine 'thank you' for everything they do. Families participated in gold panning, face painting, mill and pit tours, and an opportunity to see heavy equipment including diggers and haul trucks.



# Strengthening Ties with First Nations

Operating on the traditional territory of the Secwépemc peoples, Mount Polley is committed to building meaningful partnerships with local First Nations. We recognize culturally significant days, such as National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day, and we support events like the Williams Lake First Nation's Speaking our Truth competition powwow. This year we also hosted dedicated site tours for the Chief and Council members for our local First Nations partners, helping to strengthen these important relationships.



Williams Lake First Nation Powwow, September 2024



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, September 2024



# Environmental Stewardship

## Commitment to Environmental Monitoring

Onsite environmental monitoring is an ongoing priority. We regularly test water quality in active mining areas such as the Water Treatment Plant, and in nearby water bodies like Hazeltine Creek and Quesnel Lake, to ensure that quality standards are met.

We also conduct ongoing surveys of spawning habitats, vegetation, and overall ecosystem health in and around Hazeltine and Edney creeks.



Edney Creek, August 2024



Hazeltine Creek Reach 3, August 2024

## Managing Water Resources Responsibly

The drought condition over the last four quarters has limited water discharge through our Water Treatment Plant, but we are actively managing the water balance onsite to support both our operational needs and for environmental safety.

After a prolonged period of inactivity at the Water Treatment Plant, we resumed our operations and discharge in October.

# Wildlife Monitoring

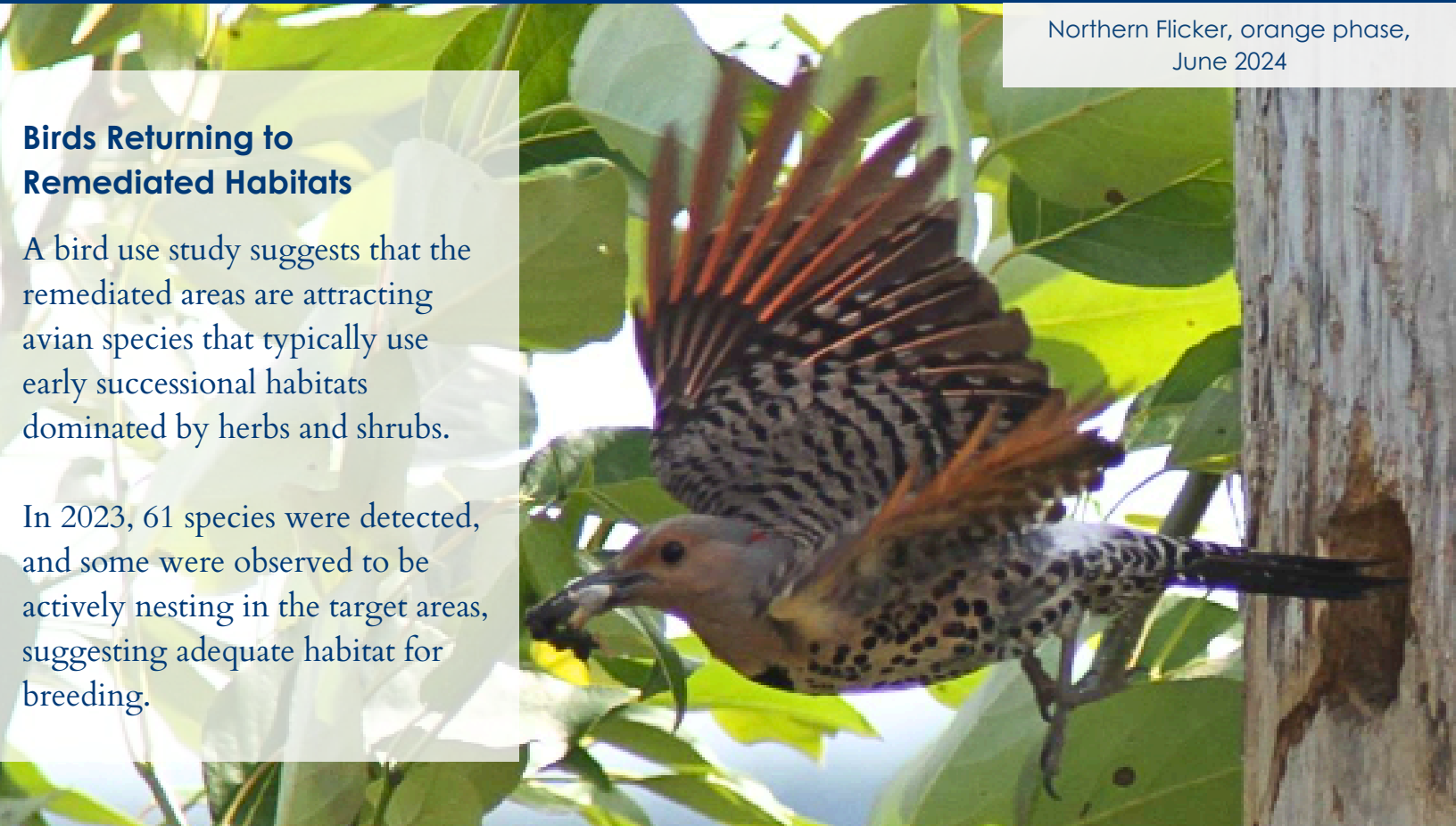


Coyote in Hazeltine Creek, February 2024

## Tracking Recovery and Habitat Use

Wildlife monitoring is ongoing at the mine site and the areas affected by the 2014 dam breach. In the Hazeltine Creek corridor, monitoring shows improving site conditions, with wildlife actively using the area. The study shows that large mammals are present in similar numbers to nearby reference areas, while small mammals are less abundant.

More research is needed to understand how habitat features in the remediated areas might be affecting small mammals compared to the reference sites.



Northern Flicker, orange phase, June 2024

## Birds Returning to Remediated Habitats

A bird use study suggests that the remediated areas are attracting avian species that typically use early successional habitats dominated by herbs and shrubs.

In 2023, 61 species were detected, and some were observed to be actively nesting in the target areas, suggesting adequate habitat for breeding.



# Environmental Remediation

## Award Winning Remediation

The work to remediate Hazeltine Creek since the 2014 tailings dam breach earned Mount Polley the Jake McDonald Annual Mine Reclamation Award in 2023. The commemorative trophy is now proudly displayed in our office. This achievement reflects the collaborative efforts of our team and our partners in the Habitat Remediation Working Group.

For more information about remediation at Mount Polley, read our Q&A:

[Click here for Remediation Q&A](#)



Award Ceremony, October 2023

## Fish Habitat Successfully Restored

A recent report presented at the Canadian Dam Association highlights Mount Polley's success in restoring and improving fish habitats in Hazeltine and Edney Creeks. The report notes that lost fish habitats in the affected areas have now been rebuilt to a higher standard, resulting in a significant increase in fish populations and overall habitat quality.

[Click here to read the report](#)



# Reclamation

## Ongoing Reclamation Progress

Current remediation and reclamation efforts include the reshaping and stabilization of the East Rock Disposal Site (pictured), removing old roads, and recontouring sections of Hazeltine Creek.



## Looking Forward

### Advancing Development and Infrastructure

Looking ahead, our plans include conducting exploration to identify future mining opportunities. We will continue the phased development of the Springer Pit, and strategic infrastructure projects like raising the tailings storage facility.



Springer Pit, September 2024

# Join Our Team



## We Are Hiring!

Mount Polley is actively seeking talented individuals to join our team as we continue to grow! We offer diverse roles from administrative to technical and trades, with competitive salaries, benefits, training and career advancement opportunities.

Interested candidates may email us at [hr@mountpolley.com](mailto:hr@mountpolley.com)

### CONTACT US:

Mount Polley Mining Corporation  
*an Imperial Metals company*  
Box 12, Likely, BC V0L 1N0  
Telephone: 250.790.2215  
Email: [inquiries@imperialmetals.com](mailto:inquiries@imperialmetals.com)

### FOLLOW US:

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- [www.facebook.com/mountpolley](http://www.facebook.com/mountpolley)
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### KEY STAFF:

- John Thummerer, Mine Manager
- Judith Gagnon, HR Superintendent
- Gabriel Holmes, Environmental Coordinator

### OTHER RESOURCES:

- BC Mine Information Page
- BC Ministry of Environment Natural Resource and Enforcement Database

For questions about this Community Update, please email Gabriel Holmes at [gabriel.holmes@mountpolley.com](mailto:gabriel.holmes@mountpolley.com)