



# Mount Polley Mining Corporation

an Imperial Metals company

Box 12 • Likely, BC V0L 1N0 • T 250.790.2215 • F 250.790.2613

## MOUNT POLLEY MINING CORPORATION (MPMC) PUBLIC LIAISON COMMITTEE (PLC) MEETING NOTES

### Meeting Details

Date: July 8, 2020

Time: 9:00 am

Location: Conference Call

### PLC Members and Guests

Member	Present	Call-in	Organization
Bee Hooker			Big Lake Community
Bill Carruthers			Williams Lake Community
Lyn Anglin (LA)		x	Consultant to Imperial Metals
Christine McLean (CM)		x	Mitchell Bay Community
Claudine Kadonaga			Likely Business
Mathieu O'Leary (MO)		x	Mount Polley Mining Corporation
Dale Reimer		x	Mount Polley Mining Corporation
Carol Danyluk (CD)		x	Ministry of Environment
Don Parsons (DP)		x	Imperial Metals
Doug Watt (DW)		x	Likely Citizen
Edna Boston			Xatsull - Soda Creek Indian Band
Alan Gibson (AG)		x	Ministry of Environment
Jackie Sarginson		x	MLA Cariboo North Coralee Oaks Office
Jaylyn Byer (Alternate)		x	Williams Lake Chamber of Commerce

Linda Bartsch			Horsefly Business
Lisa Kraus (LK)		x	Likely Community
Lowell Constable			Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Petroleum Resources
Maureen LeBourdais (ML)		x	Cariboo Regional District
Micky McIntosh			Likely Resident
Richard Holmes (RH)		x	Morehead Community
Steve Hocquard			Horsefly Community
Gabe Holmes (GH)		x	Mount Polley Mining Corporation
Walt Cobb			City of Williams Lake
Alicia Lalonde		x	DWB Consulting
Abhirosh Chandran		x	Ministry of Environment
Aaron Higgenbottom		x	Williams Lake Indian Band
<b>Guests</b>	<b>Onsite</b>	<b>Call-in</b>	<b>Organization</b>
James Ogilvie (JO)		x	Golder Associates
Sean Shaw (SS)		x	Ministry of Energy, Mines, and Petroleum Resources

## **Conference Call Meeting/Presentations 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Meeting Notes**

### **Welcome and Roll Call on Phone and Roundtable Introduction**

#### **Additions to Agenda**

- Permit appeal status update proposed by Alan Gibson
- Turbidity in Quesnel Lake research paper proposed by Gabriel Holmes

#### **Approval of Agenda**

- Approved

#### **Presentations (see 2020-07-08 PLC Meeting Presentation)**

- Care and Maintenance Update – Dale Reimer
- COVID19 Update – Gabriel Holmes
- Environmental Monitoring Update – Gabriel Holmes
  - Unauthorized Discharges
- Discharge/Water Treatment Plant Update – Gabriel Holmes
  - Exceedances
- Water Management Update – Gabriel Holmes/Mathieu O’Leary
- Remediation Update – Gabriel Holmes

- Exploration Update – Gabriel Holmes
- ENV/EMPR Discussion – Alan Gibson/Carol Danyluk/Sean Shaw

### **Standing Agenda Items**

- Roundtable Discussion
- PLC Questions/Comments

### **Next Meeting**

- Public meeting?

### **Care and Maintenance Update – Dale Reimer**

- Care and Maintenance operations include daily inspections of water management infrastructure, monitoring of the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) to ensure proper operation, regular equipment maintenance, environmental monitoring including water sampling, reporting, and planning for the upcoming months, and maintenance of site power/communications.
- With COVID19 there are still two cross shifts working; however, they do not physically interact.

### **COVID19 Update – Gabriel Holmes**

- COVID policies for the mine site are still in place.
- As of March 19 all personnel at the mine site must: practice social distancing, frequently wash hands, practice safe sneeze/cough etiquette, wear a face mask while in a vehicle with others, stay home if feeling sick, keep hands away from eyes, nose and mouth, and keep work areas and tools clean and hygienic.
- Implementation of room occupancy limits and additional cleaning requirements have been added since the last PLC meeting. A questionnaire must be filled out upon arrival onsite and people will be turned away if they show symptoms of illness.

### **Environmental Monitoring Update – Gabriel Holmes**

- A regimented environmental monitoring program centered on permit and CEMP requirements is conducted.
- Water sampling of Polley Lake, Bootjack Lake, Quesnel Lake, Hazeltine Creek, Edney Creek, mine site seepage, groundwater and the WTP is conducted as part of the routine weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, annual sampling requirements.
- Split sample audit results from Nov 2019- 96%

#### Questions:

AG: Any changes in monitoring since the last meeting?

GH: We have been implementing the 2019 CEMP which includes some minor changes to the monitoring program and we've done some additional sampling with unauthorized discharges.

AG: Any new seepages?

GH: Spring seep surveys have been completed. No changes were noted. Seep surveys are used to quantify water coming out of dumps and future impacts of downstream water quality. They help to form the closure strategies.

AG: All seeps are collected into drainages and flow into sumps on site?

GH: Seeps report primarily to the collection ditches and some go into pits.

- Surveys and Studies

- Spawning surveys- During the high-water event, the fish exclusion fence in Reach 3 in Hazeltine Creek was inundated with water and fish got around the fence and as such, this area was added to the existing survey area.
- Bird nesting surveys
- Vegetation surveys
- Fish tissue sampling in Polley Lake, Bootjack Lake and Quesnel Lake
- Zooplankton program has begun, one sampling event has been conducted in Polley and Bootjack Lakes
- The Constructed Wetland Treatment System (CWTS) is in the commissioning stage. Last year the dissolved oxygen in the wetland cells was not as low as was needed so more vegetation was added to help accelerate the process. Currently, the Mount Polley environmental team conducts weekly monitoring and bi-monthly sampling under the guidance of Ensero.
- JO: Saturated Rock Fill (SRF) treatment feasibility testing is ongoing and trimercapto-s-triazine (TMT) trials for water treatment were conducted in late May/early June. Golder has developed a concept design for an SRF system in the Wight Pit and is now working on bench scale testing using rock and water samples from the Mount Polley mine site in our lab. Results from this study will be incorporated into the 2022 Water Management Plan. Submerged Sand Reactor and TMT usage in the WTP have also been explored.

Questions:

AG: SRF is long process, you are anticipating that you will have the results by this fall but it's been 2.5 years and you're just getting into bench scale testing. Will it be another 2.5 years before everything is finalized?

JO: We just started looking at SRF last year, so yes, we won't get a final answer if any of these technologies are feasible for a few years. When I say the bench scale test will be completed in the fall, I mean identifying if this technology will work with site water and rock.

AG: There are two treatments on the go for closure- CWTS and SRF. What happens if SRF does not work? Are there any other treatments you are planning on looking at?

JO: We've looked at a suite of options developed over the last 5-10 years including biochemical reactors (BCR), pit lake treatment and a pilot study for water in the Wight Pit. We are currently looking at the range of possibilities for long term treatment and which can be carried forward and implemented.

AG: Only SRF, CWTS and WTP are being explored right now?

JO: We also looked at pit lake treatment and BCR and have progressed through the bench scale phase. We are looking at study designs using the Cariboo Pit.

AG: When you're designing these treatments, are you designing them to treat the most water in a certain

area? And where will discharge from those systems be going?

JO: That will come in with the water management plan after we figure out which technologies are feasible.

- Sump and Ditch Inspections
  - All critical ditches, sumps, ponds, and pipelines are inspected twice annually once in the spring and once in the fall. We inspect for integrity issues. During our spring inspections, limited erosion and downed logs were identified but nothing significant.
- Seep Surveys
  - All of the dump toes are walked, observations made and samples collected during annual seep surveying. From the seep surveys, NEZ Seep 1 and 2 were identified as an issue.
- Unauthorized Discharges – April 21 (NW Sump and Mine Drainage Creek) and May 6 (Bootjack Creek Sump)
  - 3 days, NW Sump- 25, 200 m<sup>3</sup>
  - 4 days Mine Drainage Creek – 56,448 m<sup>3</sup>
  - 10 days Bootjack Creek Sump- 25,173 m<sup>3</sup>
  - There was a rapid melting event this spring, it was the coldest March on MPMC's records and there was no significant melting in the winter months. This year also yielded the second largest snowpack since Mount Polley began keeping records in 1999. The largest snowpack was recorded in 2014.
  - The largest issue initially was that the water management infrastructure was keeping up with the water with the exception of the Perimeter Embankment Till Borrow Pond (PETBP); as a result, MPMC made the decision to allow the sumps to overflow in order to save the PETBP. The PETBP does not have an emergency spillway and would have overflowed into Hazeltine Creek which was viewed as an environmentally sensitive scenario. Water flowed through a forested area to Bootjack Lake from the NW and MDC sumps when they overflowed. The Bootjack Creek Sump is located directly adjacent to Bootjack Creek. A pump failure caused water to overflow and the replacement pump was insufficient to keep up with the flows. Water flowed into Bootjack Creek. Outcomes- The water quality was reasonably favorable. There were exceedances of BCWQGs in dissolved aluminum and copper. It was found that the dissolved aluminum exceedances were existing. Both events were unlikely to have any adverse effects as there were favorable water quality results and there was very little erosion and physical disturbance. Communication with ENV is ongoing and repercussions are still unknown at this time. AG has requested some information and MPMC continues to work with ENV to ensure this does not happen again.

#### Questions:

AG: The WTP was shut down during this whole time and was not discharging for a month and a half during freshet. The volume discharged to Bootjack Lake was well below the allowable limit from the WTP. Why not treat to a certain level instead of allowing sumps to overflow with no treatment?

GH: If we get an exceedance at the WTP, we cannot legally start it up. We weren't going to knowingly start up plant and discharge when we knew the water exceeded our permit limit. We also know that there is an increase in copper during freshet. Neither scenario was favorable but we chose to let the sumps overflow.

AG: What procedures do you have in place? *Environmental Management Act* Section 2.5 Adverse

Environmental Emergency Response Plan requires an emergency response plan be in place. What procedures do you have to follow leading up to these events?

GH: We pump down our sumps and reservoirs and have extra pumps onsite to use if needed in preparation for freshet. We also have a water management inspection guide which has a section on different scenarios and steps to be followed. Not all sumps have the same risk level on the site, so they have been weighted and there is a decision-making process depending on where the incident is occurring. Since this occurred, MPMC is going to review their Emergency Response Plan and incorporate some of the shortcomings identified during these unauthorized discharges.

CM: Is there a plan for future monitoring in the areas where the discharges have occurred?

GH: I've done some physical observations. Bootjack Creek is a non-fish bearing stream and as is illustrated with our sample results, the water quality met the BCWQGs by the time it got to Polley Lake. We couldn't do any sampling at Bootjack Lake because there was ice on the lake but the samples collected on the shore of the lake yielded positive sample results.

CM: As a result of the exceedances, are there any penalties or fines that have to be paid?

GH: We have not received any yet but AG has been working with ENV to determine if a fine will be required.

AG: Compliance is still looking at the results and the incident. We have requested more information from Mount Polley since the report was lacking a lot of information.

CD: What is required (permit) in the case of an overflow or exceedance, is that Mount Polley notify us as well as provide a post-investigation report. How does Mount Polley revise its programs and procedures so that this type of event does not occur again? Review of this information will take a bit of time and a compliance inspection will be done later this year.

CM: Does the PLC receive a copy of the assessment?

CD: When the report is available, Alan will forward to the PLC.

CM: Environmental Emergency Response Plan-is it reasonable to include some community members in review of this plan?

GH: Maybe. Especially in terms of communications and understanding community values during very serious events. We will have a look at it and see if there is room for community input.

DW: When the Water Management Plan was being formulated, there was discussion of level of flood. What happened this spring was a high-water event and with climate change, these events may become more frequent. As part of this review, will Mount Polley look into a higher level of flood response so that systems are more robust so that these discharges will not occur?

GH: I cannot say at the moment. Our systems are designed to adhere to permit conditions. But climate change does need to be considered. That needs to change at the regulators as a starting point.

DW: That's something that moving forward ENV and EMPR should consider.

ML: Is the Cariboo Regional District allowed a copy of the mine's Emergency Response Plan? We do not have a copy of it as of now. Was it an intent or requirement that we have one?

AG: As part of ENV permit Section 2.5.1 d) a protocol for immediately advising the Soda Creek Indian Band,

Williams Lake Indian Band, Cariboo Regional District, and community of Likely of significant emergency events and permit exceedances must be implemented. MPMC should be doing it but they haven't.

GH: We did notify the PLC members. We will look into whether the Cariboo Regional District can have the most up to date copy. When we have these discharges occurring, we inspect, collect samples, consult with ENV, and contact the 24-hr spill hotline who notifies First Nations, Interior Health, etc. These were what I perceive to be low-level unauthorized discharges, which are those that are not a significant health threat but I am familiar with terrain, infrastructure, etc. That being said, I understand why the systems are in place. I think we did cover all of the bases when reporting. Please provide feedback about whether you agree or not.

ML: I agree, the unauthorized discharges were reported quickly. If there ever was a catastrophic event again, how would that get shared and be dealt with? If the Cariboo Regional District has copy of the plan, they will know how to address a bigger issue. We can follow up later on that.

DW: Rumors were going around about a spill at the mine, and it wasn't until after that that MPMC sent out notification to PLC. I think that more work to the emergency response plan is needed so that Mount Polley is more proactive in providing information to the public.

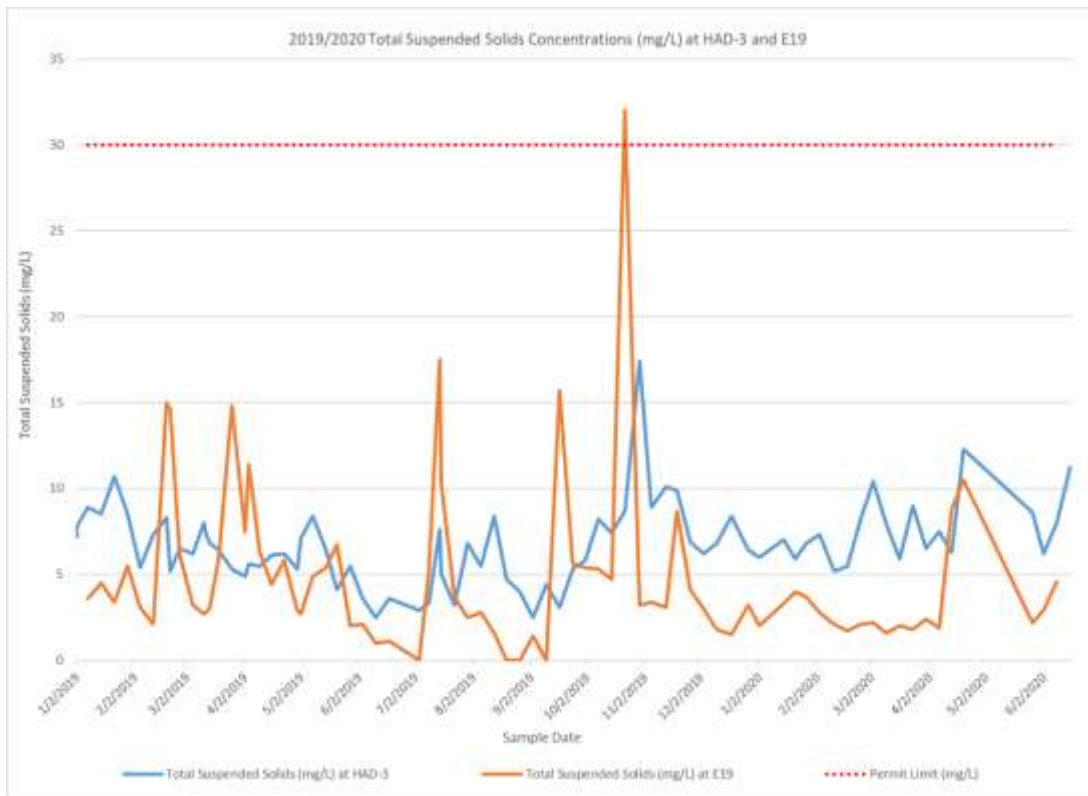
GH: I wanted to wait to notify people until we knew what was going on and had some results so that I could answer questions. I should have responded earlier. We can disseminate information in a timelier fashion going forward.

Action Item: Alan will provide information about compliance with regard to the unauthorized discharges to the PLC members once a decision is reached.

- Reporting and planning
  - In house planning is required to execute the CEMP, meet permit reporting requirements and coordinate with consultants for specialty work (Ensero for the CWTS, Minnow for the plankton program, etc.).
  - Monthly and quarterly reporting is underway.

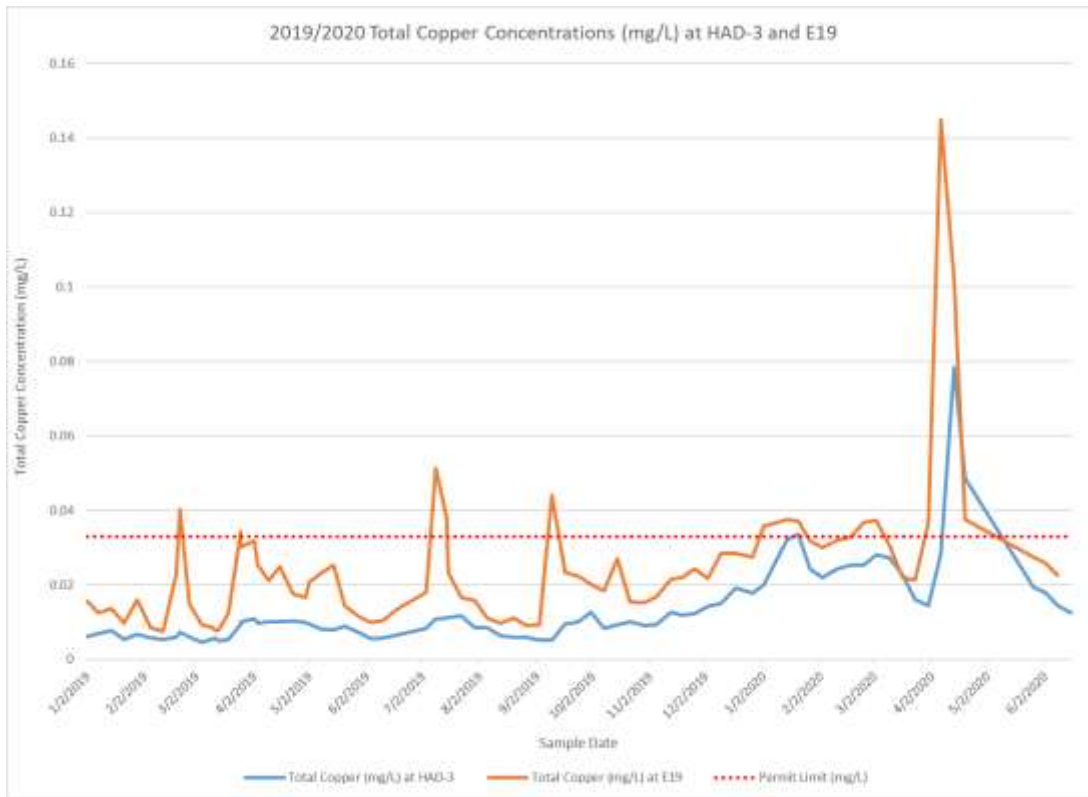
#### **Discharge/WTP Update – Gabriel Holmes**

- The WTP operated until April 19 when it was shut down due to elevated copper concentrations.
- The sample collected on April 7 had a total copper concentration within 80% of the permit limit, which initiated the trigger response plan in MPMC's Annual Discharge Plan (ADP). The response involved reducing throughput in the WTP by 20%, initiating a data review and collecting another sample. The April 14 sample was found to have a total copper concentration that exceeded the permit limit. Influences on water quality reporting to PETBP included the NEZ Seeps and SERD ditch because TSF water was pumped into SERD ditch and leachate from leach pad was pumped to the TSF without lime addition. Lime used to be added to the leachate during the milling process. The heap leach is currently inactive but without the mine being in operation, that water is not pH regulated since we quit milling. The small amount of water being pumped from the leach pad has had a large impact on the water quality of the TSF.
- During some periods of operation, the WTP actually adds TSS with addition of the floc particle. In order to initiate the treatment process, sand and reagents are added which adds TSS, though they are consistently below the permit threshold.

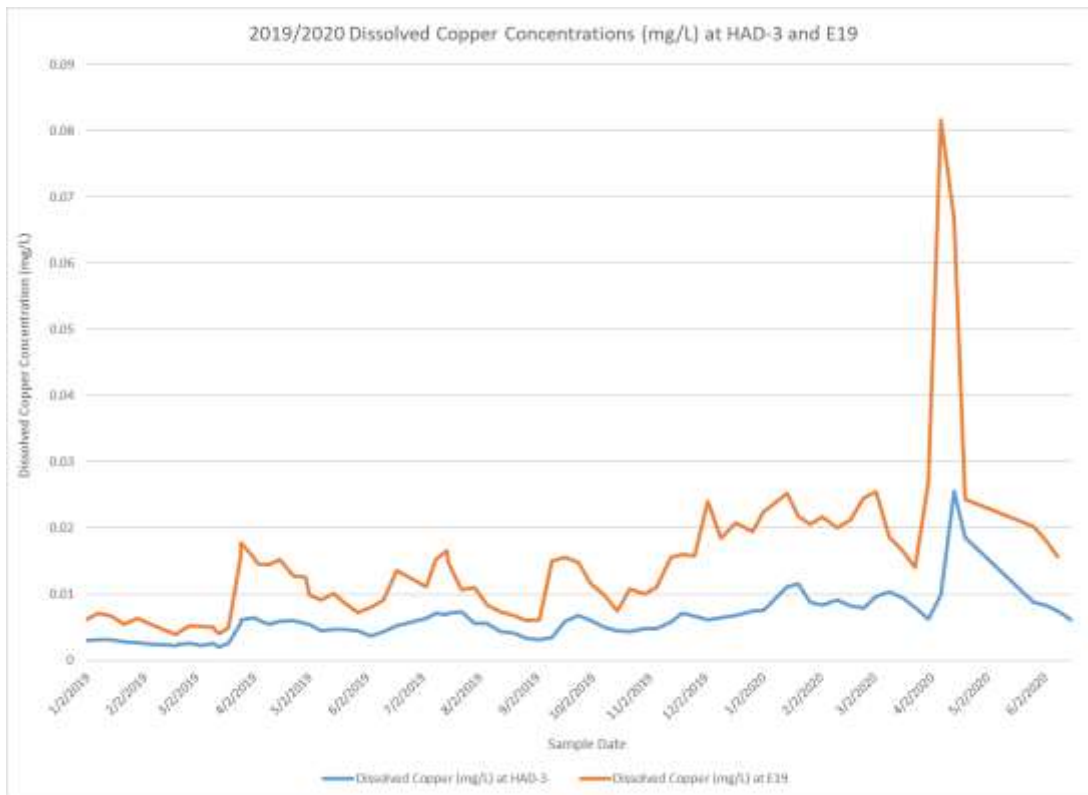


- In Oct 2019, we see an increasing trend in total copper values. We think that's associated with the wet fall we had and the pump in the NEZ Sump freezing up resulting in overflow from the NEZ sump making its way to the WTP, in combination with leachate in TSF. You can see the exceedance in total copper experienced in April and a decreasing trend in the copper values in the last 6 weeks or so.





- The WTP is treating dissolved copper but by and large, dissolved copper is not the issue.



- Golder was onsite to conduct a TMT trial from May 29-June 2, 2020
  - Key findings: The TMT was effective at precipitating copper but the WTP was not effective at removing the precipitate even though TSS permit limits were met.
  - JO: The main objective was to evaluate the performance of TMT as an add on to the existing WTP. We started with a low influent flow rate and increased it throughout the study. High copper levels in the influent gave a good opportunity to do this trial. The main findings of the study were that TMT as an add on was effective at precipitating dissolved copper and the percentage removal was high for dissolved copper (up to 80-90%) but what we did find was that the total copper was not being reduced as much due to the effectiveness of the plant at reducing the TSS. Further work is needed to optimize the WTP so that the copper precipitate can be removed from the system.

Questions:

AG: Part of trial was based on the bench test from Feb 2017, was any extra polyaluminum chloride (PAC) added? Would that have helped remove some of the TSS?

JO: PAC is used as part of WTP operation already. I would have to follow up with the treatment team on whether more was added during the trial.

AG: If there is more PAC going through, more coagulant would need to be added to bring it down.

JO: PAC is added proportionally to flow rate. But I'm not sure what was done during field trial.

AG: What are some of the recommendations that Golder made following completion of the trial?

JO: Golder recommended that adjustments be made to the WTP that focus specifically on removing the coagulated copper, moving TMT dosing points further upstream and increasing some of other ratios in system. We are currently looking at making some of these adjustments with the help of Veolia.

DW: In the February PLC meeting where high copper from the NEZ sump was discussed, I asked what could be done to track those problems quicker. Has anything been done?

MO: We planned to install a weir system with continuous loggers in NEZ Seep 1 and NEZ Seep 2 in late 2019 but the everything was frozen and then freshet happened. We purchased a photometer device that detects copper which gives an instant reading. We have trained the staff and have been taking daily samples during the month of June in NEZ Seeps 1 and 2. There was a delay in the training of second crew but now both crews are using the unit. We are currently working on taking samples on same day as the environmental department to determine the unit's accuracy.

GH: We do know when they are discharging into the Long Ditch because we do our daily pump watch checks and we can make observations about whether the pumps are running properly. We don't know if we let the seeps flow into the Long Ditch how long it will take to affect the downstream water quality (influent water) until we collect samples and send them to the lab.

SS: Has anything been done regarding the heap leach pad and leachate coming from it?

GH: There is a large volume of Sulphur stockpiled on top of the leach pad, and the leachate is extremely high in copper values, we underestimated the effect on the TSF water. What we have been doing is adding lime

to the leachate prior to discharge to the TSF to reduce those copper values. Prior to lime treatment, leachate samples had copper concentrations of up to 710 mg/L, after treatment the copper concentrations in the leachate was reduced to 149 mg/L which is still very high. Treatment with lime was done consistently during milling; however, was not being done during Care and Maintenance. We are now attempting to raise the pH to ~8.1-8.2 to help precipitate the copper out. We are going through a series of tests to determine optimal treatment before discharging to the TSF.

MO: The large rain events have created more leachate than in typical years so to keep the leachate down, we need to pump it more. We can't treat the leachate with iron for as long due to the volume of water. We are constrained by the rain and large volume of water but we are working to determine the optimal amount of time for batches before discharging to the TSF.

SS: Otherwise, the mill is shut down?

GH: Yes.

SS: What's the purpose of the leach pad and the Sulphur? Is it needed on site anymore? Can the source of high metals be removed?

DP: The plan in the Reclamation and Close Plan is to excavate all of those materials and submerge them under water so the reaction stops.

SS: Will that be done soon?

DP: The best place to dispose of it would be the TSF. It should be done before we go into full closure.

JO: To address AG's previous question, the PAC was not adjusted during the trial so they could focus on the adjustment of TMT at different flow rates.

#### **Water Management Update-** Gabriel Holmes/Mathieu O'Leary

- MPMC is actively moving water around the site utilizing the TSF, and Cariboo and Springer Pits for onsite water storage. The Wight Pit flooded during the spring as a result of diverting water away from the PETBP. We are continuing to monitor water levels closely.
- MPMC is working to pursue a WTP bypass with ENV. By implementing the bypass, we can increase our throughput significantly.
- Polley Lake control structure
  - Water has been continuously discharging over the structure since the beginning of May. The structure is designed for this to occur but there has been a lot of water on site. Water did inundate the floodplain allowing fish passage for approx. 10 days. We actively manage this water and make sure there is flow during even the driest months of the year.
- Research projects are ongoing and include the SRF, CWTS, etc. Closure strategies are being developed based on this research.
- ENV TM Request from June 23 for the unauthorized discharges.
- NEZ Seeps are monitored regularly.

- TSF status
  - The TSF volume pre-freshet was 1.43 Mm<sup>3</sup> which met our objective in dewatering the TSF. We were communicating with our Engineer of Record prior to freshet and notifications were provided to ENV and EMPR weekly. Additional information was requested from EMPR and MPMC has provided all of that information. Water is still accumulating on site. Last week the volume of the TSF was 2.51 Mm<sup>3</sup> and this week it was 2.33 Mm<sup>3</sup>. The goal is to bring the dam back down to operating levels by pumping water from the TSF to the Cariboo and Springer Pits. The rain has slowed down the process. Water is being pumped from the PETBP to the TSF as needed.
- Lime addition to Sulphur pile/leach pad leachate was already discussed.

### **Remediation Update – Gabriel Holmes**

- Commenced 2020 remediation work on July 6. There was a late start due to the wet and rainy conditions.
- A comprehensive fish salvage is starting on Monday.
- The majority of the work being done this year will be in Lower Hazeltine Creek.
- Fish exclusion fences are to be moved to accommodate the fish in Reach 3.
- The HWRG met and discussed the upcoming work and some changes to the designs were recommended. JO: Minor changes to the alignments, movement of the confluence of Hazeltine and Edney Creeks downstream and configuration of the outfalls leaving the system were requested. Those changes have been incorporated and the designs are being finalized at this time. GH: Planting and seeding is ongoing.

#### Questions:

CM: is this area open to the public yet?

JO: Currently, no as it is an active construction area.

GH: We are working towards having it accessible to the public. There is a public road that runs through the area that is still open although throughout the 2020 construction season there will be no access.

AG: Is there remediation going on the mine site itself?

GH: No, that has been postponed as we have a very limited workforce. We haven't created much disturbance since we've been in Care and Maintenance and remediation is done on a project by project basis. I have identified a few areas for progressive reclamation, totaling approximately 10 hectares but we do not have plans to complete the work in the near future.

### **Exploration Update – Gabriel Holmes**

- Notice of Work applications for the new Mineral Claims have been filed.
- A Deemed Authorization Permit on Mine Permit Area has been submitted for expansion around the Cariboo and Springer Pits.
- Geological mapping of "New" areas, ground truthing of the exploration drill targets, planning of the easiest, non-

invasive access to diamond drill sites and diamond drilling will be conducted.

- Diamond drill prioritized targets, MMI and Geophysical targets.
- Complete 3-D-IP over the mine site known mineralization for new exploration and create fingerprint of known mineralized bodies.
- White shows the survey area done last year, yellow are surveys completed this spring. Drilling is planned in ~20 holes.



#### ENV/EMPR Discussion – Alan Gibson/Carol Danyluk/Sean Shaw

- Opened up the meeting to Carol, Alan, Sean and Abhirosh to discuss any concerns.
- SS: EMPR has been radio silent on the PLC recently. In the last meeting attended, the EMPR promised an amalgamated M-200 permit draft. EMPR has been stretched on capacity and the amalgamated permit draft will be sent out by the end of next week. The amalgamated permit draft will take all existing amendments and bring them into one permit.

#### Questions:

DW: Updating the reclamation and closure plan has not been done. Will it be done?

SS: EMPR requires an update to the mine's reclamation and closure plan every 5 years so we expect to see an update in Dec 2022.

DW: It was my understanding that the 2017 plan was not up to standard. I don't recall it being accepted or

approved.

SS: When the site isn't going into formal closure, in 2017 Mount Polley was in full operation and now the site is planned to go back into operation, that document is dynamic and is not formerly approved. Any review comments and recommendations would have been communicated at that time. Until the mine is actually going into closure, that plan just sketches out what they are going to do and the timing.

DW: I'm concerned that the Reclamation and Closure Plan is not up to date. Is the mining department going to be working with Mount Polley to ensure they do update their Water Management Plan to accommodate these higher water level event?

SS: The appropriate facilities are in place to handle the expected rain events and we review those on a 5-year basis. During our review, we look to see that companies have incorporated best practices into those plans and are constantly reassessing.

DW: We can see that Mount Polley had problems this spring and unless the regulators stay on top of it some of us will not feel that they are doing what needs to be done.

SS: Of any site in this province, Mount Polley is definitely under a microscope in terms of water management.

- CD: Just to add to Doug's question around water management, one of the opportunities that we take as a result of overflows/spills and the required reporting from Mount Polley is to look at the permit requirements and see if they are effective or if they need to be revised. ENV will evaluate whether or not the permit requirements need to be revised in the coming weeks and if we need more specific water management on the site. In terms of a compliance update, Colin is in the process of completing a review of the 2019 annual report. The assessment should be completed in the next 2-3 weeks so Mount Polley can expect to see an assessment in the next month or so. The compliance team has been modifying and prioritizing their onsite inspections. It can be expected that an onsite assessment will be conducted at Mount Polley later this year though there is no schedule set yet. The release of a report about the water quality in Quesnel Lake by UNBC- ENV representatives, UNBC and DFO have had a meeting to discuss collaborative research on Quesnel Lake. More time will need to be spent looking at the results of the report and what we do with monitoring and permit conditions at the mine going forward.

#### Questions/Comments:

- GH: We would like to discuss that paper and its findings at some point.
- DP: We have Lyn Anglin ready to put some comments out to the group today if people are interested.
- See "Preliminary Comments of the Hamilton et al 2020 Paper on Turbidity in Quesnel Lake" document following the meeting minutes.
- RH: Photos may be mislabeled because that is not Poquette Creek, it is Cedar Creek.
- RH: This is an opinion on the report. I hope you're going to back this up with some research.
- LA: We are planning to write a response. The data that supports what I'm saying is publicly available.
- RH: I think this conversation should be held with the Quesnel Research Centre and UNBC.
- LA: I think it would be great to have that discussion with them.
- CD: Do you know what the plans are with the open house at the Quesnel Research Centre this year?

- RH: I suspect that it won't be held this year due to COVID19.
- CD: I encourage anyone to come to Abhirosh with any questions or dialogue on this paper.
- LA: Has anyone from Mount Polley been involved in any discussion to date?
- GH: Not to my knowledge.
- DW: That report also mentions a trend in increased conductivity in the west basin compared to what was measured pre-2014. This is something that concerns me as a resident of Quesnel Lake. It also says that there are turbidity inputs from other watersheds.
- LA: There are no observations passed 2016 or 2017. Their pre-spill data in the West Arm is also very limited which is critical to the discussion about this input.
- DW: Mount Polley's data is also limited as they were not going to discharge into Quesnel Lake.
- LA: Exactly, it is hard to make statements when you don't have that background data.
- GH: Let's address this again at our next meeting.

### **Roundtable Discussion/ PLC Comments/ Questions**

- Update on appeal process
  - DP: We appealed Sections 2.8, 2.9 and 2.10 of the Feb 1, 2020 *EMA* Permit. Up to now, ENV and Mount Polley have had information sharing outside of Environmental Appeal Board. We have been discussing the intent of the Long-Term Water Management Plan (LTWMP) and Reclamation and Closure Plan. There are three tiers to LTWMP- Operations, Closure, Post-Closure. Discussions about that are ongoing. These documents are currently being produced for the Environmental Appeal Board. No hearing has been scheduled yet.
  - DW: After Mount Polley put in their appeal application, I got the application and circulated it to the PLC. I spoke to the Environmental Appeal Board and anyone who is affected by this appeal, can apply to become a participant. I have been approved as a participant in the process.
- Community meeting is required annually as a permit requirement.
  - The idea of an information booth style meeting held in lower Hazeltine creek was brought forth so that we could be outside and social distance. Please email Gabe any ideas. We could also do a call-in meeting.
  - DW: It sounds interesting to have it in lower Hazeltine but I'm not sure about transportation and who is comfortable traveling with the COVID19 situation.
  - LK: I think it's a great idea and people can travel within their social bubbles.
  - GH: I think we should have the meeting in August when it's a bit drier.
  - CD: There would be interest in having MOE representation at that meeting. Please let us know a date as soon as possible.
  - GH: Absolutely, I will also extend an invitation to the Quesnel Research Centre.
  - DW: There may be concern about having it late in the season as some local residents head back into town.

- GH: Good idea. Let's aim to have the meeting before the end of the summer.
- DP: Mount Polley has started their own website at MountPolley.com. We have been posting common questions and photos. We also have a Facebook page.
- GH: There is also a slide in the presentation with other available resources.

### **Next Meeting**

- Oct 7, 2020 from 09:00-13:00
  - CD: Will you be sending an invite for the meeting on Oct 7 well in advance?
  - GH: Yes, I will send it out today.

Action Item: Gabe to send out Q4 PLC meeting invitation following the meeting today.