

# **Mount Polley Mining Corporation**

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July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Ministry of Environment Mining Operations Environmental Protection 2080 Labieux Rd. Nanaimo, BC V9T 6J9

## WEEKLY POST-TSF BREACH REPORT – JULY 8<sup>TH</sup> – 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2015

#### Water Management

Polley Lake	Polley Lake water elevation = 922.43m (July 14 <sup>th</sup> )					
	The Polley Lake weir valve remained open this week to allow approximately 0.2 m <sup>3</sup> /s of outflow from Polley Lake into Hazeltine Creek.					
Springer Pit	Permit amendments from the Ministry of Environment (MoE) and Ministry and Energy and Mines (MEM) were received on July 9 <sup>th</sup> to return to restricted mining and milling operations with tailings deposition into the Springer Pit.					
	Volume of tailings deposited = $0m^3$					
	Water Elevations (July 14 <sup>th</sup> ):					
	• Springer Pit water elevation = 1016.39m					
	<ul> <li>Groundwater well GW12-2a = 1013.04m (+0.02m from last week)</li> </ul>					
	<ul> <li>Groundwater well GW12-2b = 1013.10m (+0.03m from last week)</li> </ul>					
	<ul> <li>Groundwater well GW15-1a = 1017.71m (+0.04m from last week)</li> </ul>					
	<ul> <li>Groundwater well GW15-1b = 1017.60m (+0.04m from last week)</li> </ul>					
	<ul> <li>Groundwater well GW15-2a = 1021.81m (-0.07m from last week)</li> </ul>					
	<ul> <li>Groundwater well GW15-2b = 1022.05m (-0.08m from last week)</li> </ul>					
	A map of the groundwater well locations is presented below as Figure 1. Note that the suffix "a" indicates the deep well in the pair, and the suffix "b" indicates the shallow well in the pair.					
	Water quality sample results for parameters of interest for GW12-2a and GW12-2b are provided in Table 1 below. Monthly water quality results for all Springer Pit wells will be included in this report as they become available.					
TSF Water Collection	All water from the Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) water collection system continues to be transferred to the Springer Pit via the Central Collection Sump. No releases of water to the environment occurred this week. Please refer to the May 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2015 weekly report for an overview map of the TSF water management system.					

Sample ID	GW12-2A	GW12-2B
Date Sampled	04-JUN-15	04-JUN-15
Physical Tests		
Conductivity (µS/cm)	213	461
Hardness (as CaCO3) (mg/L)	45.7	244
рН (рН)	8.02	8.25
Anions and Nutrients		
Nitrate (as N) (mg/L)	<0.0050	2.49
Sulfate (SO4) (mg/L)	49.7	39.5
Dissolved Metals		
Aluminum (AI)-Dissolved (mg/L)	0.0073	<0.0030
Arsenic (As)-Dissolved (mg/L)	0.00234	0.00064
Cadmium (Cd)-Dissolved (mg/L)	0.0000064	0.0000114
Copper (Cu)-Dissolved (mg/L)	<0.00050	0.00052
Iron (Fe)-Dissolved (mg/L)	< 0.030	< 0.030
Lead (Pb)-Dissolved (mg/L)	<0.000050	<0.000050
Molybdenum (Mo)-Dissolved (mg/L)	0.0395	0.0238
Selenium (Se)-Dissolved (mg/L)	0.000203	0.00415

Table 1. Water quality results for key parameters from groundwater well GW12-2

#### Government, First Nations and Stakeholder Engagement

Publications and Website Updates	Mount Polley will continue to present interpreted environmental monitoring results and updates on remediation work on the <u>Mount Polley Updates</u> page of the Imperial Metals website ( <u>www.imperialmetals.com</u> ). No updates were posted this week. A reminder that the Post-Event Environmental Impact Assessment Report <u>Key</u> <u>Findings summary</u> and <u>technical appendices</u> were posted on June 18 <sup>th</sup> .
Engagement Activities and Communications with Regulators	<ul> <li>Activities relating to government, First Nations, and stakeholder communication and engagement this week included: <ul> <li>The weekly MoE update call on July 8<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>Preliminary discussions with MoE on July 8<sup>th</sup> regarding the monitoring program for the proposed short-term discharge.</li> <li>A meeting with MoE and MEM on July 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss next steps in the permitting process for the proposed short-term discharge.</li> <li>Participation in the MoE Environmental Working Group meeting on July 10<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

#### **TSF Construction**

Construction Update	The amendment to permit M-200 approving repair of the TSF breach to manage 2015 freshet was received from MEM on December 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2014. Buttress placement for the Perimeter Embankment is ongoing; all other work associated with the 2015 Freshet Management Embankment construction is complete.
	Freshet Management Embankment construction is complete.

#### **Sediment and Erosion Control Measures**

Silt Curtain	The turbidity barrier (silt curtain) installed in Quesnel Lake near the outlet of the constructed Edney (Hazeltine) Creek channel is in good condition.
Monitoring	Environmental monitors are monitoring ongoing sediment and erosion control and rehabilitation work. This monitoring is being conducted by Mount Polley Mining Corporation (MPMC) staff.
Hazeltine Creek Rehabilitation	This week, re-contouring and application of woody debris and organics continued on the disturbed areas between the Hazeltine Creek floodplain and the forest edge for erosion control and reclamation purposes. Work was carried out in Reach 3 on the east side of the channel between the 4,200m and 5,000m marks of the creek (Polley Lake = 0m). The first phase of re-contouring on the west side of Hazeltine Creek in Reach 3 is complete.
	Cleaning of the fish exclusion fences.
	<ul> <li>Falling of danger trees in Reach 3 to allow re-contouring work to proceed.</li> </ul>
Edney Creek	Preparations were made this week for construction of the new Edney Creek channel outlet and additional fish habitat features to commence on July 15 <sup>th</sup> (start of the reduced risk fisheries window) including:
	Staging of equipment.
	<ul> <li>Installation of fish fences in Edney Creek.</li> </ul>
	Digging of test holes in the proposed channel alignment.

### Water Quality Monitoring Program

Water Quality Monitoring	The current water quality monitoring program is outlined in the table below. No chan to the monitoring program occurred this week. All monitoring was completed scheduled this week.					
Program	Area	Monitoring Type	Frequency	Stations		
	Polley Lake	Samples	Monthly	P1, P2		
	Folley Lake	Profiles	Bi-monthly	P1, P2		
	Hazeltine Creek	Samples	Weekly	HAC-01b		
	Tiazeitine Creek	Samples	Monthly	HAC-015 HAC-05, HAC-08, HAC-10		
		Field Parameters	Continuous	HAC-01b		
	Edney Creek	Samples	Weekly	EDC-02		
		Campies	Monthly	EDC-01		
	Quesnel Lake	Profiles	Weekly	QUL-54, QUL-55, QUL-56		
		Profiles	Bi-monthly	QUL-21a, QUL-18, QUL-66a,		
			Drinonany	QUL-2a, QUL-79		
		Profiles	Monthly	QUL-40a, QUL-120a		
		Samples	Weekly	QUL-55		
		Samples	Monthly	QUL-2a, QUL-18, QUL-40a,		
				QUL-120a		
	Quesnel River	Samples	<b>Bi-monthly</b>	QUR-1		
		Field Parameters	Continuous	QUR-1		
Results	these sampling loca	ations.	-	May 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2015 report, for a map of dam failure has, based on our		
	Turbidity in Quesnel Lake resulting from the TSF dam failure has, based on our monitoring data, now attenuated to a value that may represent summer background. In addition, settled sediments are not expected to re-suspend with subsequent lake overturn, based on advice Tetra Tech EBA. Based on this information, MPMC does not expect sediments on the bottom of Quesnel Lake to contribute to lake turbidity.					
	<ul> <li>Figure 2 shows a time series graph for this week of daily field turbidity readings in Low Hazeltine Creek upstream and downstream of the sedimentation ponds (stations HAQ 09 and HAC-01b, respectively), and in Edney Creek downstream of the confluence with Hazeltine Creek (station EDC-02). Figure 3 shows turbidity levels at these sites over longer time period to provide context for this week's data.</li> <li>Figure 4 shows a turbidity and temperature profile from July 14<sup>th</sup> at site QUL-55 (a near field site at the mouth of Hazeltine Creek).</li> </ul>					
	laboratory analysis	completed by ALS I	Environmental	e QUR-1. Turbidity data are from . This chart will be updated every site in the sampling program.		



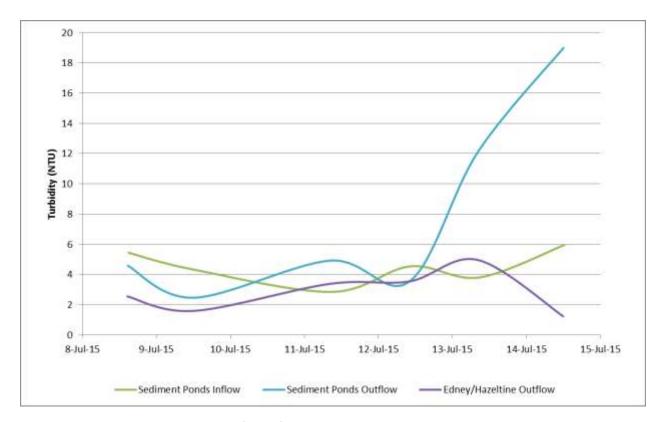


Figure 2. Time series graph for July  $7^{th} - 14^{th}$  showing turbidity levels at monitoring locations in Hazeltine and Edney Creeks

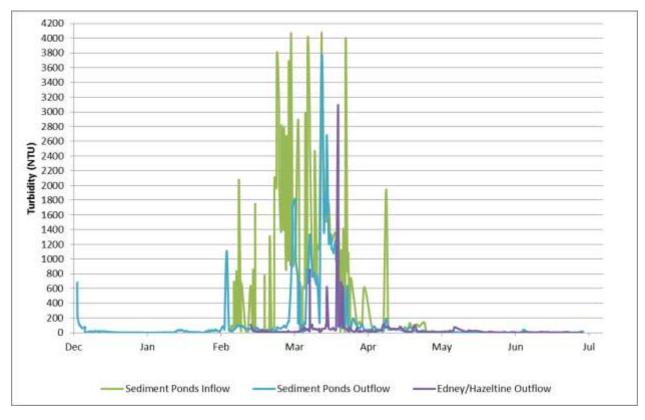


Figure 3. Time series graph for December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 showing turbidity levels at monitoring locations in Hazeltine Creek

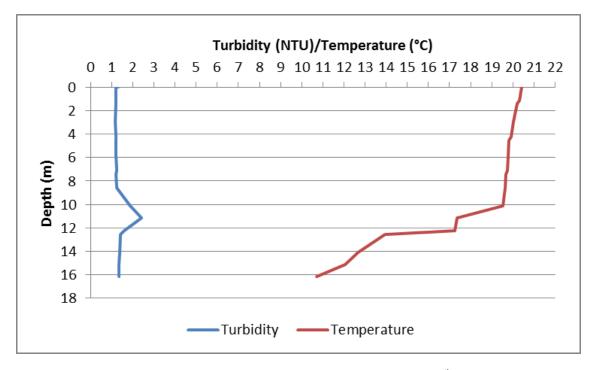


Figure 4. Turbidity and temperature profiles at station QUL-55 on July 14<sup>th</sup>

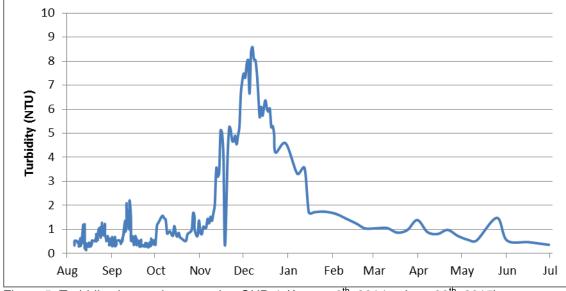


Figure 5. Turbidity time series at station QUR-1 (August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015)