

Conversation Contents

Fwd: New mine activity

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<allison@jakesrun.com>

From: <allison@jakesrun.com>
Sent: Tue Mar 22 2016 12:20:47 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: Rem Hawes <rhawes@blm.gov>
CC: Barbara Thomas <Barbara.Fox-Thomas@yavapai.us>, <sis@azdeq.gov>
Subject: Fwd: New mine activity
Attachments: 20160229_122123.jpg 20160229_122119.jpg 20160229_122028.jpg 20160229_122025.jpg

Hi Rem, I emailed you 4 weeks ago, then again 3 weeks ago, then I called 2 weeks ago and left a message, then I called last week and left a message, and now I am emailing again. I am reluctant to conclude that you are unresponsive, but, alas! it is beginning to seem so! To repeat: 1. Activity at the mine has increased tremendously, with heavy equipment in the fragile riparian side canyon (see photos). The community wants to know what is "ok" under current status and what is not. Has an Environmental Assessment started, or is the idea to wait until the environment is adversely impacted and THEN start? 2. What criteria does BLM use to designate an area as "riparian"? If you are unable to respond, please let me know to whom I should address future correspondence, as I would like to update the website with accurate information from the authorities. Thank you, and best regards, Allison Dixon ----- Original Message -----
Subject: New mine activity Date: 2016-02-29 15:13 From: william pleitgen <wpleitgen@gmail.com> To: Allison Dixon <allison@jakesrun.com>

"Hawes, David" <rhawes@blm.gov>

From: "Hawes, David" <rhawes@blm.gov>
Sent: Tue Mar 22 2016 16:20:05 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: Allison Dixon <allison@jakesrun.com>
Subject: Re: New mine activity

Ms. Dixon: I apologize. Since December, I've had 7 vacancies in my humble office of 20.

Anyway, as the mining claims-holder, Kirkland Mining Company is allowed to conduct exploration activities in the vicinity of the stockpile area. The company may disturb up to 5 acres under the 1872 Mining Law and the "43 CFR 3809 Regulations." The company proposed doing exploration drilling and removing up to 1,000 tons bulk sample, as allowed in the regulations, to provide to potential vendors for their physical and marketability testing.

The BLM may monitor for compliance with the 3809 mining notice, which we have done once so far on March 2, 2016. (At that time, the operation was observed to be in compliance with the mining notice and the regulations, was in the process of the exploratory drilling, had disturbed less than 5 acres, and was beginning to remove a portion of the 1,000 ton bulk sample.) BLM's future monitoring will be unannounced. The BLM also ensures that regulatory requirements for information submission are met and an adequate and acceptable reclamation bond is in place.

Based on the exploration, the BLM will make a determination as to the "locatability" of the material using all available information and data including that provided by the company. If and when the company chooses to proceed after the exploration phase, the BLM's process will follow on the proposal from the company, which will either be a 3809 Plan of Operations for locatable minerals, or a "43 CFR 3600" Mineral Materials Sale Application for common variety (sand, gravel, etc.) minerals. Either way, at that point the BLM may (and will) conduct a public review process, environmental analysis, and prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) regarding any Skull Valley area mining operation.

Riparian Areas – a riparian area is the interface between land and a river or stream. Plant habitats and communities along the river margins and banks are called riparian vegetation, characterized by hydrophilic plants (in Arizona, rushes, sedges, willow, ash, sycamore, and cottonwood trees). The BLM identifies a functioning riparian area as having adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris to:

- Dissipate stream energy associated with high waterflows, thereby reducing erosion and improving water quality
- Filter sediment, capture bedload, and aid floodplain development
- Improve flood-water retention and ground-water recharge
- Develop root masses that stabilize streambanks against cutting action
- Develop diverse ponding and channel characteristics to provide the habitat and water depth, duration, and temperature necessary for fish production, waterfowl breeding, and other uses
- Support greater biodiversity.

Finally, thank you for the photos.

— Rem Hawes
Hassayampa Field Manager
BLM Phoenix District
21605 N 7th Ave • Phoenix, AZ 85027 • 623-580-5530

Allison Dixon <allison@jakesrun.com>

From: Allison Dixon <allison@jakesrun.com>
Sent: Tue Mar 22 2016 17:24:00 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: "Hawes, David" <rhawes@blm.gov>
Subject: Re: New mine activity

Thank you very much Rem. I figured something must be happening at your office that had you busier than normal.

Why was this particular area not identified as riparian, and could it be re-assessed?

Any vacancies I might be interested in?

Cheers,

Allison

On Mar 22, 2016, at 3:20 PM, Hawes, David <rhawes@blm.gov> wrote:

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"Hawes, David" <rhawes@blm.gov>

From: "Hawes, David" <rhawes@blm.gov>
Sent: Tue Mar 22 2016 20:08:24 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: Codey Carter <cdcarter@blm.gov>
Subject: Fwd: New mine activity
Attachments: aza-36808-t24k-ls-ms.pdf aza-36808-ap.pdf IMG_2336.JPG
IMG_2337.JPG

Codey: Any further recommendation about what I can tell Ms. Dixon about why BLM does not characterize this site near Skull Valley as riparian?

— Rem

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Allison Dixon** <allison@jakesrun.com>
Date: Tue, Mar 22, 2016 at 4:24 PM
Subject: Re: New mine activity
To: "Hawes, David" <rhawes@blm.gov>

Thank you very much Rem. I figured something must be happening at your office that had you busier than normal.

Why was this particular area not identified as riparian, and could it be re-assessed?

Cheers,

Allison

On Mar 22, 2016, at 3:20 PM, Hawes, David <rhawes@blm.gov> wrote:

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"Carter, Codey" <cdcarter@blm.gov>

From: "Carter, Codey" <cdcarter@blm.gov>
Sent: Wed Mar 23 2016 16:37:59 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: "Hawes, David" <rhawes@blm.gov>
Subject: Re: New mine activity

In the late 1980s and early 1990s BLM did an inventory of riparian areas throughout the District. It could be that this area was overlooked in the original inventory or it did not meet the criteria for riparian habitat. James and I plan to go out there this fiscal year and do a riparian assessment and inventory of the area. If this is particularly time-sensitive we could move it up in the list of priorities.

On Tue, Mar 22, 2016 at 7:08 PM, Hawes, David <rhawes@blm.gov> wrote:

Codey: Any further recommendation about what I can tell Ms. Dixon about why BLM does not characterize this site near Skull Valley as riparian?

— Rem

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Codey Carter

Wildlife Biologist

Hassayampa Field Office

BLM, Phoenix District

21605 North 7th Avenue

Phoenix, AZ 85027

(623)580-5678

cdcarter@blm.gov

"Hawes, David" <rhawes@blm.gov>

From: "Hawes, David" <rhawes@blm.gov>
Sent: Wed Apr 27 2016 19:36:42 GMT-0600 (MDT)
To: Barbara Fox-Thomas <barbara.fox-thomas@yavapai.us>
Subject: Fwd: New mine activity

FYI, re Allison Dixon's mining question. I'll be in touch about having a public meeting regarding the wildland-urban interface fire fuels reduction project we're proposing. I'd like to shoot for May 11 or 12.

-- Rem

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The BLM Phoenix District is a stewardship leader for a sustainable, dynamic, and inspiring Arizona Landscape. We provide innovative resource management, outstanding customer service and develop creative partnerships while nourishing a learning culture which fosters salient idea exchange, professional engagement, and personal growth.