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First name: BILL

Last name: OBRIEN

Organization: Town of Patagonia

Title: TOWN ENGINEER

Comments: THE TOWN THANKS THE USFS FOR THIS PUBLIC MEETING AND BRINGING THE STAFF AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT PEOPLE THAT WILL SEE THIS LONG-TERM PROJECT THRU.

TOWN CONCERNS INCLUDE TEMPORARY AND LONG-TERM IMPACTS OF THE PROJECT, AND WOULD ASK IMPACT ANALYSES AND MITIGATION POSSIBILITIES FOR:

1. INCREASE OF SURFACE FLOW IN HARSHAW CREEK - IMPACTS FOR HABITAT, CHANGE IN FLOODING, FATE AND TRANSPORT OF ANY CONTAMINANTS MOBILIZED BY THE INCREASED FLOW, CHANGES IN GROUNDWATER RECHARGE PATTERNS AND WATER QUALITY. THIS WILL NEED TO BE DEMONSTRATED OVER A TIME SEQUENCE OF ALL STAGES OF THE MINE.
 2. CHANGES IN GROUNDWATER BALANCE LOCALLY IN HARSHAW CREEK AND REGIONALLY, AND ANY IMPACTS ON THE TOWN WATER SUPPLY WELLS. THIS NEEDS TO BE ANALYZED ON A TIME SEQUENCE THAT COVERS ALL THE STAGES OF THE MINE. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT A CONE OF DEPRESSION AROUND THE MINE COULD DEWATER OUR WELL SUPPLIES. WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT THE TIME SEQUENCE OF WATER QUALITY IMPACTS TO THE WELLS AND IF THERE ARE WAYS TO MITIGATE THE IMPACTS OF CHANGING WATER QUALITY.
- AGAIN WE APPRECIATE THIS PROCESS, THE PUBLIC MEETING WAS WELL ATTENDED, AND THE TOWN WANTS TO BE A KEY STAKEHOLDER IN THIS PROCESS.