

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/13/2024 4:14:55 AM

First name: Carol

Last name: Beckman

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Major aspects of the proposed action are good:

mining in an area that is already disturbed;

stabilizing existing hazard;

flexibility.

I'd suggest considering a few additions.

Monitoring and treating noxious weeds should be ongoing, not just at reclamation. Untreated weed populations can spread to the adjacent forest land.

Before reclamation, the hillside slope should have a fairly natural-looking shape. Carved steps, that seem common in a quarry, won't look natural after reclamation, either.

When planting trees for reclamation, they should not be planted in a line or evenly spaced. As they grow, this will not look natural. They need some variation in the distances between them and the pattern that they are planted in.

Bighorn sheep are not mentioned in the discussion of wildlife, but I wonder if they are near this area. If the quarry might be an area the bighorns could use after reclamation, it might be good to not plant the entire area with trees, but leave high treeless spots since bighorns like open areas.

Thanks.