

February 25, 2021

Recommendations that were NOT adopted by the USFS:

1. **Construct a filtered tailings facility** rather than expanding the existing tailings pond. Another name for this is dry stacking the tailings.
2. **Return a higher percentage of tailings to the mine** rather than placing them in a pond or our preferred dry stack scenario. A higher percentage than sticking with the current 40% would limit the capacity needed for storage.
3. **Place all existing loose graphitic phyllite material in the mine** before the USFS permits the mine expansion. This action would support containing and/or treating all acid mine drainage.
4. **Revisit the tailings pond closure plan** that involves creating a Dolly varden fishery in the Slate Lake tailings pond. A recreational Dolly varden fishery in a tailings pond does not address the increased risk to the highly productive Berners Bay.
5. **Fully develop a sub-aqueous closure plan for the mine.** The plan at closure is to plug the two portals on the Berners Bay side of the mine, raise the water level inside the mine approximately 1,000 feet, and only treat water on the Comet side. This sub-aqueous closure plan is currently conceptual; Coeur should fully develop an engineered, peer-reviewed plan before the USFS issues the Record of Decision.

Recommendations that were PARTIALLY adopted by the USFS:

6. **Create a USFS plan to address a tailings dam breach** with no assistance from the mining company. The plan should consider a partial breach after active mining has ceased and there is no longer any heavy equipment at the mine site. *USFS did not create a clean-up plan post-mining closure (meaning without the assistance of the mining company), but said they would create some sort of plan after the ROD.*
7. **Incorporate climate change predictions into the potential stream discharge calculations.** Precipitation forecasts are projected to increase and deliver substantially more rain in the 2080-2099 time period and the tailings dam and its risk to Berners Bay may still be there to receive that. *USFS included climate change considerations in the Final SEIS.*
8. **Maintain the tailing facilities water treatment plant at least 30-years post mine closure** as acid mine drainage takes time to develop. *USFS responded that water quality monitoring will continue for 30 years. USFS and ADEC will determine when to dismantle the water treatment.*