



STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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C.L. "Butch" Otter, Governor
Toni Hardesty, Director

December 5, 2011

Mr. Mitch Hart
Nu-West Mining
3010 Conda Road
Soda Springs, ID 83276

Subject: Site Assessment of the West Limb and South Limb of the Georgetown Canyon Mine and an Addendum to the Georgetown Canyon Right Fork Mine

Dear Mr. Hart:

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has completed a review of historical mining data and geological information of Georgetown Canyon Mine (West Limb and South Limb). Subsequent to that review, DEQ conducted a site visit to the Georgetown Canyon Mine (West Limb and South Limb) and the Right Fork Mine. The observations made at the Right Fork Mine resulted in an addendum to the DEQ 2007 Preliminary Assessment.

During the September 13, 2011 site visit to the West Limb approximately eight trenches were identified. These trenches were identified as exploratory and none were in contact with surface water. The trenches were heavily vegetated and it appeared very little phosphate ore was exposed in the area. The waste rock dumps associated with the trenches were heavily vegetated and had a healthy layer of duff on the surfaces.

The first trench encountered had the largest waste dump estimated at less than 50 cubic yards. The material appeared to be country rock with a minor amount of phosphate ore (<2 percent). The rest of the trenches may have had waste dumps, but DEQ was unable to find evidence as the mining occurred in the early 1900s and the area was overgrown. Therefore, DEQ has made the determination of No Remedial Action Planned (NRAP).

During the September 14, 2011 site visit on the South Limb and Right Fork Mine two trenches were identified immediately south of the Study Area. These trenches were identified as exploratory trenches and were located in areas where there was no evidence of surface water. At Trench 1 the resulting waste dump was heavily vegetated on the top and at the toe. Trench 2 appeared smaller without much evidence of a waste dump. This area was covered with heavy vegetation or perhaps reclaimed by the hillside.

Observations at the former Right Fork Mine showed the adit had completely caved in leaving an approximately two foot swell in the ground surface. The associated waste dump was overgrown with thick vegetation including well established trees. An addendum with amended recommendations to the DEQ 2007 Georgetown Canyon Right Fork Mine Preliminary Assessment is included in Appendix 1 of the South Limb of the Georgetown Canyon Mine Abbreviated Preliminary Assessment. In light of recent observations DEQ has made the determination of NRAP for the South Limb of the Georgetown Canyon Mine.

Preliminary Assessments (PAs) are conducted by DEQ according to the Federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liabilities Act (CERCLA). The reasons to complete a Preliminary Assessment include:

- 1) To identify those sites which are not CERCLIS caliber because they do not pose a threat to public health or the environment (NRAP);
- 2) To determine if there is a need for removal actions or other programmatic management of sites;
- 3) To determine if a Site Investigation, which is a more detailed site characterization, is needed; and/or
- 4) To gather data to facilitate later evaluation of the release of hazardous substances through the Hazard Ranking System (HRS).

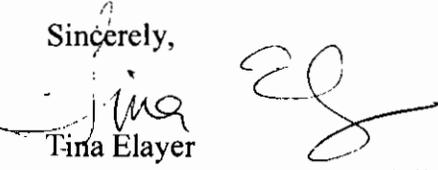
DEQ has also completed PAs under contract with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in order to identify risks to human health and the environment, and make recommendations to land owners regarding how risks might be managed, if necessary.

Soil, sediment, and water samples were collected during the site visit on the West Limb and in the general area of the Right Fork Mine. The samples were not submitted for analysis. There was a lack of anthropogenic sources to justify the analysis for these Abbreviated Preliminary Assessments (APAs). The samples will be retained in the DEQ Pocatello Regional Office for six months in case they are needed for further studies on a watershed wide basis.

Attached are the APAs for the West Limb and South Limb of the Georgetown Canyon Mine and an Addendum for the Right Fork Mine included as Appendix 1 of the South Limb APA. These APAs contain limited geological information, photographs, and maps of the property. This information was used by DEQ to make the determination that the property status is NRAP.

DEQ looks forward to addressing any questions you may have regarding our findings. Please contact me (208-373-0563) if you have any comments, questions, or if I may be of any other assistance. Thank you very much for allowing us access to your property. DEQ also appreciated the valuable assistance of Mr. James Williams during the site visit.

Sincerely,


Tina Elayer

Mine Waste Program Specialist

Attachments

cc: Ken Marcy – U.S. EPA
Sherri Clark – USFS
Kyle Free – BLM
Doug Tanner – DEQ Pocatello Regional Office
James Williams – Nu-West Mining
Georgetown Canyon Mine File
Georgetown Canyon Right Fork Mine File

ABBREVIATED PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT

This is an Abbreviated Preliminary Assessment (APA) for the Georgetown Canyon Mine (South Limb) near Georgetown, Idaho. This document provides the rationale for the determination of No Remedial Action Planned (NRAP) or if additional analysis or site investigation is necessary for the South Limb of the Georgetown Canyon Mine. Additional sheets are attached which contain relevant information including historical information, photographs, maps, and references generated during the site visit or desktop research.

Preparer: Tina Elayer **Date:** 12/1/11
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Boise, ID 83706
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tina.elayer@deq.idaho.gov

Site Name: Georgetown Canyon Mine (South Limb), Right Fork Mine
(Addendum)

Previous Names (aka): **Hillside Group:** Hillside No. 1, Hillside No. 2, Highland No. 1,
(Superior Extension is part of Study Area)
Highland Placer
Great Deposit Group: Great Producer, Great Deposit

Site Owner: Nu-West Mining, Inc.

Address: 3010 Conda Road
Soda Springs, Idaho 83276

Site Location: The Georgetown Canyon Mine is located in Bear Lake County approximately 5.7 miles east of Georgetown, Idaho. The site includes private land (patented claims) in the South Limb section located on the southeast site of Georgetown Canyon, and an additional group of patented claims to the south which includes the Right Fork claims. The access road to the Hillside Group of claims is on private land in the Study Area and is gated and marked against trespassing. The private road extends for approximately 2.1 miles and ends at the Georgetown Canyon Mine Site which is located in the Study Area. The road leading to the claims is overgrown and shows minimal signs of access. Access to the Georgetown Canyon Right Fork Mine and adjacent claims is along Right Hand Fork Creek approximately 3 miles from the main Georgetown Canyon Road.

Township 10 South, Range 45 East, Section 30

Latitude: 42.52457°N **Longitude:** -111.24730°W

Describe the release (or potential release) and its probable nature:

This site was investigated for potential releases of heavy metals and sediment from mine waste dumps and potential discharges of other deleterious materials, such as petroleum products and ore processing chemicals. No evidence or indications of these materials were located on the site. See site photographs at the end of this report.

Part 1 - Superfund Eligibility Evaluation

If all answers are “no” go on to Part 2, otherwise proceed to Part 3.	YES	NO
1. Is the site currently in CERCLIS or an “alias” of another site?		x
2. Is the site being addressed by some other remedial program (Federal, State, or Tribal)?		x
3. Are the hazardous substances that may be released from the site regulated under a statutory exclusion (e.g., petroleum, natural gas, natural gas liquids, synthetic gas usable for fuel, normal application of fertilizer, release located in a workplace, naturally occurring, or regulated by the NRC, UMTRCA, or OSHA)?		x
4. Are the hazardous substances that may be released from the site excluded by policy considerations (i.e., deferred to RCRA corrective action)?		x
5. Is there sufficient documentation to demonstrate that there is no potential for a release that constitutes risk to human or ecological receptors? <i>(e.g., comprehensive remedial investigation equivalent data showing no release above ARARs, completed removal action, documentation showing that no hazardous substance releases have occurred, or an EPA approved risk assessment completed)?</i>	x	

Please explain all “yes” answer(s):

A site visit on September 14, 2011 involving direct observations confirmed contaminants of concern do not exist in concentrations that present a threat to human health or environments. The South Limb claims were in close proximity to the existing Georgetown Canyon Mine, included in the Study Area, while an extended portion including the former Georgetown Canyon Right Fork Mine (Right Fork Mine) and other patented claims were several miles from the proposed Study Area. The Study Area was excluded from this APA.

Two trenches were identified immediately south of the Study Area. These trenches were identified as exploratory trenches and were located in areas where there was no evidence of surface water. At Trench 1 it appeared the excavation began in the Wells Formation and continued through the Rex Chert. The resulting waste dump was heavily vegetated on the top and at the toe. Trench 2 appeared smaller without much evidence of a waste rock dump. This area was covered with heavy vegetation or perhaps reclaimed by the hillside.

Observations at the former Right Fork Mine showed the adit had completely caved in leaving an approximately two foot swell in the ground surface. The associated waste rock dump has grown over with thick vegetation including well established trees. An addendum with amended recommendations to the DEQ 2007 Georgetown Canyon Right Fork Mine Preliminary Assessment is included in Appendix 1.

Part 2 - Initial Site Evaluation

For Part 2, if information is not available to make a “yes” or “no” response, further investigation may be needed. In these cases, determine whether an APA is appropriate. Exhibit 1 parallels the questions in Part 2. Use Exhibit 1 to make decisions in Part 3.

If the answer is “no” to any of questions 1, 2, or 3, proceed directly to Part 3.	YES	NO
1. Does the site have a release or a potential to release?		x
2. Does the site have uncontained sources containing CERCLA eligible substances?		x
3. Does the site have documented on-site, adjacent, or nearby targets?		x

If the answers to questions 1, 2, and 3 above were all “yes” then answer the questions below before proceeding to Part 3.	YES	NO
4. Does documentation indicate that a target (e.g., drinking water wells, drinking surface water intakes, etc.) has been exposed to a hazardous substance released from the site?		x
5. Is there an apparent release at the site with no documentation of exposed targets, but there are targets on site or immediately adjacent to the site?		x
6. Is there an apparent release and no documented on-site targets or targets immediately adjacent to the site, but there are nearby targets (e.g., targets within one mile)?		x
7. Is there no indication of a hazardous substance release, and there are uncontained sources containing CERCLA hazardous substances, but there is a potential to release with targets present on site or in proximity to the site?		x

Notes:

During the site assessments, DEQ used references from several different documents including USGS maps, county tax rolls, and historical reports that have spelled numerous claim names, town sites, and/or geographic features differently from one and another. DEQ’s use of the different spellings is to remain in context with the reference used for each given section of text or written in this report.

Exhibit 1 – Site Assessment Decision Guidelines for a Site

Exhibit 1 identifies different types of site information and provides some possible recommendations for further site assessment activities based on that information. The assessor should use Exhibit 1 in determining the need for further action at the site, based on the answers to the questions in Part 2. Please use your professional judgment when evaluating a site. Your judgment may be different from the general recommendations for a site given below.

Suspected/Documented Site Conditions		APA	Full PA	PA/SI	SI
1. Releases or potential to release are not documented at the site.		Yes			
2. Uncontained sources with CERCLA-eligible substances have not been documented as being present on the site. (i.e., they do exist at site)		Yes			
3. On-site, adjacent, or nearby receptors are not present.		Yes			
4. There is no documentation or observations made leading to the conclusion that a sensitive receptor is present or may have been exposed (e.g., drinking water system user inside four mile target distance limit (TDL)).	Option 1: APA	Yes			
5. There is documentation that a sensitive receptor has been exposed to a hazardous substance released from the site.	Option 2: Full PA or PA/SI	No			
6. There is an apparent release at the site with no documentation of targets, but there are targets on site or immediately adjacent to the site.	Option 1: APA SI	No			
	Option 2: PA/SI	No			
7. There is an apparent release and no documented on-site targets and no documented targets immediately adjacent to the site, but there are nearby targets. Nearby targets are those targets that are located within one mile of the site and have a relatively high likelihood of exposure to a hazardous substance migration from the site.		No			
8. There are: no indications of a hazardous substance release; uncontained sources containing CERCLA hazardous substances; but there is a potential to release with targets present on site or in proximity to the site.		No			

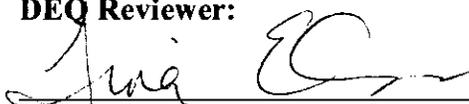
Part 3 - EPA Site Assessment Decision

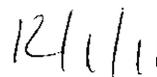
When completing Part 3, use Part 2 and Exhibit 1 to select the appropriate decision. For example, if the answer to question 1 in Part 2 was “no,” then an APA may be performed and the “NRAP” box below should be checked. Additionally, if the answer to question 4 in Part 2 is “yes,” then you have two options (as indicated in Exhibit 1): Option 1 -- conduct an APA and check the “Lower Priority SI” or “Higher Priority SI” box below; or Option 2 -- proceed with a combined PA/SI assessment.

Check the box that applies based on the conclusions of the APA:

x	No Remedial Action Planned (NRAP)	Defer to NRC
	Higher Priority SI	Refer to Removal Program
	Lower Priority SI	Site is being addressed as part of another CERCLIS site
	Defer to RCRA Subtitle C	Other: _____

DEQ Reviewer:


Tina L. Elayer



Date

Please Explain the Rationale for Your Decision:

There are no direct airborne, surface, or ground water pathways to any potable water sources or residences. No streams or water bodies are within close proximity to the South Limb exploratory trenches or Right Fork Mine and there was no evidence of erosional pathways on the mine sites. No significant evidence of mining was visible near the trenches. The waste dump at the Right Fork Mine was well vegetated with established trees. There were no visible signs of any mining related activity south of the Right Fork Mine.

As a result of our observations, DEQ is recommending this site be designated as NRAP.

Attachments:

- Historical Information
- Site Photographs
- Maps
- Appendix 1
- References

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Historical Information

Mine History: There is little historic data regarding the South Limb of the Georgetown Canyon Mine or the Right Fork Mine claims. However, there is some evidence this site was developed in conjunction with exploration activities associated with the larger Georgetown Canyon Mine.

For a period from April, 1906 to October, 1907, 16 association placer mining claims were located on the phosphate deposits of Georgetown Canyon. Unpublished records at the BLM show that all of the claims were purchased by the Utah Fertilizer and Chemical Manufacturing Company (UF&CMC) (USGS 2000).

The UF&CMC was incorporated January 29, 1908 specifically to purchase the mining claims at Georgetown Canyon and at other places and develop mines on the phosphate property (Campbell 1923). The UF&CMC applied for and received patent for all 16 placer mining claims in 1912, 1915, and in 1916. Robert J. Shields of the Salt Lake City law firm of Henderson, Pierce, Critchlow and Barrette was the agent and attorney-in-fact for the UF&CMC. Shields later became the mine manager of the Georgetown Canyon Mine (Campbell 1921).

The first known report of mining related activity in Georgetown Canyon was in 1909 (Gale and Richards 1910). A total of approximately 800 feet of underground development in nine tunnels and two shafts were completed on the mining claims held by the UF&CMC. No production oriented underground mining was ever accomplished by the UF&CMC on these patented placer claims (USGS 2000).

Bell (1919) reported that UF&CMC began sale negotiations in 1919 for the phosphate properties, and in 1928, the UF&CMC sold all of its interests in the 16 patented placer mining claims of Georgetown Canyon (including GCRFM) to the Stockholders Syndicate of Los Angeles, California (Campbell 1928). It is of interest to note that the last president of record of the UF&CMC was F. W. Braun of Los Angeles; at the time of sale, F. W. Braun of Los Angeles was also listed as the president of the Stockholders Syndicate.

From the time of the purchases in 1928 until 1953, Stockholders Syndicate did only upkeep on the properties with no mining of phosphate ore. Although an estimated total of 4,600 feet of underground workings were completed in 1953 and 1954, there was no reported production from the Georgetown Canyon area, and, by 1955, the properties were again idle.

The 16 patented placer mining claims of Stockholders Syndicate were sold to Central Farmers Fertilizer Company (CFFC) in 1955 (Hansen 1964). The Right Fork claim was apparently sold to CFFC in 1947 (DEQ 2004a). The Central Farmers Fertilizer Company was a large farm co-operative, made up of smaller farm co-ops throughout the south, midwest, and northwest United States and southern Canada (Emigh 1959). In 1957, construction started on a processing plant with an electric furnace and kiln in the Canyon, and a railroad spur that was first conceived in 1916 was finally constructed up Georgetown Canyon to the site of the new processing facility (Cressman 1964). Open pit mining was first reported in June of 1958, and, by late 1959, all underground mining had been abandoned. By 1960, the new open pit was approximately 3,000 feet long, 100 feet wide, and 100 feet deep (Fletcher 1960).

Open pit mining in Georgetown Canyon continued until 1963, when the pit was reported to be approximately 10,000 feet long, 250 feet wide and 100 feet deep (Hansen 1964). In 1964, production from the mine stopped, and the El Paso Natural Gas Products Company bought the Georgetown Canyon phosphate properties from the Central Farmers Fertilizer Company (Hansen 1965). The plant facility was closed that same year, and parts of it were moved to Conda, where the company was building a new phosphate processing plant (Service 1967).

The Georgetown Canyon Mine has not produced phosphate ore since 1964; however, the mine ownership has changed hands several times since then:

- *In May of 1972, Agricultural Products Corporation (APC) purchased the mine properties from El Paso. Agricultural Products Corporation was a wholly owned subsidiary of Beker Industries Corporation.*
- *In 1972, APC was dissolved and all of their property holdings, including the Georgetown Canyon mine were assigned to the parent company, Beker Industries.*
- *In January of 1979, Beker Industries Corporation sold the Georgetown Canyon Mine to Western Co-operative Fertilizer, Ltd., USA and formed the Conda Partnership.*
- *In 1987, the Beker Corporation filed for a Chapter 11 bankruptcy and a financial group called Nu-West Industries, Inc. replaced the Beker Corporation in the Conda Partnership.*
- *In 1992, Nu-West Industries, Inc. bought out the Western Co-operative Fertilizer, Ltd., and formed a wholly owned subsidiary named Nu-West Mining, Inc. to replace the co-op in Conda Partnership.*
- *In 1995, the Conda Partnership was dissolved and all of the mine properties were assigned to Nu-West Mining, Inc.*
- *In October of 1995, Nu-West Industries was acquired by Agrium, Inc., a Canadian firm based in Calgary, Alberta (USGS 2000; Sprague 2006).*

Geologic Features: The South Limb of the Georgetown Canyon Mine lies within the northern region of the Basin and Range physiographic province, which is characterized by linear, north-trending fault-bounded ranges and basins created by extensional tectonism initiated during the last 10 to 20 million years. However, the geology of the area is dominated by the Southeastern Idaho fold and thrust belt and specifically the Meade Thrust Fault.

Ranges in southeastern Idaho are generally composed of deformed Paleozoic and Mesozoic sedimentary rocks, including thick marine clastic units, comprising cherts and limestones. The valleys are largely in-filled with Quaternary alluvium and colluvium that overlie Pleistocene basalt flows. Middle Pleistocene rhyolite flows of the Snake River Plain regions cover much of the area and complete the geologic sequences in the region.

Massive accumulations of marine sediment occurred during the Paleozoic era over large areas of eastern Idaho. During the Permian Era, the Phosphoria Formation was deposited, forming the western phosphate field, part of which is located in the Idaho Phosphate Mining Resource Area. (DEQ 2007)

The stratigraphy in the Georgetown Canyon area is dominated by the Georgetown Syncline; a large complex fold dipping gently to the north. The west limb on the syncline is overturned and highly faulted (USGS, 1964). The east limb of the syncline contains thicker sequences of the Meade Peak Phosphatic shales and includes the historically mined area designated as the Study Area. South of the historically mined area, the patented claims follow on strike for approximately two miles then abruptly jog east for approximately one mile along a large tear fault which offsets the main ridge of Snowdrift Mountain (USGS, 1964). The patented claims which include the Right Fork Mine continue north-northeast for approximately two miles following the strike of the Phosphoria Formation. The stratigraphy most encountered by mining activities in the area is generally limited to four principal rock units. The stratigraphy, approximate ages, and a description of each unit are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. Generalized Stratigraphic Setting of Project Area¹.

<i>Unit Name</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Description</i>
<i>Dinwoody Formation</i>	<i>Triassic</i>	<i>The Dinwoody is approximately 900 feet thick and composed of interbedded gray limestone grading downward to calcareous shale and siltstone with limestone interbeds.</i>
<i>Phosphoria Formation</i>	<i>Permian</i>	<i>Composed of three distinct members including: the Cherty Shale, the Rex Chert and Meade Peak Phosphatic Shale; The Cherty Shale consist of approximately 100 feet of cherty mudstone resting on the Rex Chert which consists of approximately 150 feet of massively bedded chert containing some limestone at the base. The Meade Peak is the lower member of the formation and is the source of phosphate ore. The unit is comprised of brown to black shale and siltstone with phosphatic mudstones, argillaceous and oolitic phosphorite and cherty mudstone.</i>
<i>Grandeur Tongue of the Park City Formation</i>	<i>Permian</i>	<i>Consist of approximately 75 feet of dense light gray dolomite, but includes limestone near the base of the unit. The unit typically contains nodules of black to dark-gray chert in the upper third and is recognized as an excellent indicator of the overlying phosphatic shales of the Meade Peak Member.</i>
<i>Wells Formation</i>	<i>Permian Pennsylvanian</i>	<i>Approximately 1,500 to 2,000 feet thick in the project area. The Wells Formation consists of two members. The upper member consists of buff colored sandy limestone, gray to reddish brown sandstone and interbedded gray limestone and dolomite. The lower member consists of gray cherty limestone with some interbedded sandstone.</i>
<i>Notes: 1. By convention, units are presented from top to bottom, as youngest to oldest.</i>		

The Phosphoria Formation as described by Richards and Mansfield (from Phosphoria Gulch) consist of three members. From youngest to oldest these include; the Cherty Shale, the Rex Chert and the Meade Peak Phosphatic Shale. Thickness of the Meade Peak Member in Georgetown Canyon is approximately 200 feet on the east limb of the Georgetown syncline and approximately 150 feet on the west limb, likely due to faulting (USGS 1964). The Meade Peak Member is the oldest and is overlain by the Rex Chert or the Cherty Shale Members. Concentrations of phosphate minerals in the Meade Peak member are significantly higher than typical concentrations found in other marine sedimentary rock. (Montgomery Watson 1998)

Site Photographs



Photo 1. Looking northwest along the Georgetown Canyon Mine, at the middle waste shale of the Meade Peak Member. Phosphate ore was mined along both sides of this structure (called the middle waste shale). This area is included in the Study Area. The road to the South Limb claims is located just south of this working.



Photo 2. Trench 1. The size of the trench is approximately 200-300 yards. The trench is heavily vegetated and there were no signs of standing water at the time of the site visit. Latitude 42.52457°N, Longitude -111.24730°W.



Photo 3. View from foot of Trench 1 and adjacent waste dump.



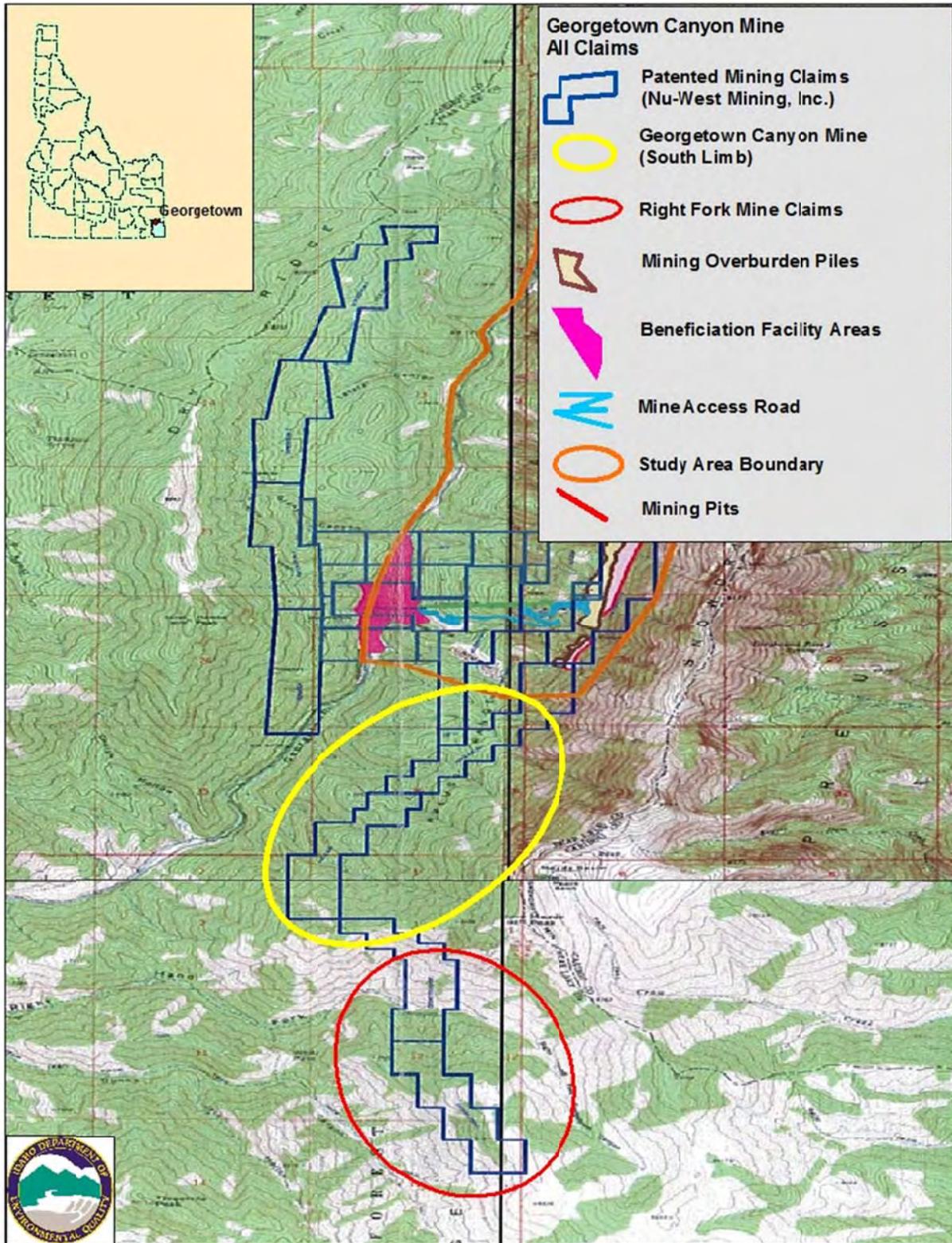
Photo 4. Waste dump associated with Trench 1. The dump volume was estimated to be less than 200 cubic yards (cy) of waste material. The waste material appears to be all country rock with no signs of ore. The toe of the dump is heavily vegetated. Latitude 42.52465°N, Longitude -111.24747°W.



Photo 5. Trench 2. The size of the trench is approximately 200-300 yards. The trench is heavily vegetated and there were no signs of standing water at the time of the site visit. Latitude 42.52378°N, Longitude -111.24693°W.

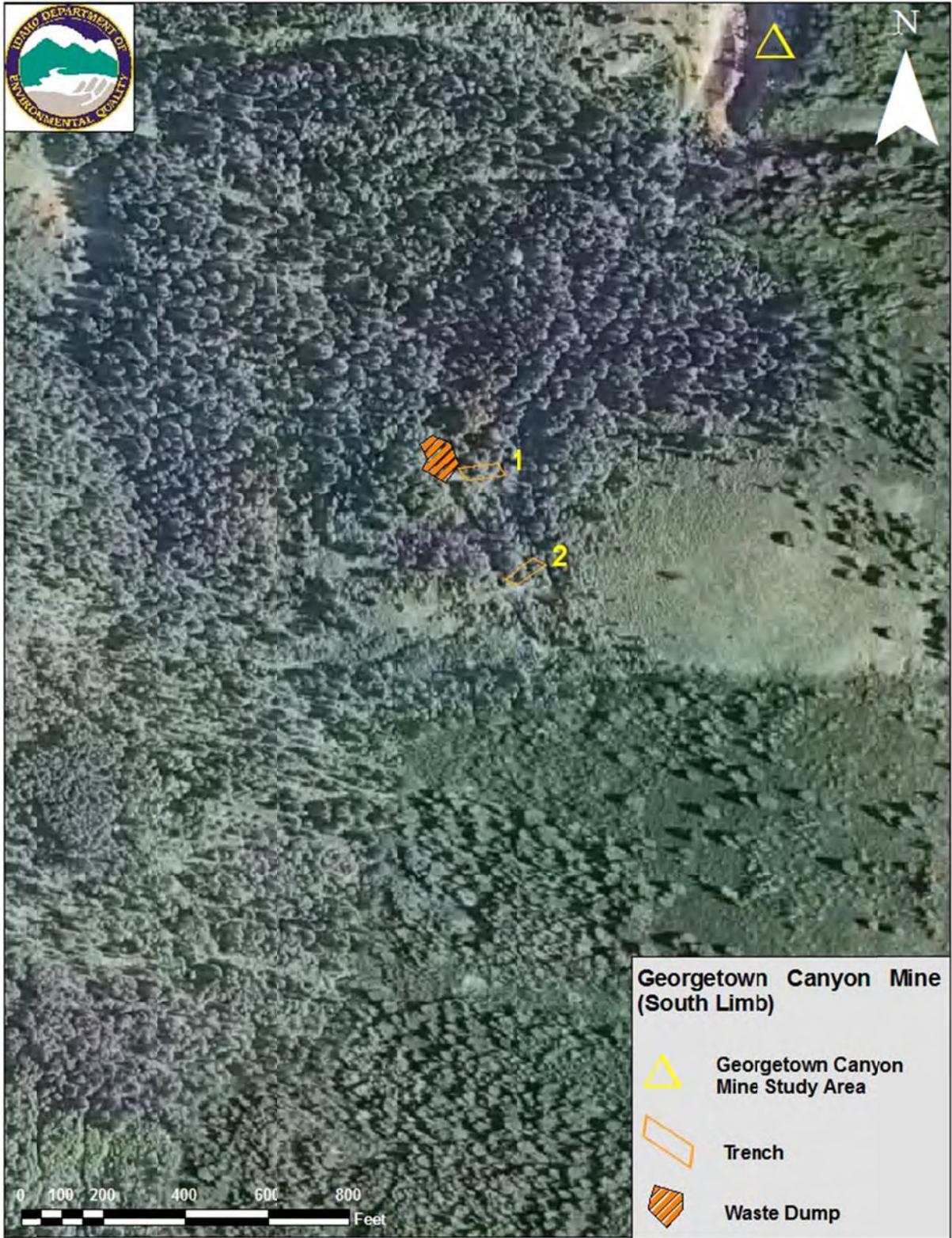
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Maps



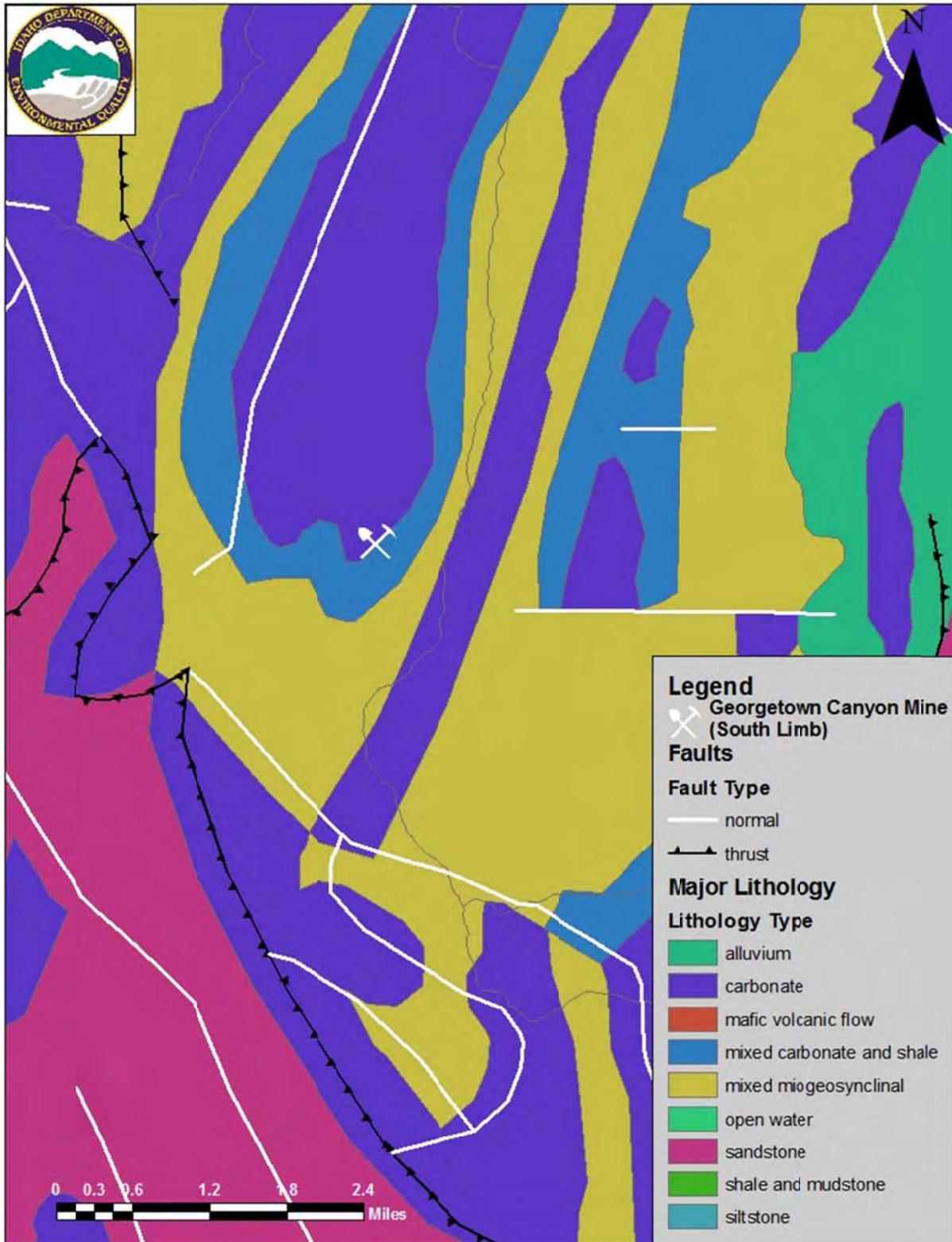
Map 1. Location of Georgetown Canyon Mine. South Limb is circled in yellow on the map. Right Fork Mine claims circled in red. (Map Source: USGS 24k Quads, provided by James Williams)

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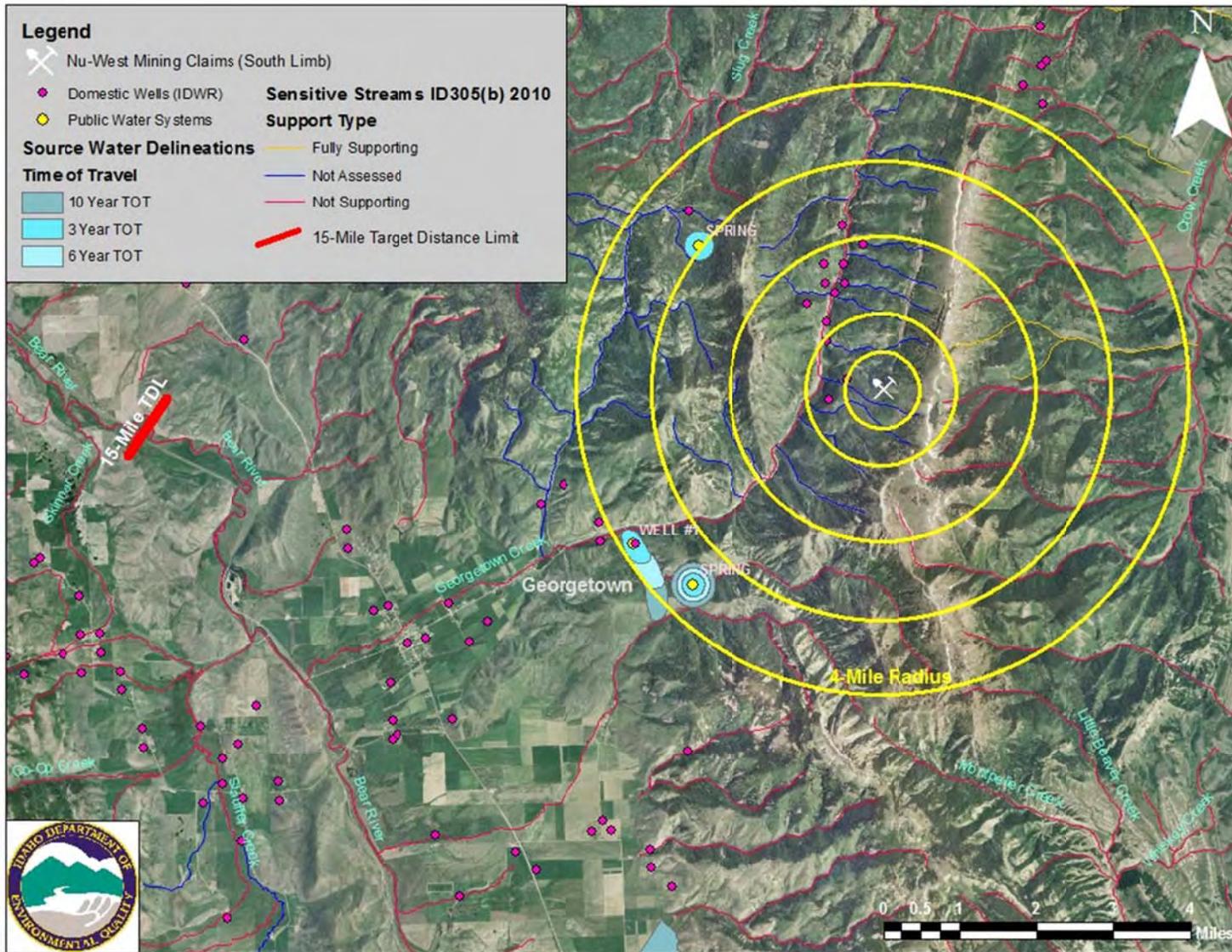
Map 2. Close-up of Georgetown Canyon Mine (South Limb) with Site Features. Two trenches and one waste dump were observed. No samples were collected. (Map Source: 2009 Natural Color 1-meter NAIP Idaho Map)

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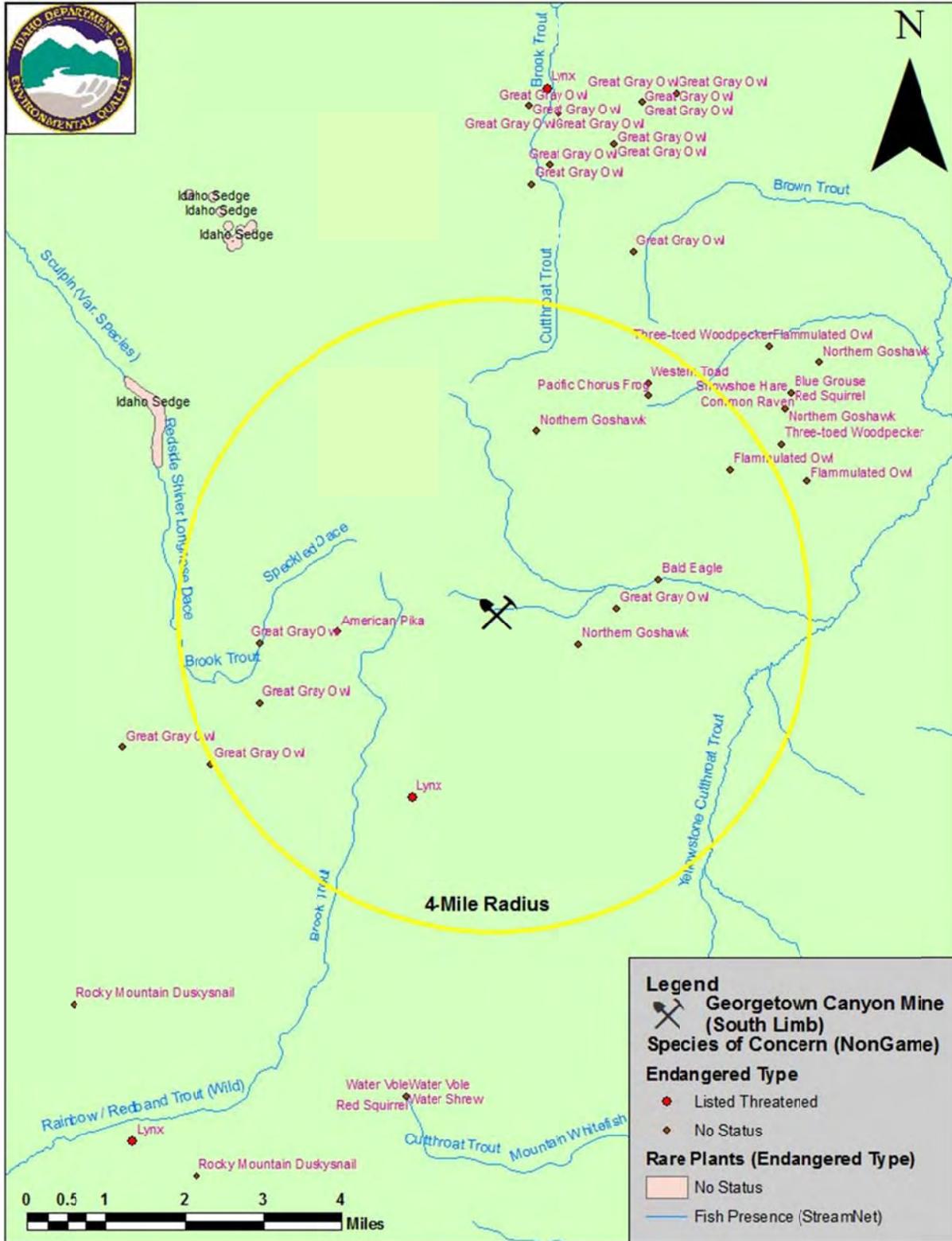
Map 3. Major Lithology of Georgetown Canyon Mine (South Limb) and Surrounding Area. (Map Sources: SDE Feature Class, USGS 1995, and Idaho DEQ GIS ArcSDE 9.2 Geodatabase)

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Map 4. The three domestic wells located within the one mile radius are used for monitoring. Three public water systems (PWS) are within the 4-mile radius; the USFS Summit View Campground Spring is separated by structural geology. City of Georgetown PWS (Well #1, Spring) is in the 15 mile TDL. No wetlands are located in the 4-mile radius. Georgetown Creek and Bear River are listed as “Not Supporting” in the 305(b) list of Sensitive Streams. (Map Source: 2009 Natural Color 1-meter NAIP Idaho Map)

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Map 5. Sensitive Species within Four Mile Radius and Surrounding Area. Species of Concern: Non-Game Animals and Plants. (Map Sources: SDE Feature Dataset, Animal Conservation Database and Idaho DEQ GIS ArcSDE 9.2 Geodatabase)

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Appendix 1: Addendum to Recommendations for the Georgetown Canyon Right Fork Mine Site

As a result of the September 2011 field visit to the Georgetown Canyon Right Fork Mine site, DEQ and participating parties including the BLM have updated recommendations for the former underground mine. Previous recommendations based on the DEQ 2004 Preliminary Assessment included:

1. Evaluate the site as a component to DEQ's Administrative Order on Consent for the Georgetown Canyon site investigation.
2. Re-contouring and revegetating those waste piles where natural vegetation has not established itself, and, if necessary, placement of clean soils and re-vegetation of these locations.
3. Closure of the partially open shaft.

As part of the Orphan Mine Preliminary Assessments, an additional investigation was performed by DEQ in August 2007. Based on observations during the site visit, recommendations for the site were modified to include:

1. Complete closure of the mine shaft. This may be accomplished in a couple of hours by one or two individuals with shovels.
2. No further actions at this site would be necessary, disturbance of the waste rock dumps or roads at the mine would likely be detrimental to the area.

The Right Fork Mine was again inspected in September 2011 as part of a Preliminary Assessment to determine the need for further investigation of patented claims outside of the designated Study Area for the pending Georgetown Canyon Mine investigation *Consent Order/Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Performance of Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study*.

Based on the observations from the September 2011 site visit, the Amended Recommendation for the former Right Fork Mine is No Remedial Action Planned (NRAP). This determination is based on the following findings:

1. The partially open adit has completely caved-in and is currently an 18 inch to 2 foot depression in the soil. As such, it does not present a physical hazard nor did there appear to be any indication of water or erosional features associated with the mine.
2. The waste rock dumps were thickly covered with natural vegetation which included well established trees. As a result the previous recommendation that disturbance of the waste rock dumps or roads at the mine would likely be detrimental to the area remains applicable.

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Appendix 1, Photo 1. Right Fork Mine cabin. Located on top of the waste dump, area is heavily vegetated and there were minimal signs of recreational use.
Latitude 42.48518°N, Longitude -111.25964°W



Appendix 1, Photo 2. Top of waste dump looking down. Mature trees are growing on the top and the area at the toe is overgrown with bushes and grass.
Latitude 42.48518°N, Longitude -111.25964°W

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References

- Bell, R.N., 1919. Twenty-first Annual Report of the Mining Industry of Idaho for the year 1919, p. 162-165.
- BLM (Bureau of Land Management) 2000. Final Environmental Impact Statement, Dry Valley Mine–South Extension Project.
- Bond J.G., 1978. Geology of Idaho, Geologic Map of Idaho 1:500,000. Idaho Department of Lands, Bureau of Mines, University of Idaho, Moscow.
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- DEQ (Idaho Department of Environmental Quality) 2007. Mine Waste Management in Idaho: Selenium Investigations in Southeast Idaho. Available URL: <http://www.deq.idaho.gov/regional-offices-issues/pocatello/southeast-idaho-selenium-investigations.aspx>
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