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Ministry of Environment
 Mining Operations Environmental Protection
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WEEKLY POST-TSF BREACH REPORT – WEEK OF FEBRUARY 25 – MARCH 3, 2015

Water Management

Polley Lake Dewatering	Polley Lake ice elevation = 919.18 m (March 1 st) Water levels are currently within the typical range. Polley Lake is frozen and all pumping infrastructure was removed in late November. Ice elevation surveys are being taken weekly.
TSF Water Management	No changes to the TSF water management system occurred this week and all water continues to be transferred to the Springer Pit via the Central Collection Sump. Refer to previous weekly reports for an overview map of the system.
Other Water Management (Outside of Breach Area)	An update on system repairs and upgrades after the incidents which occurred the week of February 11 th to 17 th related to unanticipated, unseasonal precipitation and snowmelt runoff: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upstream of the Bootjack Creek Sump, the damaged intake sections of the clean water culverts have been replaced. The berm separating the creek water and contact water culvert intakes has been reconstructed with packed till and reinforced with concrete, and then covered with geotextile and rip rap. Bootjack Creek water is now flowing through the culverts, as designed, and restoration of adjacent exposed till is planned (interim sediment and erosion control works are in place).

TSF Construction

TSF Construction

The amendment to permit M-200 approving repair of the TSF breach to manage 2015 freshet was received from the Ministry of Mines on December 17th. An update on work being completed under this approval is as follows:

- Foundation preparation and material placement for Perimeter Embankment buttressing is ongoing.
- Upstream Fill material placement for the cut-off wall is ongoing.
- Cut-off Wall Aggregate material placement for the cut-off wall is ongoing.
- Transition material placement for the cut-off wall is ongoing.
- Compacted Rockfill material placement for the cut-off wall is ongoing.
- Buttress placement immediately downstream of the cut-off wall (Phase 1 footprint) is ongoing.
- CSM Wall construction has commenced.

Project components that have been completed under this approval are:

- Bulk excavation of the North and South Abutments (the embankments to the north and south of the breach).
- Construction of seepage collection drains in the cut-off wall foundation footprint.
- Foundation preparation for the cut-off wall.
- Foundation Filter blanket material placement for the cut-off wall.
- Foundation Transition blanket material placement for the cut-off wall.
- Extension of the seepage collection drains through the Phase 1 footprint.
- Construction of a pad and laydown area for the CSM Contractor to erect infrastructure and mobilize equipment.
- Foundation preparation immediately downstream of the cut-off wall (Phase 1 footprint).
- SAA instrumentation installation.
- Mobilization of CSM Contractor infrastructure and equipment.
- North Abutment tie-in material placement to the 950m elevation.
- North Abutment accelerated construction fill placement in the Phase 1 footprint to the 950m elevation to facilitate commencement of the CSM Wall construction.

Sediment and Erosion Control Measures

Silt Curtain	The turbidity barrier (silt curtain) installed in Quesnel Lake near the outlet of the new Edney (Hazeltine) Creek channel, downstream from the Lower Hazeltine Creek sedimentation ponds is in good condition.
General	<p>Environmental monitors are monitoring creek restoration work in Upper, Middle, and Lower Hazeltine Creek.</p> <p>This week 10,973 tonnes of till were excavated from the Hazeltine Creek channel area and stockpiled for future restoration use. 5,980 tonnes of construction rock material was hauled to the Hazeltine Creek areas for use in restoration work.</p> <p>Rock liner material is low sulphur rock from the Cariboo Pit and a sampling program is in place to verify the chemistry of the rock. A sampling program to verify chemistry of creek subgrade material after tailings have been removed is also in place. Stripping of a local gravel pit was completed this week and it is anticipated that gravel screening to prepare restoration materials will start next week.</p> <p>Additional grid patterned testing was completed in the plug area mapping depths of tailings and other deposited materials.</p>
Lower Edney Creek	Further work at lower Edney Creek will be undertaken during low flow periods in August.
Upper Hazeltine Creek	<p>The contract for construction of the Polley Lake outlet structure has been awarded. Construction materials are being mobilized to site. A water licence application for Hazeltine Creek is required, and an application is being prepared.</p> <p>This week in Reach 1 additional fine-tuning of the channel was completed and a road was constructed upstream of Hazeltine Creek across the bottom of the “plug” to prevent mobilization of tailings into the completed channel.</p> <p>In Reach 2, construction and rocking in of the flood plain is ongoing and has been completed in the upper third of the reach.</p>
Middle Hazeltine Creek	In Reach 3, upgrades to water management systems were completed this week.
Lower Hazeltine Creek	<p>In Reach 4 the excavation channel between the Ditch Road bridge and the sedimentation ponds has been completed and liner rock placed. Construction of fish habitat features and placement of spawning gravel is approximately 50% complete.</p> <p>Light capping (approximately 50% coverage) of two exposed glacial till deposits to reduce erosion was completed.</p>

Water Quality Monitoring Program

<p>Water Quality Monitoring Sites</p>	<p>The water quality monitoring program currently consists of weekly samples at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QUR-1 (Quesnel River at the Quesnel River Research Centre) • HAC-08 (Hazeltine Creek upstream of the sedimentation ponds) • HAC-01b (Hazeltine Creek at the outlet of the sedimentation ponds) • EDC-02 (Edney Creek downstream of the new confluence with Hazeltine Creek below the sedimentation ponds and just upstream of Quesnel Lake). <p>All scheduled sampling was completed this week, as well as supplemental sampling at EDC-01 (Edney Creek just upstream from the confluence with Hazeltine). Monitoring of Quesnel Lake was completed in conjunction with scheduled toxicity tests; samples were taken at QUL-66 and field parameter profiles were completed at QUL-2a, QUL-40a, QUL-66, and QUL-79. Refer to previous weekly reports for a map of all sample locations.</p> <p>Weekly sampling at site HAC-05 (Hazeltine Creek at the Gavin Lake Road) has been temporarily discontinued because active restoration and erosion control works are ongoing in this section of the creek. Note that daily turbidity monitoring at this site is carried out by environmental monitors.</p>
<p>Continuous Monitoring</p>	<p>The monitoring program also includes a sonde (datalogger) that is deployed in the Quesnel River at monitoring site QUR-1. The sonde measures field parameters (turbidity, pH, specific conductance, dissolved oxygen, and temperature) every 15 minutes. A second sonde which measures the same parameters at the same frequency is deployed at the outlet of the Lower Hazeltine Creek sedimentation ponds.</p>
<p>Results</p>	<p>Figure 1 shows a turbidity time series graph for Lower Hazeltine Creek (downstream of the sedimentation ponds) from January 1st onward. From February 15th onward (after Edney Creek was diverted from the sedimentation ponds into its now channel, which converges with Hazeltine Creek downstream of the sedimentation ponds), data is shown for Hazeltine and Edney Creeks upstream and downstream of their confluence.</p> <p>Figure 2 shows a time series graph of turbidity at site QUR-1. Turbidity data are from laboratory analysis completed by ALS Environmental.</p>

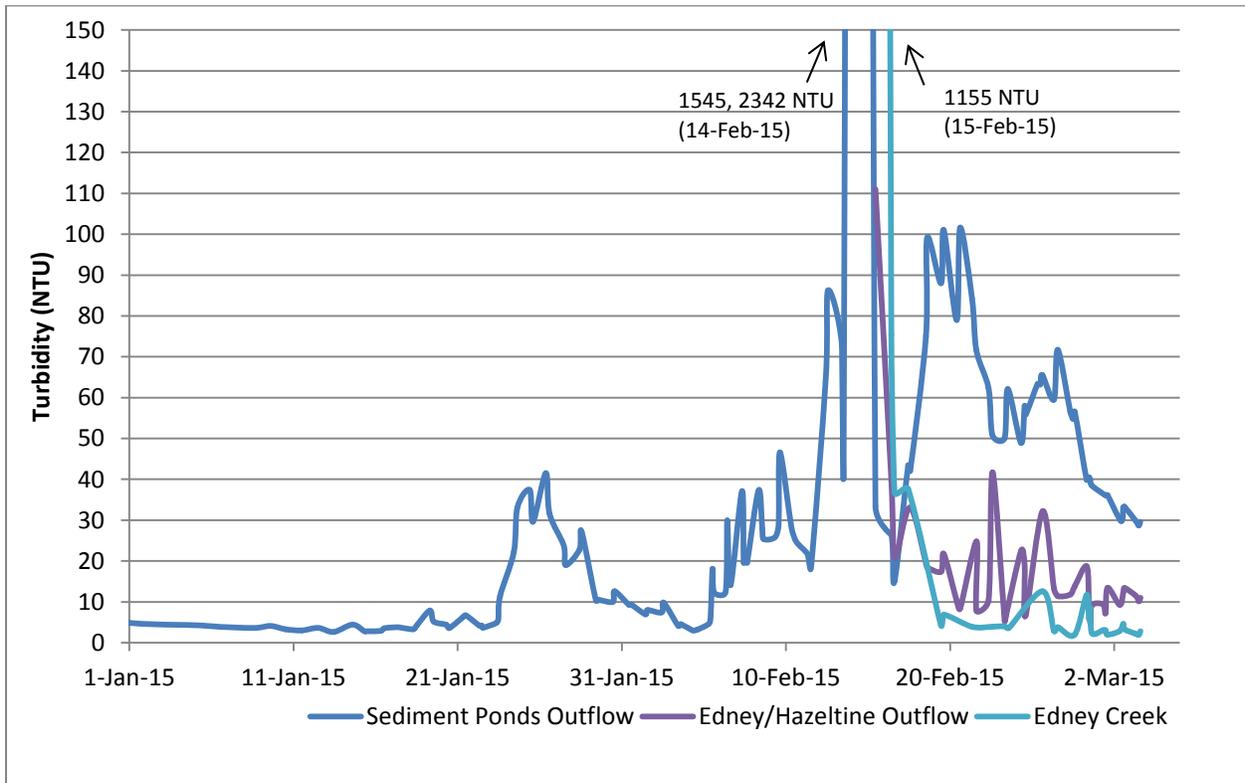


Figure 1. Turbidity time series graph for Hazeltine Creek downstream of the sedimentation ponds (January 1st – March 3rd), for Edney Creek in its new channel (February 15th – March 3rd), and the combined Edney/Hazeltine Creek outflow into Quesnel Lake (February 15th – 24th)

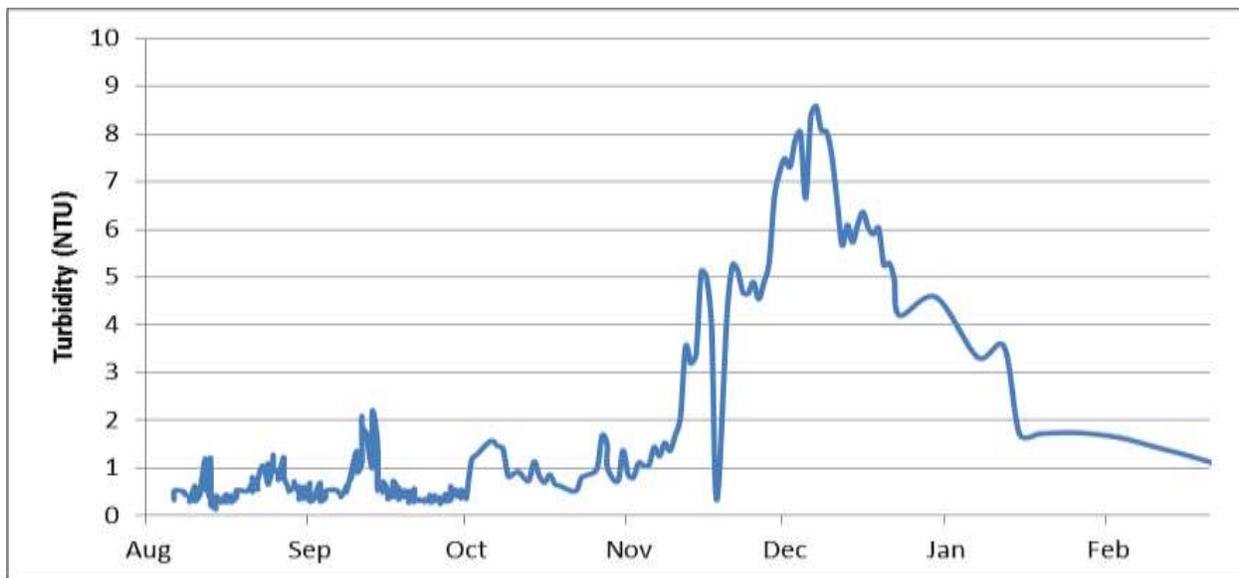


Figure 2. Turbidity time series at sample location QUR-1 (August 6th – March 3rd)

Publication of Environmental Monitoring Results & Remediation Updates

Mount Polley will continue to present interpreted environmental monitoring results and updates on remediation work on the [Mount Polley Updates](#) page of the Imperial Metals website (www.imperialmetals.com). No updates were posted this week; however, a few were posted last week:

- [Residential Filter System Information](#) (February 20th)
- [Community Update Bulletin](#) (February 22nd)
- [Mount Polley supports scientific research into the health and activity of soil microorganisms in the Quesnel River Watershed](#) (February 23rd).