

Project CLEANS News

SUMMER 2022-ISSUE 12

Gunnar Tailings Remediation Project Update

After five years of hard work, Fond du Lac Nuna Joint Venture (FDLNJV) finished the construction of the cover system for the largest tailings area (Gunnar Main Tailings) and most of the Gunnar Central tailings Area. FDLNJV will complete their demobilization from the Gunnar Mine and Mill Site this fall.

The completed cover areas were seeded last fall with a custom seed mix to promote vegetation growth on the new landforms and prevent erosion. These areas are now in the monitoring and maintenance phase of the project.

The Langley Bay tailings area was not completed due to high water levels in Lake Athabasca. Planning is underway to determine when the remaining work will be completed.



Seeding Gunnar Main Tailings in Fall 2021

Completed Gunnar Main Tailings Cover



Gunnar Other Site Aspects Remediation

The Gunnar Other Site Aspects team worked with QMPoints and SRK over the winter to review lessons learned from 2021 and to plan for a safe and productive 2022 season. Many crucial work scopes will be completed in 2022, such as regrading and covering the waste rock piles, completing the hazardous waste landfill and capping mine openings. Proper planning and scheduling will be critical to a successful season.

Construction of the 2022 ice road allowed QMPoints to successfully deliver diesel, gasoline, equipment parts, supplies, stainless-steel mine closures and more. An additional section of ice road was constructed across Zeemel Bay so that QM Points could efficiently access legacy waste. QMPoints removed two legacy semi-collapsed cabins and hauled multiple truck loads of debris and garbage to the landfill.

Completing this work in the winter significantly reduced the environmental impact to the area and allowed for safer debris recovery for QMPoints workers.

HIGHLIGHTS

Community Meetings

Due to the uncertainty around the COVID-19 pandemic, SRC consulted with community and provincial leaders and decided not to hold community meetings in 2022.

Watch this project update video to learn what was accomplished in the 2021 field season and what is happening in 2022:

English: https://src.nu/cleans22eng
Dene: https://src.nu/cleans22dene

If you have any questions about the project, please email us at cleans@src.sk.ca.

Aramark

If you are interested in camp employment opportunities for the Gunnar Other Site Aspects Remediation Project, please contact Gary Schwandt:

Email: schwandt-gary@aramark.ca

OMPoints

If you are interested in employment and supplier opportunities for the Gunnar Site Remediation Project, please contact QMPoints:

Fax: 1-306-652-4652
Email: apply@qmpoints.com
kyle.remus@gmenv.com

Website: www.gmpoints.com

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Lorado Mill

Remediation of the Former Lorado Mill Site was completed in 2016. Since then, SRC has monitored the sites and performed maintenance as needed. The site continues to be stable and is revegetating as anticipated.

In 2022, transitional monitoring will continue to support the eventual transfer of the remediated site to the Government of Saskatchewan's Institutional Control Program.



Lorado Mill tailings cover is revegetating as anticipated.

Satellite Sites

Since Fall 2021, the Satellite Sites team has been busy reporting on 2021 field activities. This includes submitting as-built reports for closures of mine openings installed in 2021, the Nicholson Phase II assessment report, remediation reports for two sites and annual reports.

The engineering consulting firm Golder was selected to assess the design remediation plans for underground mine hazards at several sites through public procurement. This work began in Spring 2022. In 2022, the shafts at Jesko and Meta Uranium Mines will be closed permanently. A batfriendly stainless-steel grate will be used at Meta—the first time this method will be used in the Uranium City area.

Transitional monitoring, radiation surveys, sampling and assessments will continue at select sites. SRC anticipates completing risk assessments for Lorado Mine, Uranium Ridge Mine and Rix-Smitty Mine this year.

To date, remediation has been completed at 18 sites, remediation is in progress at three sites and varying levels of assessment are underway at the remaining 14 sites. Of the 18 completed sites, four have been transferred to the provincial Institutional Control Program.



Stainless-steel grate that will be installed at Meta Uranium Mines, Beaverlodge Lake and Umisk Island.

The grate is designed to allow bats in and out of the mine to provide a habitat for the endangered bats.

Meet our Team: Mike Menzies

Mike has a bachelor of science degree in geology from the University of Saskatchewan. He has over 11 years of experience working across western Canada in a variety of areas, including as an exploration geologist, mine geologist, surveyor and heavy equipment operator. Mike joined the Satellite Sites Remediation Project in May 2017.

Working on Project CLEANS has been a new and positive experience for Mike, as he enjoys the outdoors and is passionate about the environment. His current duties include soil, water and waste rock sampling, gamma surveying, contractor oversight and helping coordinate tasks for the Satellite Sites Project.

Mike grew up on an acreage east of Saskatoon. He enjoys spending time with friends and family, and playing sports such as hockey, basketball and golf. He also enjoys quadding and snowmobiling.



