

Galore Creek Mine

Spotlight on Transboundary Mines

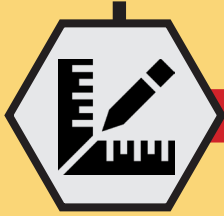
OVERVIEW

The Proposed Galore Creek Mine project would be built 37 miles from Alaska's border, in the headwaters of the Stikine and Iskut Rivers, known as the *Sacred Headwaters*. It is one of several mega-mines planned in the salmon watersheds Alaska shares with British Columbia and is considered to be one of the largest copper, gold, and silver deposits in the world. The millions of tons of potentially acid-generating rock it would produce could have irreversible impacts on the Stikine Watershed and nearby communities of Wrangell and Petersburg, putting our Alaskan fishing jobs, cultures, and health at risk.

QUICK FACTS

AREA

294,000 acres
covered by the mine site



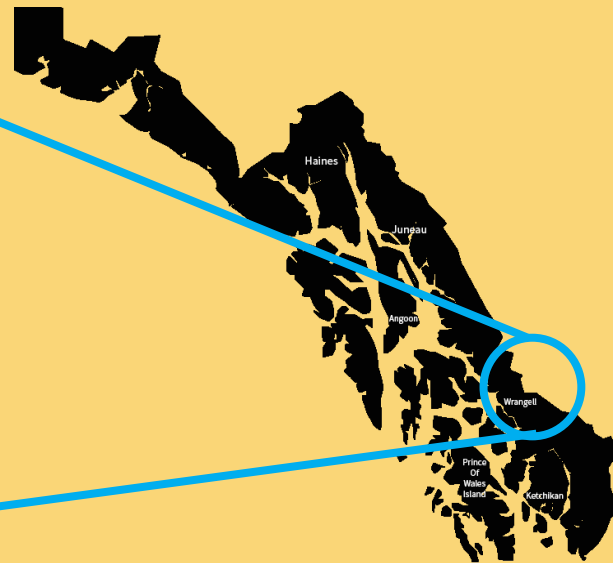
ORE

65,000 tons/day
gold, silver, copper ore processed



TIME

25 years
life-of-mine proposed



TAILINGS
475 million tons
produced



TAILINGS DAM
900 foot dam
more than half a
mile long



WASTEROCK
3.2 billion tons
produced



ACID GENERATION
289 million tons
of wasterock are potentially
acid generating



DIGGING DEEPER

REASONS FOR CONCERN



HARM TO SALMON AND THOSE WHO DEPEND ON THEM

The Galore Creek Mega-Mine is just one of many mines planned for the the Canadian headwaters of Southeast Alaska's salmon rivers. Tribal governments, fishing groups, and Southeast Alaskan communities are coming together to demand protection of Southeast Alaskan salmon from Canadian mines.



IMPACTS TO SACRED HEADWATERS

The Galore Creek Mine would be built in the headwaters of the Iskut and Stikine Rivers, an area known as the Sacred Headwaters by First Nations groups in Canada. It would have a significant impact on the Galore, More, Sphaler, and Scotsimpson Creeks, all tributaries to the Stikine.



RELEASE OF UNTREATED WATER

The Galore Creek Mine does not plan to treat water. Discharge water will flow directly into Galore Creek and the Iskut River.



OUTDATED ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

The mine plan was designed prior to the Mt. Polley disaster and utilizes the same technology, including the earthen tailings dam, that failed there. The Environmental Assessment has not been updated to account for the lessons learned at Mt. Polley or for Climate Change and changes to Canadian mine regulations.



TOXIC LAKE OF TAILINGS

The tailings dam would create a lake approximately 1.6 miles long, 0.96 miles wide, and 650 feet deep. This toxic mixture would be held in place by a 900-foot-tall dam more than half a mile long, made from the tailings themselves. The company would have to maintain 53 feet of water over the tailings in perpetuity to restrict metal leaching and acid.



ACID LEACHING POTENTIAL

This area contains a volcanogenic massive sulfide (VMS) deposit. All sulfide mines can produce acid mine waste, but wet climates like that of the Stikine Watershed intensify the risk of acid mine drainage - toxic, acidic wastewater leaching into our watershed that impacts aquatic life and requires treatment for pertetuity.



BOUNDARY WATERS TREATY

Any water pollution from the Galore Creek Mine could violate the Boundary Waters Treaty between Canada and the United States. The treaty states in part that "waters flowing across the boundary shall not be polluted on either side to the injury of health or property on the other."

TAKE ACTION

Learn More and Find Action Resources

- www.seacc.org/stikine
- <https://endangereddrivers.americanrivers.org/stikine-river/>

Get Involved

- Write to your leaders to request action on transboundary mines
- Participate in your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee
- Host an event to raise awareness
- Write a letter to the editor of your local paper

Spread the Word!

