



Van Stone Mine cleanup plan

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Agenda

- 1 Mining & cleanup history
- 2 Site map & photos
- 3 Cleanup plan & timeline
- 4 Next steps
- **5** Questions & answers



1992: Equinox reopens mine; puts

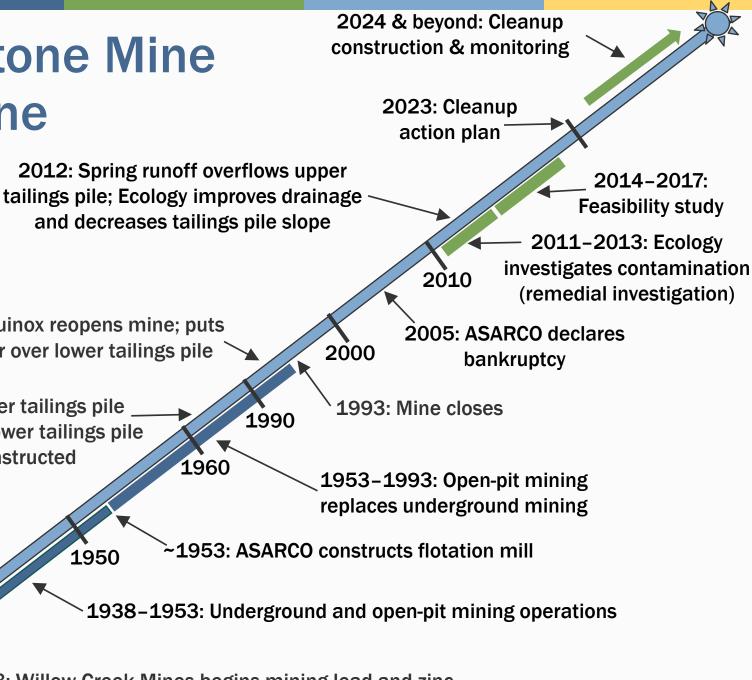
PVC liner over lower tailings pile

1950

1961: Upper tailings pile

berm fails; lower tailings pile is constructed

1940

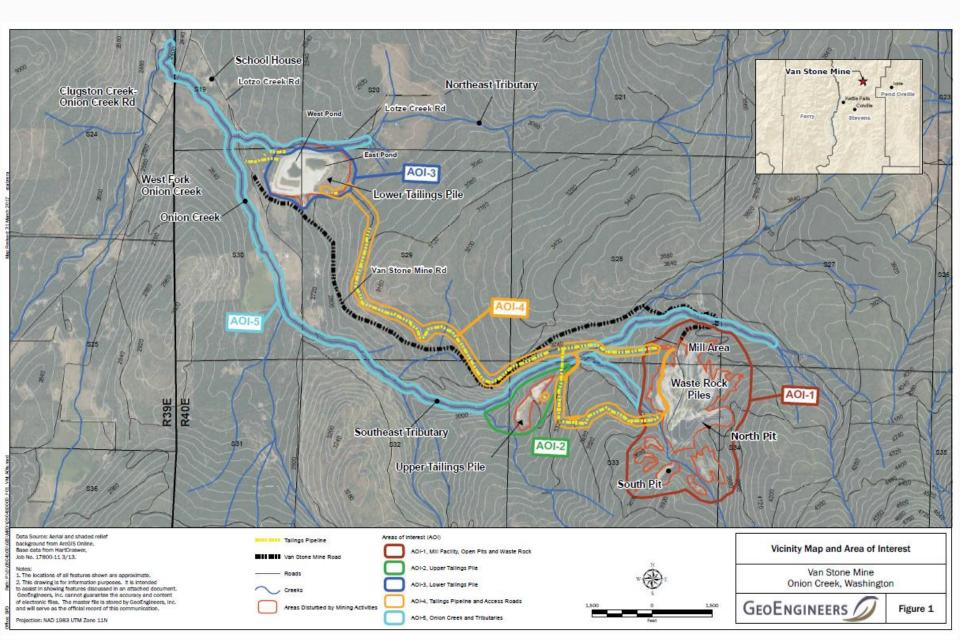


1938: Willow Creek Mines begins mining lead and zinc

1960

1990











Waste rock and mine/mill area





Upper tailings pile

Lower tailings pile











Production

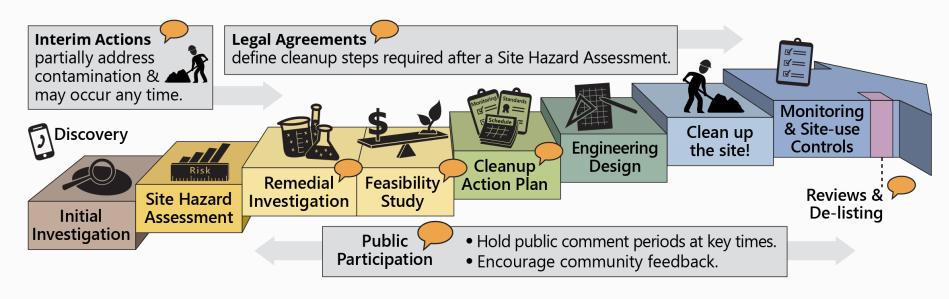
- ASARCO 7.5 million tons mined
- Equinox 1.27 million tons mined

Tailings pile sizes

- Upper 9.6 acres (780,000 tons)
- Lower 35.1 acres (1.8 million tons)

Waste rock pile - 53 acres







Site contaminants

Contaminant	Soil	Surface water	Groundwater	Sediment
Antimony	X	X	X	
Arsenic	X		X	
Cadmium	X	X		
Copper	Χ			
Lead	Χ	X	X	Χ
Mercury	X			
Selenium	X			Χ
Silver	X			
Thallium	X			
Zinc	Χ	Χ		Χ





Cleanup participants

- Ecology's Toxics
 Cleanup and
 Dam Safety programs
- WA Dept. of Health
- WA Dept. of Natural Resources
- Stevens County
- Potentially liable persons

Proposed cleanup

- Improve dam at North Pit Lake
- Consolidate waste at Lower Tailings Pile from:
 - Upper Tailings Pile
 - Mill Area/Waste Rock Area
 - Tailings Pipelines
- Grade steep slopes at Lower Tailings Pile and Waste Rock Area
- Cover Lower Tailings Pile to prevent rain and snowmelt from infiltrating it





Cleanup timeline

2023

Engineering design for dam improvement

2024

Dam improvement

2025

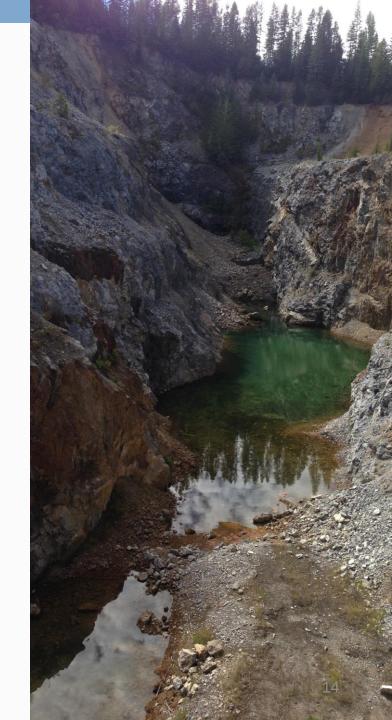
Engineering design for waste consolidation, grading, and cover

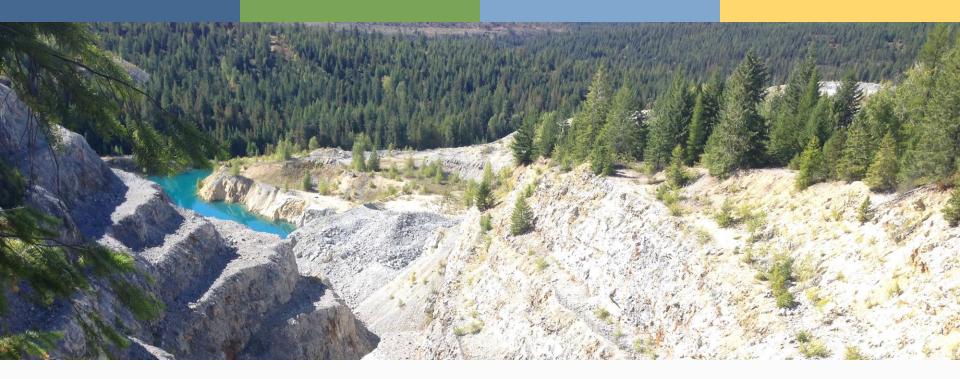
2026 - ?

Waste consolidation, grading, and cover

Next steps

- Submit comments by June 16
 - Online: bit.ly/VanStoneComments
 - Email: Brendan.Dowling@ecy.wa.gov
 - By mail, or handwritten tonight
- Respond to comments
- Revise plan, if needed







Thank you for coming

We welcome your questions!