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Figure 2-1

























Figure 2-7













Figure 2-10







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-New Mexico State Plane West, NAD 1927

Production Wells to Mine Site New Mexico Copper Corporation







Figure 4-3. Monthly precipitation (inches) in 2010 compared to mean monthly precipitation from 1893-2011 in Hillsboro, NM.

Source: Western Regional Climate Center.

Figure 4-4. Representative Field Photographs of the Chihuahuan Desert Grassland Stratum (CDG), Copper Flat Mine Permit Area, 2010



The Chihuahuan Desert Grassland stratum contained a diverse mix of warm season grasses. Animas Peak was located in this stratum. Dense patches of Wheeler's sotol were intercepted on the slopes of Animas Peak, as shown in the middle right photograph.lsolated patches of dense shrubs were also encountered, as shown in the bottom right photo, but grasses were the dominant lifeform throught the stratum.

Figure 4-5. Representative Field Photographs of the Chihuahuan Desert Shrubland Stratum (CDS), Copper Flat Mine Permit Area, 2010



The Chihuahuan Desert Shrubland stratum lied on relatively flat terrain in the southeast corner of the site. Shrub cover was measurably higher throughout this stratum than in the grassland portions, though isolated patches of high grass production and cover were encountered, as in the bottom left photograph. Creosote bush encroachment was observed in portions of the community (middle right photo) though it was less common than gravelly areas to the south.

Figure 4-6. Representative Field Photographs of the Disturbed Area/Waste Rock Pile Stratum, Copper Flat Mine Permit Area, 2010



The Disturbed Area/Waste Rock Pile stratum was used to characterize areas with varying degrees of disturbance due to previous mining. rock piles, waste rock, surface scraping, and soil disturbance were evident throughout the stratum. Portions of the stratum also appeared to be revegetated in earlier reclamation efforts. Total live plant cover, relative lifeform cover, and groundcover was extremely variable across transects and even within a transect.

Figure 4-7. Representative Field Photographs of the Tailing Dam Stratum (TD), Copper Flat Mine Permit Area, 2010



The Tailing Dam stratum (TD) characterized vegetation attributes on the tailing dam constructed during earlier mining. Relatively little bare soil was observed. Various size classes of crushed rock contributed most of the cover in the stratum. Species richness was low and shrub and perennial grass cover were relatively consistent across transects. Observations on plant spacing and species distribution on this feature compared to surrounding areas suggest that this facility may have been previously revegetated.

Figure 4-8. Representative Field Photographs of the Pit Stratum, Copper Flat Mine Permit Area, 2010



The Pit stratum was relatively unvegetated. Most of the ground surface was composed of bare soil. Cobble-sized crushed rock was also encountered regularly. Total live vegetation cover was low throughout the stratum. Vegetation was restricted to the pit lake fringe and isolated plants in other portions of the stratum. Hillsolpes between pit levels were also sometimes vegetated, as shown in the middle left photograph.

Figure 4-9. Representative Field Photographs of Baccharis and/or Burro Bush Communities in the Copper Flat Mine Permit Area, 2011



Baccharis and burro bush were observed throughout Greyback Arroyo and the bottom of diversion channel, often co-habitating sites Baccharis showed indications of moisture stress, with dead upper branches and new shoots at the base. Baccharis also appeared to prefer slightly higher soil moisture than burro bush. Burro bush generally extended higher up terraces than Baccharis. Baccharis was a common colonizer of the channel bottom. Figure 4-10. Representative Field Photographs of Cottonwood or Goodding's Willow Communities in the Copper Flat Mine Permit Area, 2011



Isolated patches of cottonwood and Goodding's willow trees inhabited Greyback Arroyo. Cottonwood had a wider distribution than Goodding's willow at the mine site. Cottonwood trees were observed as isolated patches north of the pit lake and varoius locations along the arroyo. Both species were most abundant in the bottom of the arroyo just east of the manin entrance to the mine. Standing water was also observed in a small depression within a Goodding's willow community. This location contained the most desirable riparian habitat observed in the permit area.

Figure 4-11. Representative Field Photographs of Saltcedar Communities in the Copper Flat Mine Permit Area, 2011



Saltcedar communities have invaded portions of Greyback Arroyo through the permit area, as well as, the fringe of the pit lake. The top three photographs show typical characteristics of saltcedar dominated communities adjacent to the pit lake. The bottom two photos show typical habitat along the arroyo. The community on the bottom left photograph was located near the mine entrance gate. Figure 4-12. Representative Field Photographs of Isolated Wetland Plant Communities in the Copper Flat Mine Permit Area, 2011



Isolated wetland plant communities were observed at the Copper Flat Mne permit area. The top three photographs show a Goodding's willow dominated wetland community. A narrow strip of obligate wetland plants was also observed along the open water fringe. Heavy livestock use was evident at this location. A cattail community was observed along the wetland fringe as depicted in the bottom two photos.

Figure 4-13. Representative Field Photographs of Isolated Arizona Sycamore Recruitment Observations in the Las Animas Creek Study Area, 2011



Sexual recruitment (gamets) of Arizona sycamore is an isolated, rare phenomenon in the Las Animas Creek study area. Pockets of seedling or sapling size individuals were observed, however, along a short section of the study area (top three photos). Recruitment potential was often restricted to the bottom of the channel or the bank edge - which increases their vulnerability to becoming uprooted during flash flood events. Ramet production was more common along the study reach (bottom two photographs) than gamet production. Figure 4-14. Representative Field Photographs of the Active Channel Condition in the Las Animas Creek Study Area, 2011



All of the Las Animas Creek Study Area was on private property. Private residences and other structures (top photograph) have been constructed just above the active channel. The creek bed has been canalized during past projects (middle right photograph) and current projects (middle left photograph) to contain the channel and protect homes from flooding are ongoing. Vegetation has been removed during construction in portions of the study area. These projects reduced the potential for natural recruitment and may also encourage drops in the groundwater elevation. The creek bottom geomorphology was similar to an arroyo upstream (bottom left photograph) and downstream of canalized segments. Surface flows were observed in short stretches of the creek (middle right photograph) and side channels with active alluvial deposition (bottom right) were rarely encountered.

Figure 4-15. Representative Field Photographs of Arizona Sycamore Reference Trees in the Las Animas Creek Study Area, 2011



The Lower Animas Valley contains the eastern-most population of naturally occuring Arizona sycamores in New Mexico (top photo). A total of 25 reference trees were marked and measured in September 2011. A broad range of conditions and sizes were captured. Tagged and measured trees also captured trees through the upstream and downstream reaches of the study area. The middle left photograph shows the youngest reference trees. Stressed individuals (middle right photo) were also documented. The bottom left photograph shows one of the larger reference trees. While the bottom right photograph includes a pole-sized individual, which was the western-most sycamore in the study area.

Figure 4-16. Representative Field Photographs of Baccharis Dominated Communities in the Percha Creek Study Area, 2011



Baccharis was the most widespread species observed along Percha Creek. It commonly colonized the channel bottom and low banks along nearly the entire study reach. Through portions with no perennial flow (bottom two and middle right photos), it grew on the bottom of the dry creek bed. Dense thickets lined the active channel in perennial reaches (top and mid-left photos). Stressed individuals were observed in portions of the non-perennial reaches (middle right photo) but plants appeared vibrant overall.





Goodding's willow was common along the entire perennial reach of Percha Creek. It was the most abundant riparian tree species through Percha Box (top photograph). Favorable conditions for seedling recruitment still exist at Percha Creek. Several age cohorts were observed - ranging from seedlings to saplings to large old trees.



Cottonwood was a common inhabitant of the riparian communities just downstream of Percha Box (top three photographs). This species was much less common outside of this portion of the Percha Creek Study Area. Isolated patches occurred both upstream and downstream of Percha Box. Cottonwoods were restricted to around homes and small off-channel stands downstream of Percha Box (bottom left photo). Smaller individuals showed signs of moisture stress (bottom right photo) upstream of Percha Box.

Figure 4-19. Representative Field Photographs of Coyote Willow Dominated Communities in the Percha Creek Study Area, 2011



Coyote willow was sporadic in the Percha Creek Study Area. Stands were most common through Percha Box, as shown in the top three photographs, though it was a much less common understory component than Baccharis. It cohabitated sites with Gooding's willow through Percha Box Coyote willow was also observed in a depression south of the active channel in the dry creek bed just downstream of the bridge crossing in Hillsboro (bottom left photo). Small, isolated patches were also observed along the bank (bottom right photo) just downstream of Hillsboro.

Figure 4-20. Representative Field Photographs of Little Walnut Dominated Communities in the Percha Creek Study Area, 2011







Little walnut was observed both upstream and downstream of Percha Box, though relatively infrequently. Most of the individuals located during our field assessent showed signs of moisture stress, as depicted in the photographs above. Many trees had dead upper branches. Trees had died at one location shown in the bottom right photograph.
Figure 4-21. Representative Field Photographs of Siberian Elm and Tree of Heaven Dominated Communities in the Percha Creek Study Area, 2011



Two state-listed noxious weeds were observed in the Percha Creek Study Area. Tree of heaven and Siberian elm have invaded areas just downstream of the bridge crossing in Hillsoboro. All of the photographs above show trees in this location. Tree of Heaven was restricted to this general location. A small patch of Siberian elm trees was also observed downstream of Percha Box.



Z:\PROJECTS\Sierra County\NMCCComprehensiveGISDatabase\MapDocs\BDR Report Maps\Wildlife\Figure 5-1. Wildlife Habitat in Permit Area 123011.mxd

Parametrix Source(s): Mine Permit Boundary: New Mexico Copper Corporation; Sampling Strata: Parametrix Base Map: Bing Imagery, served from ESRI Online 0 500 1,000 2,000 Feet Legend Copper Flat Mine Permit Area General Wildlife Habitat Type Access Road Chihuahuan Desert Grassland Chihuahuan Desert Shrubland Pit Pit Lake Riparian Tailings Dam Disturbed Areas/ Waste Rock Piles Map Projection = UTM, NAD 1983, Zone 13N, meters Map created by Chad McKenna and Jim Glassley. Parametrix, Inc. 12/30/2011

Figure 5-1 Wildlife Habitat Types at Copper Flat Mine Site

New Mexico Copper Corporation



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New Mexico Copper Corporation





Z:\PROJECTS\Sierra County\NMCCComprehensiveGISDatabase\MapDocs\BDR Report Maps\Wildlife\Figure 5-5 Bird Point Counts 123011.mxd





Z:\PROJECTS\Sierra County\NMCCComprehensiveGISDatabase\MapDocs\BDR Report Maps\Wildlife\Figure 5-7 Small Mammal Trapping 123011.





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from McLemore et al., 2000; Dunn, 1982; Hedlund, 1985

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-New Mexico State Plane West, NAD 1927

Projection Information:

Figure 8-1 Map of Drainage Basins New Mexico Copper Corporation





Figure 8-3 Las Animas Creek Flow Chart New Mexico Copper Corporation

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Figure 8-6 Percha Creek Flow Chart New Mexico Copper Corporation





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Geologic Source: USGS OFR 97-0052 modified

Figure 8-10. Map showing regional geology.

Explanation

Quate	rnary
Qa	alluvium
Qp	piedmont alluvial deposits
QI	landslide deposits
Quaternary and Tertiary	
QTs	Upper Santa Fe Group
QTb	basaltic and andesite volcanics
Tertiary	
Tli	quartz monzonites
Tlrf	silicic flows
Tual	basItic andesites
Tlv	volcanic rocks, undifferentiated
Tlrp	silicic pyroclastic rocks
Tla	Lower Tertiary andesite and basaltic flows
Turf	silicic flows
Ti	Tertiary instrusive rocks
Tsf	Lower and Middle Santa Fe Group
Tos	sedimentary and volcaniclostic rocks
Tpb	basalt and andesite flows
Tuv	volcanic rocks, undifferentiated
Tv	silicic flows
Tertiary and Cretaceous	
TKi	Upper Cretaceous intrusive rocks
Cretaceous	
Ki	Uppermost Cretaceous instrusive rocks
Ka	Uppermost Cretaceous andesite flows
Paleozoic	
Pz	Paleozoic rocks, undivided
Pa	Abo Formation
PIP	Permian and Pennsylvanian rocks, undivided
₽	Pennsylvanian rocks, undivided
₽m	Madera Limestone
SO€	Silurian through Cambrian rocks, undivided
M€	Mississippian through Cambrian rocks, undivided
Precambrian	
Yp	Middle Proterozoic plutonic rocks
	line of section
Ē	mine permit boundary

Yp

SOE





Figure 8-12. Map showing location of crystalline bedrock, Santa Fe Group sediments, and alluvial aquifer zones.

JOHN SHOMAKER & ASSOCIATES, INC.







Figure 8-14. Regional 2011 groundwater elevation contours.

Source: NAIP 2009 imagery, RGIS.

- JOHN SHOMAKER & ASSOCIATES, INC. -





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Figure 8-19. Aerial photograph showing water-level elevation contours and direction of groundwater flow for the Copper Flat Mine pit lake area, Sierra County, New Mexico.



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INT

Uranium=0.03

Trends in Metals in Well GWQ96-22A







Figure 8-26. Map of project area showing Copper Flat Mine permit boundary, water supply wells, and region of baseline groundwater data collection.



Figure 8-27. Aerial photograph showing pumping and observation wells from historic pumping test.

JOHN SHOMAKER & ASSOCIATES, INC.



Notes:

NMWQCC = New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission Non-detect measurements are plotted at half the analyte detection limit.

NMWQCC Groundwater Standards (mg/L)

Sulfate = 600.0 Total Dissolved Solids = 1000.0



Figure 8-28 Trends in Sulfate and TDS in Well NP-2







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Trends in Sulfate and TDS In Well NP-4



Figure 8-31. Hydrograph location map.

Source: NAIP 2009 imagery, RGIS.

– JOHN SHOMAKER & ASSOCIATES, INC. –



Figure 8-32. Map of artesian well inventory.

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Figure 8-34. Map of artesian well inventory along Las Animas Creek.

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Figure 8-40. Aerial photograph showing pumping and observation wells proposed for pumping test.

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-New Mexico State Plane West, NAD 1927

Projection Information:

Disturbance from Prior Mining Operations **New Mexico Copper Corporation**