

Subject	RE: Roca Honda SAP notification
From	Sivinski, Robert, EMNRD
To	Economy, Kathleen, EMNRD
Sent	Wednesday, May 27, 2009 8:21 AM

My concerns combine a rare plant species with hydrology. Parish's alkali grass occurs on wet, highly alkaline or salty soils around low elevation springs and seeps – not in the adjacent mountains. I know it occurs in the saltgrass cienega around a spring about 2 miles west of San Mateo (Bridge Spring on SAP map page 8-3) and probably on the adjacent North Spring and South Spring along San Mateo Creek. The surface water hydrology section in the Roca Honda SAP will investigate these springs, but a botanist and hydrologist also should look at them. Do all the springs and seeps along San Mateo Creek have Parish's alkali grass? And will the ground water that supplies these surface springs be diminished or polluted by the mining operation?

From: Economy, Kathleen, EMNRD
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 4:39 PM
To: Sivinski, Robert, EMNRD
Cc: Shepherd, Holland, EMNRD; Thomas, Charles, EMNRD
Subject: RE: Roca Honda SAP notification

Thanks Bob,

Can I get a bit more information from you that can help me send your concerns to Strathmore? That is, please couch your comment as it would pertain to the sampling and analysis plan (the SAP)? Remember, the SAP is to assure that they will collect the necessary data and analyze the current ecosystem such that the mining will minimally impact the current status of the immediate and surrounding area. That is, given what they propose to do—as stated in the SAP—in what section do they need to provide a 'plan' that will acknowledge, specify, provide analysis and data collection of the current ecosystem that supports the growth of Parish's alkali grass?

Regards,

Kathleen Economy

Reclamation Specialist-Hydrologist

New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division
Mining Act Reclamation Program
Abandoned Mine Land Program

1220 South St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505
505-476-3434

From: Sivinski, Robert, EMNRD

Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 4:26 PM
To: Economy, Kathleen, EMNRD
Cc: Shepherd, Holland, EMNRD
Subject: RE: Roca Honda SAP notification

Hi Kathleen,

I do have a comment on the Roca Honda Mine after all – hopefully this email will suffice. If uranium mining is to resume in this area, I am concerned about the aridland springs in the lower San Mateo drainage and the Lee Ranch area. Aridland springs are very rare and unique ecosystems and these in particular are known habitats for Parish's alkali grass (*Puccinellia parishii*), which is on the list of New Mexico endangered plant species. The NM Endangered Plant Species Act does not protect listed species from mining impacts, but does indicate rare plants that are of concern to the state. There are no springs in the proposed Roca Honda Mine permit area, but mining impacts to spring flows and water quality in adjacent areas should be carefully considered.

Best Regards,,,
Bob Sivinski, Botanist
EMNRD-Forestry Division
505-476-3347

From: Economy, Kathleen, EMNRD
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 3:00 PM
To: Sivinski, Robert, EMNRD
Cc: Shepherd, Holland, EMNRD; Thomas, Charles, EMNRD
Subject: FW: Roca Honda SAP notification

Hi Bob,
Thanks for talking with me.
Here is the information about Roca Honda mine permit. Our deadline for comments is May 29th. I would appreciate your looking at the appropriate sections and providing a review.

Regards,

Kathleen Economy
Reclamation Specialist-Hydrologist

New Mexico Mining and Minerals Division
Mining Act Reclamation Program
Abandoned Mine Land Program

1220 South St. Francis Drive

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505
505-476-3434

This email is a notification that an electronic copy of the SAP can be obtained by going to the New Mexico MMD Website given below, then clicking on *MK025RN Roca Honda*:

<http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/MMD/MARP/MARPNewPermitApplicationsandCloseoutPlans.htm#MineNewReg>