

KutchoCr

884728

VCS → Reg. Mgr  
- Smithers

**Schroeter, Tom EM:EX**

**From:** Bergen, Wally EM:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 23, 1998 4:01 PM  
**To:** Beresford, Eric; Beswick, Ed; Booth, Richard; Braidwood, Brian; Carter, Tom; Castillo, Talitha; Cheetham, Pat; EM MB Smithers DL; Errington, John; Finvers, Maija; German, Gerald; Hall, Ted; Hermann, Fred; Hesketh, Joan; Hoffman, Al; Jorgensen, Sharon; McKillop, Greg; McLaren, Graeme; Phelan, Bill; Ross, Paul; Schroeter, Tom; Starkes, Terri; Stewart, Gregg; Stewart, Linda; Whale, Andrew  
**Subject:** FW: NW Region Weekly Report to December 23, 1998

**From:** Bergen, Wally EM:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 23, 1998 4:00 PM  
**To:** Bergen, Wally; Burchett, Esther; Daniel, Catherine; Ennis, Sandee; Flynn, Doug; Good, Bryan; Graff, Bruce; Hanson, Daryl; Kunschuh, Elaine; Malott, Mary Lou; Pardee, Jill; Price, Bill; Wojdak, Paul  
**Subject:** NW Region Weekly Report to December 23, 1998

**MINES**

On December 16 Tim Eaton and representatives from Huckleberry Mine provided a briefing to MELP staff, Glenda Ferris (member of the Huckleberry Mine ARD Committee) and ministry staff regarding movement within the two retaining dams for the tailings and ARD storage impoundments at Huckleberry Mine. Concerns regarding movement are being addressed through buttressing and improved monitoring of the placement of till and rock material as the dam is being constructed. Increased monitoring is occurring and the movement is anticipated to stop once dam construction is complete. Ongoing monitoring will occur.

*input*  
On December 18 Bruce McLeod of Newhawk Gold Mines Ltd. and Vern Betts of Homestake Canada Inc. presented to the NWMDRC Newhawk's plans for reclamation at the Sulphurets property. Although the company has an extended Mine Development Certificate they do not anticipate going into production in the near future due to depressed gold prices. They propose to dispose of approximately 50,000 cubic metres of acid generating waste rock subaqueously into Brucejack Lake and to remove all exploration and mining material from the site. The company was asked to provide additional information in regarding the potential impact on Brucejack Lake and the receiving environment and they are moving to collect this information. If all concerns are resolved it is anticipated that reclamation work will commence this summer.

Two unusual occurrences at Eskay Creek. In the first a grader operator was cleaning the heater in the cab of a grader and accidentally turned the unit on leading to lost time due to lacerated fingers. In the second a rock fall occurred in an idle heading. No injuries or damage. Both incidents are being investigated.

*Cassiar*  
Approximately 50 tonnes of jade was recovered from the Cassiar waste rock dump by Jedway Enterprises in 1998. No jade mining was done at Serpentine Lake (by Polar Jade) or at Kutcho Creek (by Jade West).

**FIRST NATIONS**

On December 15 the Gitksan First Nation, the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs and line resource ministries met for the first time in 3 years discuss mutual respect, understanding and consultation. The meeting was a result of **A Reconciliation Agreement Between Her Majesty the Queen In Right of British Columbia and The Hereditary Chiefs of the Gitksan**. The parties agreed to prepare Terms of Reference for future discussions, a mandate statement for the intent of the table and priorities for items to be discussed. Further meetings are scheduled for January.

**EXPLORATION**

On December 17 Paul provided a presentation to NVI staff of an overview of mineral exploration in the NW during 1998. This was the same presentation that he gave to the Yukon Geoscience Forum in Whitehorse. Staff found the presentation very informative.