

Central City/Clear Creek Superfund Site

Community Involvement Plan Update

Gilpin and Clear Creek Counties, Colorado

September 2009

**Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South, B2
Denver, CO 80246-1530
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**Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment**



Central City/Clear Creek Community Involvement Plan Update

SECTION 1

Background

This Community Involvement Plan revision for the Central City/Clear Creek Superfund Site (Site) is intended to reflect the changes, both actual and as perceived by the community, since the original 1989 plan was last revised in September 2004.

This Central City/Clear Creek Community Involvement Plan (**CIP**)* has been prepared pursuant to Sections 113(k)(13)(i-v) and 117 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (**CERCLA**), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (**SARA**) and in accordance with the current U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (**EPA**) Superfund guidance, including the *Superfund Community Involvement Handbook* (2005). The handbook outlines the community involvement requirements of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act and as stipulated in the regulations that interpret the Superfund legislation: the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (**NCP**) requires the EPA, or the state in state-lead sites, to develop and manage community involvement efforts at both fund-lead and enforcement-lead sites. At fund-lead sites, cleanup is paid for with 90 percent Superfund money and a 10 percent state match. At enforcement-lead sites, cleanup is paid for by Potentially Responsible Parties (**PRPs**). At federal sites, the federal government is always the lead and pays 100 percent of the costs.

Once the site has been listed on the National Priorities List (**NPL**) for Superfund, community involvement efforts become an integral part of site activities. The site in this case includes the 400-square-mile Clear Creek basin and study area, which includes parts of Clear Creek and Gilpin counties. The Site, originally made up of five mines, was modified to encompass the entire basin as its study area in 1998. The Site was originally listed on the NPL September 8, 1983. For the first two Records of Decision (**RODs**), the EPA was the lead agency. For RODS 3 and 4, the state assumed the lead.

This revision of the 2004 revision of the Community Involvement Plan, based on community interviews, describes the community involvement and public participation program developed for the Central City/Clear Creek Superfund Site jointly by the EPA and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (**CDPHE**). The original plan was developed by the EPA in 1987, a new plan was produced by the state again in June 1989, followed by a broad communications strategy in November 1990. The plan was revised by the state in 1994 and again in 2004. The current revision was triggered by the Five Year Review of the whole Site.

*Words or acronyms in **bold face** appear in an Acronym list as Appendix F.

Purpose

The purpose of community involvement is to provide opportunities for the community to learn about the Site, to ensure the public adequate opportunities for public involvement in remediation decisions and to determine, based on community interviews and other relevant information, appropriate community involvement activities. The community interviews form the foundation for developing the most effective means of disseminating information to the community.

Objectives of the Community Involvement Plan

- To ensure communication among the community, EPA and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- To develop and maintain open communication with community leaders and any other interested or affected groups
- To provide appropriate opportunities for the community to learn about the Central City/Clear Creek Superfund Site and to inform community members about the environmental remediation actions at the various locations within the Site
- To encourage community involvement by conducting interactive activities and providing accurate, timely information about the clean-up activities and other important technical and administrative matters
- To ensure appropriate opportunities for public involvement by conducting interactive activities and providing accurate, timely information about clean-up activities and other important technical and administrative matters
- To ensure appropriate opportunities for public involvement and to receive feedback from the community
- To identify and monitor community concerns and information needs

The information obtained through community interviews represents the interviewee's opinions, concerns and preferences, regardless of whether the responses are factually accurate or technically correct. Comments, while sometimes quoted exactly, are not attributed to individuals in order to promote candor.

SECTION 2

Site Location and Description

Since this Site was listed on the NPL in 1983, focus has shifted from the original task of dealing with five specific mining tunnels and their waste piles, recommending passive water treatment (Phase I, Record of Decision (ROD) 1). A second ROD addressed the waste piles of those five tunnels. In both of those efforts, EPA was the lead agency. Phase II of the project included reassessing the Site using a watershed approach and included in Phase II the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (**RI/FS**). The Operable Unit 3 (**OU3**) ROD calls for remediation of the Argo and Burleigh Tunnels and approximately 20 waste piles, as well as an assessment of private drinking water wells in the area, with the state of Colorado in the lead role. This effort led to ROD 3.

Remediation of mine waste rock piles and tailings identified for erosion control, capping or removal under the Record of Decision for Operable Unit Number 4 (OU4) was initiated in 2007 and will continue into fall 2009. Additionally, the state acquired a mining-impacted property in 2008 for the purpose of constructing a Site-wide mine waste repository. The repository was constructed to consolidate and manage mine waste rock and tailings on-site, opposed to transporting the wastes off-site to a landfill.

However, remedial actions are not complete at this Site. Three OU4 mine adit discharges require treatment; the Quartz Hill tailings impoundment requires stabilization; a flow-through bulkhead, considered under OU3 for the Argo Tunnel to eliminate future surge events, should be implemented; and the OU4 Phase III sediment and erosion control project and North Fork stream improvements require completion.

Additionally, five mine waste rock piles located at the headwaters of Virginia Canyon in Clear Creek County need to be considered for removal to enhance the OU3 remedy, to eliminate further erosion of these piles and to prevent the release of metals-laden sediment to Clear Creek. This project is economically viable with the construction of the Site-wide repository in 2008. Previously, this project was not viable due to the prohibitive cost to remove and haul the waste rock to a landfill.

Site History

Efforts toward the remediation of this Site have been joint and cooperative between EPA and CDPHE, regardless of which agency has had the lead on a particular aspect of the project.

But much has changed in the area since the original Site investigation in 1983. In November 1990 limited stakes gambling was approved by Colorado voters for the towns of Black Hawk and Central City, both in Gilpin County and only a mile or two apart. Relying increasingly on a tourism, rather than a mining economy, Gilpin County began low-stakes gaming in October 1991, and much of the property in those towns was bought for casino development and related uses, such as parking, administrative offices, etc. Land, which had been held by families for years, or which had been bought with a view toward future reprocessing of mine tailings, increased in value many times over, as did property taxes. Relatively unusable parcels of land within the gaming district were reassessed, and in some cases the new taxes were prohibitive for the owner, even though there was no perceived market for the property at the new price. Over the years since, large casinos have come to dominate Black Hawk, while many smaller casinos, in some cases preserving the original store fronts, are more the norm in Central City. As the economy shifted quickly toward gaming, local community shops and services, many in buildings from the early 1900s, were rapidly converted to casinos, and the characteristics of the historic mining towns changed dramatically.

The results of increased land values also affected the Superfund process in the area. Developers of casinos, many developed independently and then acquired by larger casinos already operating elsewhere, eagerly excavated soil and rock, removed tailings and rerouted water in consultation with state and EPA project staff to make room for the ancillary services they needed. Roadways were expanded, and Black Hawk and Central City experienced a building boom. The state

proposed that a consortium of town and Gilpin County officials draft procedures and criteria for property development that would be provided to individuals along with their building permits, informing them about the Superfund cleanup and the problems and legal liabilities in moving contaminated soils.

A step-by-step document developed with the assistance of the state became an ordinance for the town of Black Hawk in 1993. Soil metals concentrations figures were taken from that document and now are used as a standard in Gilpin County. Central City adopted the soil concentration levels via a City Council resolution.

Because visitors taking State Highway 119 must drive through Black Hawk to get to Central City, the Central City Business Improvement District spearheaded the construction of the Central City Parkway to take cars directly to Central City from I-70 at exit 243. The 8.4-mile, four-lane highway cost an estimated \$38 million, and was built through a combination of private funding and bonds. The parkway opened in November 2004.

Search for Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPS)

As with many Superfund sites, the question, “who is responsible,” is difficult. Investigations to identify PRPs seek to find out whether property has a financially viable owner to bear the costs of necessary cleanup. Are the owners of problematic former mining sites liable, even if they did nothing to contribute to the contamination? Should anyone be surprised that the ground is laden with minerals in the Colorado Mineral Belt? At all stages of work on these sites, some local residents have said that the Superfund process, devised for industrial sites, is not appropriate for mining sites. Early on, residents required convincing that the metals in the soil could potentially cause human health problems, such as learning and behavioral deficits in children and other neurological problems continuing into later life. The desire for historic preservation sometimes clashed with cleanup proposals, and it was important to avoid interfering with tourist activities and traffic whenever possible.

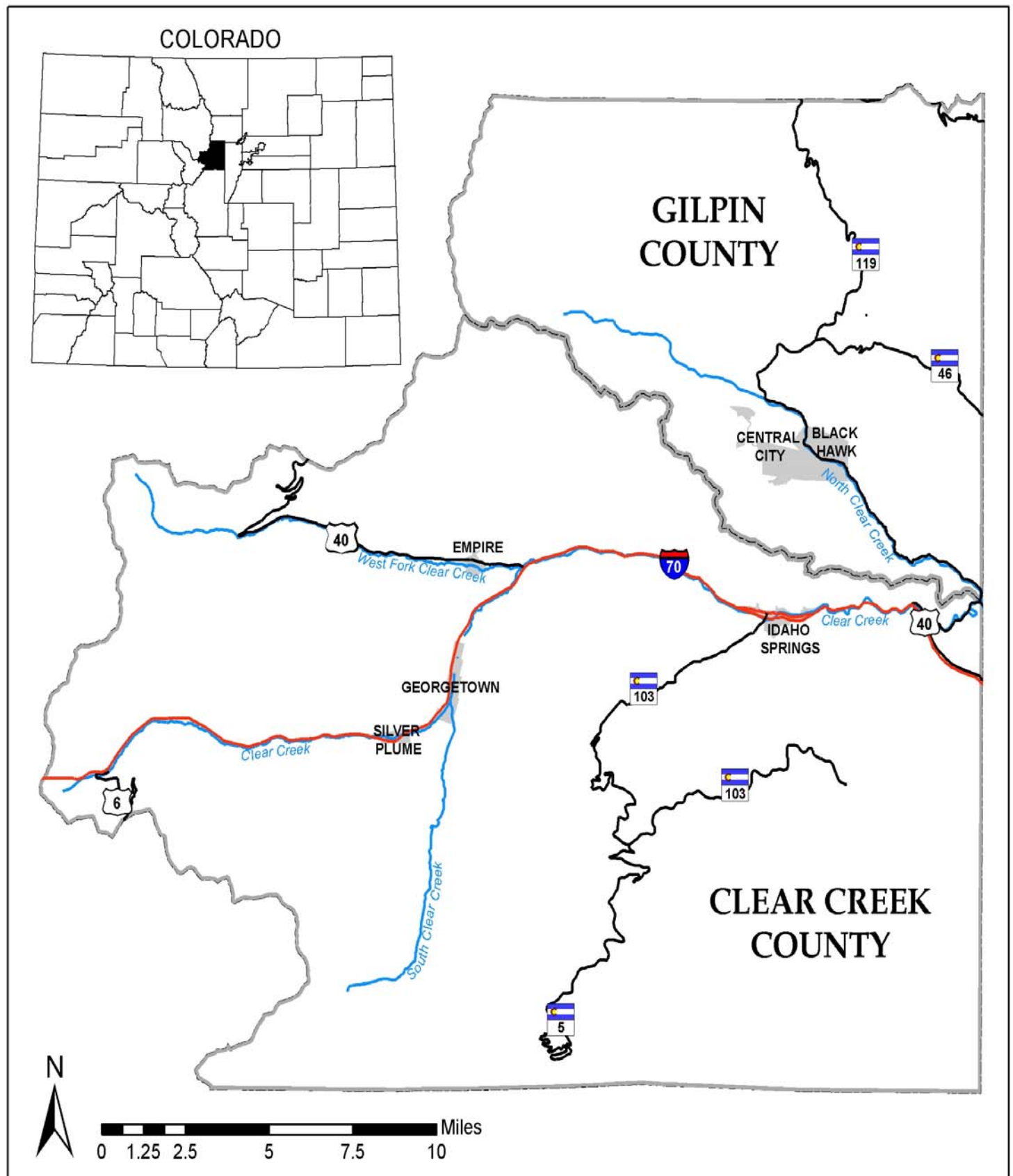
No PRPs were identified in Phase I. In Phase II and following phases, EPA and the state have treated each property individually, location by location. Developers and some mining companies conducted their own cleanups, determined by the state and EPA, using their own funds.

Capsule Site Description

The Site is about 30 to 40 miles directly west of Denver. The Site title refers to the town of Central City and the Clear Creek watershed. Because the two Colorado counties involved are Clear Creek and Gilpin, some of those interviewed previously have said that the site name was a source of some confusion.

Elevations at the site range from about 5,700 feet at the Golden gauging station to more than 14,000 feet along the Continental Divide. Average annual rainfall ranges from less than 15 inches per year in the foothills to more than 40 inches in the high mountains. The basin is drained by Clear Creek, which has three major tributaries, the South Fork, West Fork and North Fork.

Figure 2



Clear Creek water is used for recreational, industrial, agricultural and municipal purposes. Most of the water appropriations occur between Idaho Springs and Golden. A number of Colorado cities (Georgetown, Idaho Springs, Black Hawk, Arvada, Golden, Northglenn, Thornton and Westminster) use Clear Creek water or water from tributaries of Clear Creek for domestic purposes. Recreational use includes fishing, kayaking, rafting, picnicking, camping and hiking.

Ground water in the Clear Creek basin is found in alluvial aquifers along streams, and in shallow fractures, faults and joints that form the fractured bedrock aquifer. The extensive network of mine workings throughout the area provides preferred pathways for ground water.

Vegetation includes Ponderosa pine, juniper and mountain mahogany grasslands on south facing slopes and lower elevations, with Douglas fir communities established on north-facing slopes and at higher elevations. Aspen groves are interspersed, and valley bottom vegetation includes blue spruce, narrow-leaf cottonwood, with willow and river birch at the edge of the floodplains. Alpine tundra is found above the 11,800-foot timberline.

Site Study Organization

Central City/Clear Creek was proposed for the National Priorities List in 1982, and was listed in 1983. At that time the focus was on five mine tunnels: the Gregory Incline and the National (near the Black Hawk), the Argo and the Big Five in Idaho Springs, the Quartz Hill near Central City, plus a remedy for potential surge events at the Argo tunnel near Idaho Springs. The five mine tunnels were classified at Operable Unit (OU) #1, and its Record of Decision was signed in September 1987. The ROD called for passive treatment of mine discharges as the preferred remedial alternative, if passive discharge could be shown via treatability studies to be effective. The ROD allowed the flexibility to install active and passive treatment systems in combination, if necessary. Passive treatment was tested in a project with the Colorado School of Mines in a constructed wetlands west of Idaho Springs later under OU3 actions and at the Burleigh tunnel with a large pilot-scale test. The results showed that passive treatment at the Burleigh was not practical and subsequently, paired with data from other aspects of the project, that the Burleigh's contribution to elevated metals in Clear Creek (zinc, lead and manganese being of greatest concern) was not as significant as originally thought and does not require remediation.

Operable Unit 2, which addressed the waste piles adjacent to the five main tunnels, was established by a Record of Decision signed in March 1988, calling for run-on and run-off controls and slope stabilization of the mine tailings and waste rock piles.

Originally OU3 was intended to address surge events at the Argo tunnel. Its Record of Decision was delayed pending the outcome of what became the Phase II Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS). Consideration of the outcomes of those investigations led to the plan to use passive treatment at the Burleigh, and active chemical treatment at a new water treatment plant serving the Argo tunnel.

The need for OU4 was identified in the OU3 ROD and was developed specifically for the North Fork of the Clear Creek sub-watershed. The OU4 remedial actions address contaminated surface water, ground water and sediment. The cleanup strategies address threats through the capping or

removal of waste piles and treatment of point and non-point sources of surface water contamination.

Potential Risks

The threat to public health and the environment at the site derives from heavy metals liberated by mining and the effects of acid mine drainage (**AMD**) into Clear Creek. The metals of primary concern for aquatic life include aluminum, arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, manganese, silver and lead. The metals of primary concern for human health are arsenic and zinc.

Ingested lead is thought to delay and impede neurological growth in children from birth to 72 months. Exposure to high amounts of lead can be responsible for reductions in gross intelligence and for other neurological deficits. Although in extreme cases action may be taken to purge lead from the body, the primary recommendation to reduce effects in humans is to remove the source of the lead. Lead can cause many symptoms, including fatigue, paleness, irritability, loss of appetite, sleep disturbance, behavior change, kidney damage and abdominal pain.

Symptoms of arsenic exposure include both carcinogenic (cancerous) and noncarcinogenic effects associated with long-term low-level exposures to arsenic. The effects include lung cancer (through inhalation), skin cancer (through ingestion), non-cancerous skin lesions, peripheral nervous system effects and cardiovascular changes. There also is an association between ingestion of inorganic arsenic and lung, liver, kidney and bladder cancers.

In parts of the study area, drinking water from private wells was of concern and, as part of OU3, EPA and CDPHE offered to test wells at no charge and to provide bottled water as a short-term solution if water was not drinkable. Beginning in 1994, 60 homes were tested, and four were found to have water significantly contaminated by metals from Clear Creek. Those four homes received bottled water at no charge until August 2003, when reverse osmosis and other water treatment systems were installed at two homes, and one home was connected to a municipal water supply. No one is being supplied with bottled water currently.

Danger from falls into open mine shafts also was mentioned as a human health risk in the 2004 interviews. Problems with abandoned mines are neither in the scope of EPA nor CDPHE and should be addressed to the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (**DRMS**) in the state Department of Natural Resources (**DNR**). Currently the appropriate contact person is Gary Curtiss (phone 303-866-3567, ext. 8117).

Under an interagency agreement with CDPHE, DRMS hired Berry Excavating to close four mine adits that are located at mine waste piles where CDPHE is or has implemented erosion-protection measures. The State Historical Preservation Office provided coordination and concurrence. These closures were completed in summer 2009.

Heavy metals present a significant risk to aquatic species. Zinc concentrations consistently exceed aquatic-life criteria at many locations in the basin, and copper, cadmium and manganese concentrations frequently exceed standards in specific stream segments.

Contamination also poses a threat to macroinvertebrates, the small insects that are a food source for fish. Some sections of Clear Creek and its tributaries may be lethal to some species of macroinvertebrates, and acute (short-term) effects can be expected in some areas. Other areas have chronic effects that result in less population diversity than would be expected without mine impacts.

Community Background

Clear Creek and Gilpin counties historically had mining as the basis of their economies, with a lesser emphasis on ranching. Gold was discovered near Idaho Springs in 1859 and in the Black Hawk/Central City area in 1860. For the next 20 years, the Black Hawk/Central City area was the leading mining center in Colorado with the construction of mills to process the gold and silver found through placer and hard rock mining. The decline of mining in the area began with the silver crash in the 1890s and the rise of mining in Leadville. However, mining continued to be an important industry in Clear Creek and Gilpin counties from the turn of the century until approximately 1950. Since 1950, mining in the area has been limited, with only a handful of mines currently operating. Tourism and recreation have become an increasingly important part of the counties' economies.

Clear Creek County

Clear Creek County is located 35 miles west of Denver on Interstate 70. Colorado's 39th most populous county, the 2008 population estimate for Clear Creek County is 8,908, down from the 2000 census figure of 9,322. Major towns include the county seat of Georgetown (2007 population estimate: 1,029), Idaho Springs (population 1,757), Empire (population 327) and Silver Plume (population 185). The major towns use different titles for their executives: Idaho Springs has councilmen, while Empire and Silver Plume have trustees.

The population is predominately Caucasian, with Hispanics, American Indians and Asians forming the largest minority groups. The population is split evenly between males and females, and the median age in 2007 was 43.4. The Bureau of Economic Statistics estimates the 2007 per capita personal income to be \$54,704.

Tourism, retailing and services play a significant role in the county's economy, particularly in Idaho Springs and Empire.

Gilpin County

Gilpin County is a rural community in Colorado's high country, neighboring the Continental Divide less than an hour west of downtown Denver. It is the state's second-smallest county in area, and ranks 50th in population out of Colorado's 64 counties. The estimated population for 2008 is 5,153, up from 4,757 in the 2000 census. Major towns are the county seat of Central City (2007 population estimate: 544) and Black Hawk (population 105). The major towns use different titles for their executives: Black Hawk has aldermen, Central City has councilmen and Georgetown has selectmen.

The population is predominately Caucasian, with Hispanics and American Indians forming the largest minority groups. Males outnumber females only slightly, and the median age in 2007 was 41.2. The Bureau of Economic Statistics estimates the 2007 per capita personal income to be \$41,182.

The most recent statistics available showed adjusted gross proceeds from gaming of \$508,685,618 in Black Hawk for 2008, and \$67,112,131 in Central City in the same year. From 2008 to 2009, Black Hawk accounted for 71.2 percent of gaming revenues in the three Colorado towns where gaming is legal, while Central City accounted for just 8.8 percent.

In 2008, voters approved Amendment 50, which allowed the gaming towns of Black Hawk, Cripple Creek and Central City to vote to keep casinos open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and to add roulette and craps to the previously allowed poker, black jack and slot machines. Citizens of the three towns voted overwhelmingly for the change, which took effect July 1, 2009. The measure also increased the current betting limit from \$5 to \$100.

Although it is too early to determine the impact of the changes on gambling revenues, the *Denver Post* reported on June 28, 2009, that the statewide gaming industry had “swelled by more than 750 jobs, hotel in some cities are being snapped up for July and some semblance of a gold rush vibe surrounds the gambling pits.”

The legal changes also have brought changes to the local skyline. A new, 33-story Ameristar casino hotel is set to open this summer in Black Hawk, and the Colorado Gaming Association estimates that 15 other casinos invested approximately \$3 million to spruce up their properties.

Community Issues and Concerns

During the early years much of the planning and development for this project was discussed and developed with the assistance of a Technical Review Committee consisting of local lay people and mining professionals committed to improving the watershed. A later group, which received an EPA Technical Advisory Group (**TAG**) grant, was referred to as the Watershed Advisory Group. Their guidance, input and ongoing time commitment should be acknowledged as an essential part of the development of sound and practical clean-up plans. Subsequently, the Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association (**UCCWA**), which meets monthly, continues as an active forum in which project issues could be discussed. A great many of the “gatekeepers” of information on the needs and priorities of the watershed participate in this group, and it has been a sounding board for clean-up possibilities for Superfund site projects. Updates are provided frequently by the state and EPA.

The Clear Creek Watershed Foundation (**CCWF**) also is a major clearinghouse of information. The organization operates under an action memorandum from EPA, designating the foundation as a Good Samaritan Action Agent. With funding from EPA, the U.S. Forest Service and the state’s Water Quality Control Division, the foundation has conducted a number of small clean-up projects that have had a positive effect on water quality in Clear Creek.

At this time there is no active Community Advisory Group (**CAG**) for the Site. However, individuals interviewed for this Community Involvement Plan frequently volunteered unsolicited praise for the project managers and their staff for keeping UCCWA, CCWF and local officials informed. With the departure of longtime project manager Ron Abel, many people expressed the hope that regular communication with project managers would continue.

Historic Issues

It appears that there has always been competition between Gilpin and Clear Creek counties. In the early phases of this project, some Gilpin County residents felt that undue attention was paid to Clear Creek issues, at their expense. The easy access to some Clear Creek destinations that can be seen from I-70 may have given that county more ability to attract tourists than Gilpin County, which was reachable only by Highway 119, a moderately twisting mountain road, until the Central City Parkway was opened in November 2004.

In the early years of this project, there was lively debate over whether the habitat in the North Fork of Clear Creek itself could ever support fish: whether or not it was worth cleaning up in terms of cost/benefit. It was doubtful that a trout fishery could be established. That debate continued, both in the community and within the regulatory agencies, over many years, until a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study was conducted for Clear Creek OU #4, beginning in 2000. Findings showed that with cleanup of mine property waste piles and sediment reduction, it is anticipated that fish could at least survive in the North Fork, if not breed there. The proposed plan was made available to the public in July 23, 2004 and proposed combined active and passive water treatment with sediment reduction in the tributaries and the North Fork of Clear Creek itself. Several public meetings were held to present the proposed alternatives to citizens and elected officials in July and August 2004.

Active construction in OU4 currently is focused on Phase III of mine waste remediation and sediment control, including consolidation of mine wastes at the Church Placer Repository. During the 2009 construction season, some 26,200 cubic yards of mine waste will be moved to the repository.

Project Perception

People we interviewed, particularly those residing in Gilpin County, seemed to have a positive attitude about work on the North Fork of Clear Creek, believing that it will improve water quality and fish habitat in Clear Creek.

Construction Traffic

Although we received only a few comments about increased truck traffic during construction, there have been some complaints from people directly affected by clean-up related traffic in OU4. CDPHE and its contractors are working to mitigate those impacts as much as practicable.

Interagency Participation

The Colorado Department of Transportation (**CDOT**), CDPHE, EPA and the Silver Dollar Metropolitan District (**SDMD**) have joined with other agencies to mitigate mining impacts under Superfund, restore fish and wildlife habitat, and improve transportation safety along the State Highway (SH) 119 corridor between U.S. 6 and Black Hawk.

The North Clear Creek Mitigation Advisory Committee (**NCCMAC**) allows the different entities to share information and coordinate concurrent projects to improve efficiency, prevent duplication and save money.

Cleanup of mine drainage from the National Tunnel near Black Hawk is being coordinated with CDOT's Main Street South, a project to widen SH 119 from two to four lanes for the stretch one mile south of Black Hawk.

A 2008 CDOT curve-straightening project on SH 119, one mile north of US 6 is a good example of inter-agency cooperation under NCCMAC. To enhance the environment of North Clear Creek Canyon, some of the plants removed as part of the project were transplanted to areas around the Black Hawk/Central City Sanitation District Wastewater Treatment Plant. The rock generated by this project was used by CDPHE for cover material at the Church Placer Repository and the Pittsburgh Waste Pile.

One of NCCMAC's goals is to facilitate improvements to North Clear Creek downstream of Black Hawk so the creek may someday support brown trout. Participating agencies include the Colorado Division of Wildlife, Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Colorado School of Mines, University of Colorado, City of Black Hawk, Black Hawk/Central City Sanitation District and Gilpin County.

Information Transfer

Overall, everyone we contacted believes that information on the cleanup is being disseminated effectively. Citizens in both counties read the *Denver Post* and their local county weeklies. Much of the information comes through the Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association and the Clear Creek Watershed Foundation, and people valued the ongoing contacts with CDPHE and EPA project managers.

Duration of Cleanups

Many people, though convinced of the need for cleanup, expressed frustration that it is taking such a long time.

Summary of Most Frequent Comments

1. Most of the people we spoke to were familiar with what has been going on for the last five years. Nearly everyone – especially Clear Creek County residents – were familiar with the Argo Tunnel Water Treatment Plant, and cited it as a primary cause of water-quality improvements in

the main stem of Clear Creek. A few people seemed to be familiar only with activities in the North Fork, but most had a general knowledge of the entire Site.

2. Most people interviewed were pleased with the cleanup activities and considered them to be important, although many people commented that the project is taking a very long time. Several people mentioned improvements to water quality in Clear Creek and pointed to improved fish populations as a positive indicator. One person expressed concern that capping the piles actually disturbed them, and also did not understand why the sediment-control dams were designed so water could flow through them.

3. Asked about project impacts on the surrounding community, many people mentioned positive effects on recreation, including Clear Creek's improved ability to support rafting, fishing, kayaking, inner-tubing and other tourism-related activities. Many people cited positive economic benefits, both from increased tourism and local employment. Other benefits mentioned included positive impacts on downstream users. One person noted that the project has provided additional information on the area for historical review, and two people mentioned negative impacts from truck traffic. Several people complimented the project team for coordination of multiple players.

4. The overwhelming majority of people interviewed did not have concerns about the cleanup. Two people mentioned the need for a Good Samaritan law and one person cited the need for funding to continue an educational watershed display in the Clear Creek County Museum and Visitor Center. Several people expressed the desire for the Burleigh Tunnel to be reassessed. One individual noted that letters to the editor and comments by community members showed that some community members did not have an accurate understanding of the April 15, 2009 release from the Big Five Tunnel or the response to that release.

5. The majority of people interviewed were satisfied with communication and coordination relating to the cleanup. There was widespread praise of the project managers for their efforts to keep UCCWA, CCWF and local governments informed, and people clearly want that interaction to continue. One person complimented the agencies for the readability and information value of recent publications. Several people requested more frequent updates, such as e-mail progress reports or e-mail alerts that new materials are posted on the agency websites. One person talked about how valuable the *WAGline* was before that newsletter ceased publication.

6. The people who reported asking for information had turned to the agencies' project managers and websites, as well as DRMS, the Silver Dollar Metro District and NCCMAC) with their questions. Both UCCWA and the CCWF were identified as major sources of information.

7. Several of those interviewed did look at the local newspapers, the *Denver Post* and Denver television stations. Those papers more frequently read include the *Clear Creek Courant* and the *Weekly Register Call*. Also mentioned were the *Gilpin County News* and the *Mountain Ear* (Nederland). The *Weekly Register Call* and the *Gilpin County News* merged recently, following the death of long time *Register Call* publisher William C. Russell, Jr.

Highlights of the CIP/Recommendations

- Project managers should continue to attend UCCWA meetings to brief the membership and should continue to provide informal updates to UCCWA, the CCWF and local officials as needed.
- Community involvement staff should continue to publish an annual fact sheet detailing milestones from the previous construction season and plans for the upcoming construction season.
- Staff should continue to update the CDPHE and EPA websites.
- The agencies should distribute e-mail updates to UCCWA, CCWF, local officials and other stakeholders as needed.
- The agencies should participate in NCCMAC open houses and events as appropriate.
- Community involvement staff should send project updates, fact sheets and other materials to the media, as well as to the public.
- Community involvement staff should make courtesy calls to the local media as appropriate.

Appendix A – Officials
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Jim Lewis, Virginia Canyon Ground Water, Virginia Canyon Waste Piles, Repository, Burleigh Tunnel, North Fork RI/FS (303) 692-3390 jim.lewis@state.co.us	Warren Smith, Community Involvement Manager (303) 692-3373 warren.smith@state.co.us
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County Elected Officials

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City Officials

Black Hawk	Central City
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City Officials, continued

Georgetown	Idaho Springs
<p>Thomas A. Bennhoff, ex officio Mayor Chuck Stearns, Town Administrator</p> <p><u>Selectmen</u> Thomas A. Bennhoff, Police Judge Lee M. Behrens, Ward I Mathew Skeen, Ward I, Police Judge pro tem John Jackson, Ward II James McCann, Ward II Kathryn Johnson, Ward III Mary Pat Young, Ward III</p> <p>Town Hall 406 6th Street P.O. Box 426 Georgetown, CO 80444 (303) 569-2555 (303) 569-2705 (fax)</p>	<p>Cindy Olson, Mayor Cynthia Condon, City Administrator</p> <p><u>Council Members</u> Dan Abbott, Ward I Rick Adams, Ward I Kate Collier, Ward II John Curtis, Ward II Robert Bowland, Ward III Asta Loevlie, Ward III</p> <p>City of Idaho Springs P.O. Box 907 Idaho Springs, CO80452-0907 (303) 567-4421 (303) 567-4955 (fax)</p>

Appendix B – 2009 Interview Questions

What do you know about the Central City Clear Creek Superfund Site?

What cleanup activities are you aware of involving the site?

What is your overall impression of the cleanup?

What impact, if any have the cleanup operations had on the surrounding community?

Do you have any concerns about the cleanup?

Have you been satisfied with communication and coordination relating to the cleanup?

Have you asked for information? Where did you go or who did you ask, and what information did you get?

Where do you get your news and information?

Can you recommend other people we should talk to?

Do you have anything to add?

Appendix C – Media

<p>Canyon Courier 27902 Meadow Drive #200 Evergreen, CO 80439 www.canyoncourier.com</p> <p>Doug Bell, Editor 303-350-1039 Ian Neligh, Clear Creek Editor 303-567-4491</p>	<p>KCNC - CBS4 1044 Lincoln Street Denver, CO 80203 303-830-6464 www.cbs4denver.com</p> <p>Mountain Bureau Stan Bush, Reporter</p>
<p>Clear Creek Courant 1634 Miner Street PO Box 2020 Idaho Springs, CO 80452-2020 www.clearcreekcourant.com</p> <p>Ian Neligh, Clear Creek Editor 303-567-4491 Doug Bell, Editor 303-350-1039 fax 303-567-0520</p>	<p>KUSA – 9NEWS 500 Speer Blvd. Denver, CO 80203 303-871-1491 www.9news.com</p> <p>Mountain Newsroom Matt Renoux</p>
<p>Denver Post 1560 Broadway Denver, CO 80202 www.denverpost.com</p> <p>303-954-1010 newsroom@denverpost.com</p>	<p>The Mountain-Ear 408 W. 3rd St. Nederland CO 80023 www.themountaineear.com</p> <p>Barbara Hardt-Zeman, Editor 303-258-7075 bhz@themountaineear.com</p>
<p>Golden Transcript 1000 10th St. Golden CO 80401 fax 303-279-7157</p> <p>Joe Ross, Executive Editor 303-279-5541 newsroom@jeffconews.com</p>	<p>Weekly Register-Call/Gilpin County News P.O. Box 93 Blackhawk CO 80422 303-582-0133 www.gilpincountynews.com</p> <p>Aaron Storms, Co-Publisher & Managing Editor David Spellman, Co-Publisher</p>

Appendix D – Information Repositories

Gilpin County Court House

203 Eureka Street
Central City, CO 80427

Clear Creek Watershed Foundation

2060 Miner Street
Idaho Springs, CO 80452
(303) 567-2699
Please call to schedule an appointment.

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Hazardous Materials and Waste
Management Division
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, CO 80246
(303) 692-3331
M-F, 8 a.m.-Noon and 1 p.m.-5 p.m.
An appointment is recommended.

EPA Superfund Records Center

1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202
(303) 312-6473
M-F, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
An appointment is recommended.

View Documents on the Web at:

www.cdphe.state.co.us/hm/ClearCreek/index.htm
www.epa.gov/region08/superfund/co/ccclearcreek

Appendix E – Publications since Last Community Involvement Plan

Explanation of Significant Differences: Big Five Tunnel Discharge, May 2005

Update Fact Sheet, June 2006

Proposed Plan to Amend the Records of Decision for Operable Units 3 and 4 to Add an On-site Repository, June 1, 2006

Amendment to Operable Unit 3 and Operable Unit 4 Records of Decision, September 2006

Update Fact Sheet, September 2007

Update Fact Sheet, fall 2008

Five-Year Review Annual Update, December 2008

News Release – Recovery Act Funding to Accelerate Cleanup, Boost Economy, Create Jobs and Protect Human Health at Colorado’s Clear Creek/Central City Superfund Site, April 15, 2009

Update Fact Sheet, June 2009

Appendix F – Acronyms

AMD	Acid Mine Drainage
CAG	Community Advisory Group
CCWF	Clear Creek Watershed Foundation
CDOT	Colorado Department of Transportation
CDPHE	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (the Superfund law)
CIP	Community Involvement Plan
DNR	Department of Natural Resources
DRMS	Division of Reclamation Mining and Safety
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
HMWMD	Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division
NCP	National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan
NPL	National Priorities List
OU	Operable Unit
PRP	Potentially Responsible Party
RI/FS	Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
ROD	Record of Decision
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986
SDMD	Silver Dollar Metropolitan District
TAG	Technical Assistance Grant
UCCWA	Upper Clear Creek Watershed Association