

## **2013 Former Utica Mine Camp Site field effort**

The information below summarizes the 2013 field effort at the Former Utica Mine Camp Site (Utica).

### Day 1 – Saturday 9/7/2013

James Meyers and Troy Phillips arrived in Deering at 11 am, two rental ATVs were present at the airport. We drove to the washateria to unload gear. At 11:30 am we met with our local hire, Clayton Barr, and laid out our plan to get groceries and fill the ATVs with gas and then head to Utica to perform the mechanics shop building assessment, check the stock pile cover conditions and if time allowed start filling supersacks.

After lunch, 1:00 pm, Clayton and James headed to the IRA to purchase fuel but no one arrived to sell fuel until just before 2:00 pm. By 2:10 pm Clayton, James and Troy were en route to Utica.

We arrived at Utica around 3:00 pm. Troy began assessing the mechanics shop while James and Clayton went to inspect and take photos of the stockpiles and covers. All covers were in good condition and still in place, but the orange plastic barrier fence around the powerhouse excavation needed some patching (animal damage).

At 5:30 pm James and Clayton began uncovering stock piles 4 and 5. Troy arrived after finishing the building assessment and assisted filling a super sack. At 6:30 pm the crew demobilized from the site and returned to Deering, finishing the day by 8:00 pm.

### Day 2 – Sunday 9/8/2013

We met Clayton at the washateria at 8:00 am, got everything loaded and headed to the site by 8:40 am. We stopped by the Utica airstrip 2012 camp site to take photos and re-cover the wood tent floor platforms with tarps. By 10:10 am we were at Utica and started filling supersacks. We broke for lunch at noon then at 12:20 pm James and Clayton resumed filling supersacks while Troy verified some details of his structural assessment. By 4:45 pm all supersacks were filled (12 total) with about 3 cubic yards of dirt left. James and Troy returned to the washateria by 6:15 pm.

### Day 3 – Monday 9/9/2013

At 9:00 am James called Nathan Webb at the WHPacific Anchorage office to request more supersacks. Nathan sent 5 more supersacks on the afternoon Alaska Airlines flight to Kotzebue to be transferred to Bering Air for transport to Deering (likely by Tuesday morning).

### Day 4 – Tuesday 9/10/2013

At 8:30 am James called Bering Air to check on the additional supersacks, Bering Air didn't have them but Alaska Air's tracking system said they transferred them late the night before (Bering wasn't open at the time). Additional investigation revealed that Alaska Air still had the supersacks and transferred them to Bering Air roughly 15 minutes after the morning flight left for Deering. They would have been on the afternoon flight but it was canceled due to poor visibility.

### Day 5 – Wednesday 9/11/2013

Clayton arrived at 9:30 am and James called Bering Air to confirm the supersacks were on the morning flight. At 10:30 am the flight arrived, we met it at the airport and headed directly to Utica. At 11:45 am we arrived at Utica and resumed filling supersacks. At 1:00 pm we finished filling 3 of the additional supersacks (15 total) and staged the remaining 2 empty supersacks in cabin 2 with the extra tarp and liner material.

There was a thin layer of dirt left underneath the previously filled supersacks and some under those we filled to preserve the integrity of the bottom liner under the staged supersacks.

James and Troy returned to the washateria at 2:30 pm to demobilize and catch the afternoon flight to Kotzebue. Both were at the Deering airport by 3:30 pm and arrived in Kotzebue by 4:45 pm. The evening flight from Kotzebue to Anchorage was full so James and Troy spent the night at the Nullagvik hotel.

### Day 6 – Thursday 9/12/2013

At 7:50 am James and Troy took a cab to the Kotzebue airport. The flight departed at 9:30 am and arrived in Anchorage at 11:00 am.



Figure 1: Stockpile 2 – the cover still in position from the previous year



Figure 2: Stockpile 3 – cover still in position from previous year



Figure 3: Drums - cover still in position from previous year



Figure 4: Tent floors and outhouse at the airstrip camp site



Figure 5: Local hire Clayton Barr and Troy filling supersacks at stockpiles 4 and 5



Figure 6: Supersacks filled, covered and awaiting transport