

Grant, Drew

**From:** Hock, Jeff  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 30, 1998 5:01 PM  
**To:** Grant, Drew  
**Subject:** RE:

Good, Drew. Although I forwarded your response to Amy Ash, be sure to forward to appropriate Watershed staff when things like this happen in the future, so they are prepared. Thanks.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Grant, Drew  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 30, 1998 2:56 PM  
**To:** Braley, Susan; Wingerter, Tim; Lamoreaux, Bill; McGee, Pete; Henkins, Deena; Hock, Jeff  
**Cc:** Beelman, Joyce; George, Kenwyn; Sturdevant, Dave  
**Subject:** RE:

Susan:

These waters most certainly hit the 303(d) radar screen and were up for up for serious consideration for listing, and EPA came very close to urging that they be listed. They were nominated by a resident in Nome and I got some good information from Mac McLean (DFG/Fbx) that the waters were in serious trouble but that they were under some sort of restoration/recovery plan via DNR/DivMining-Water and DFG. At the time, Mac gave me the impression that they had confidence in the restoration/recovery plan and the agencies were due to go in the field in the spring to check on compliance with the plan. However I heard from Mac that things went "bust" (no pun intended).

Everything I have heard or been told indicates these creeks are "impaired."

If you recall, Anvil & Dexter were part of the half dozen or so that you conferenced called on with EPA. It was determined from that discussion that:

**"Anvil & Dexter Creeks-**Placer mine settling ponds established on these systems have washed out over the past two years and continue to be breached by operators. An enforcement investigation is underway and water quality problems are being addressed through compliance and enforcement of the NPDES permit. DEC will open a file and maintain vigilance through monitoring and encouragement of improved operator practices."

The operators/operations sound sadly recalcitrant and perhaps in need of a shot of enforcement. Who's operation is this? DNR's? Or BLM's? we should be banging on the landowner to bring these guys into compliance.

These waters dodged listing with the understanding of maintained "vigilance through monitoring and encouragement of improved operator practices" via enforcement and compliance. If these pieces aren't there, then one could have a case for 303(d) listing these waters.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Braley, Susan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 30, 1998 1:45 PM

Grant, Drew

**From:** Ash, Amy [FAIRBANKS/ADEC/aash]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 22, 1998 9:38 AM  
**To:** Grant, Drew  
**Subject:** FW: FW: Anvil and Dexter Creeks -- Nome

Drew, still trying to work out a meeting with Vohden of DOMW re Anvil and Dexter Cks, but, their take on it so far is that it should be Tier III. Sorry for the delay in getting the info to you, DOMW thinks these creeks are more in the mining enforcement realm, vs a full 303d list, but I have been operating under the schedules of others... later, amy del norte'

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**From:** Jim Vohden  
**To:** Ash, Amy  
**Subject:** Re: FW: Anvil and Dexter Creeks—Nome  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 1998 3:49PM

Ok, I throw up my hands in ignorance.....any chance you, me and Ryan Hull can get together Friday afternoon to discuss this?

It seemed to us that by Drew Grant's email, the tier III was more appropriate—to monitor and assess the recovery as planned. But I think we'd both like to get the whole story on it.

--- On 06 May 98 15:06:00 KDT [aash@envircon.state.ak.us](mailto:aash@envircon.state.ak.us) wrote:

Tier II - Waters which have had completed assessments and now require a waterbody recovery plan or a TMDL, amy

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**From:** Jim Vohden  
**To:** Ash, Amy  
**Subject:** Re: FW: Anvil and Dexter Creeks—Nome  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 1998 2:01PM

what is tier II then?

--- On 06 May 98 13:58:00 KDT [aash@envircon.state.ak.us](mailto:aash@envircon.state.ak.us) wrote:

anytime on the Steese, and, NO, I think he meant what he typed "II". amy

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**From:** Jim Vohden  
**To:** Ash, Amy  
**Subject:** Re: FW: Anvil and Dexter Creeks—Nome  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 06, 1998 1:35PM

**To:** Wingerter, Tim; Lamoreaux, Bill; Beelman, Joyce; McGee, Pete; Henkins, Deena; Sturdevant, Dave; Hock, Jeff; George, Kenwyn  
**Cc:** Grant, Drew  
**Subject:** RE:

Wow, that is some serious stuff. I'll ask Drew where these creeks stand on the 303(d) list, if they've even been brought to our attention. But sounds like they definitely need to be followed up on. Thanks for passing on--Susan

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Wingerter, Tim  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 30, 1998 11:48 AM  
**To:** Lamoreaux, Bill; Beelman, Joyce; McGee, Pete; Henkins, Deena; Sturdevant, Dave; Hock, Jeff; George, Kenwyn; Braley, Susan  
**Subject:**

I had a phone call from Bob Russell, (443-5058), the WWTP Supt in Nome. He called about a WW permit issue, but also informed me that the WQ on Anvil and Dexter Creeks has been seriously degraded by mining upstream and that there are very few salmon any more. He has collected samples and run turbidity. He said that he could not even get a reading until he diluted the samples and then got readings in excess of 1000 NTU. Apparently EPA is coming up there in July to inspect the mining operations according to Bob. He said that one of his employees overheard some of the mining folks bragging in the bar that they build the settling ponds so that they wash out in the spring and that way they don't have to clean out the sediment in the ponds. Apparently they also have not done any reclamation at the site either. These creeks should probably be evaluated for the 303 list and we should likely get involved in enforcement if it's really as bad as Bob said. I just wanted to let you folks know in case you want to pursue this further, but you may already be aware of this.....Thanks.....Tim W.

phone call of 4/1

Derrick Leedy (443-2800)

→ concerned that sediment load  
impairing salmon run.

→ 15 of may & 1<sup>st</sup> June EPA water is  
coming

Jim Carpez - EPA/SEA came before, but  
no longer w/ EPA/SEA (transferred)

Betty? - Crutch.  
- has been directed to be on site  
at break up to do work

City of Nemo now requires Watershed Permit

~~Betty~~ started test year w/out a permit  
for a few days

- Dester wasn't mined last year

but gone way -

est. 4,000 NTE

- been going on for final years

- Break up May 20 or so.

- poorly reclaimed.

- Anvil has two unburied oil tanks

Burt Redgreen.

Nomers consider them outsiders (from  
down south)

City may seek water rights set aside.

\*Talk to Ryan Hull & MacMcLean.

Charlie Lean local Nemo

DE/DW

Lee Johnson  
supposed  
to be drilling  
test well

**Subject:** [Fwd: Photos]

**Date:** Fri, 04 Feb 2000 11:50:39 -0800

**From:** Joran Freeman <[jfreeman@nshcorp.org](mailto:jfreeman@nshcorp.org)>

**To:** [leedy@nook.net](mailto:leedy@nook.net)



**Subject:** Photos

**Date:** Wed, 02 Feb 2000 09:55:48 -0800

**From:** Joran Freeman <[jfreeman@nshcorp.org](mailto:jfreeman@nshcorp.org)>

**To:** [leedy@nook.net](mailto:leedy@nook.net)

