

Michigan Eagle Mine Exception Report

Eagle Mine must file an “exception” report to the state of Michigan each year

- https://www.eaglemine.com/_files/ugd/145c36_9fc08b466c944ef8a22dd0a5c5ff9642.pdf
- Annual Mining and Reclamation Report, Eagle Mine, LLC. Nonferrous Metallic Mineral Mining Permit (MP 01 2007)

Eagle Mine Anomalies Reported

- The Report listed at least 17 monitoring events that show levels of pollution and water chemistry changes outside the planned benchmark range.
- For example, at monitor point QAL023B, the mean water level readings from October 2019 – September 2020 were a maximum of 1.7 feet (ft) below the calculated minimum baseline level.
- The report also notes that water levels have generally increased in the region since the baseline was set.
- Mine attributed this drop in water levels to two main sources; pumping of the mine services well and groundwater infiltration into the mine.
- This drop in water levels is then due to an average pumping requirement of 80,000 to 150,000 gallons a day from the mine and service wells.
- **If 1.7’ drop is seen at these pumping rates, what happens at the Talon site where Talon estimates 2,600,000 gallons pumped per day?**

Additional Eagle Mine Anomalies Reported

- Many monitoring points showed sulfate levels 1500 times higher than the MN standard for sulfates in wild rice environments.
- Water levels at many of the wetland monitoring locations fell **up to six inches below pre-mining baseline levels** in face of the fact that regionally, the overall water levels have been increasing since the baseline was established.
- TDRSA (Temporary Development Rock Storage Area) is lined with both a primary and secondary lining.
 - A leak detection system is installed between the liners to monitor primary lining integrity
 - A total of approximately 55 gallons of water was purged from the leak detection sump in 2020, a larger volume than 2019.
 - Thus we see that the lining system does leak after only a few years of operation
 - The leak levels are currently very small at this point but as noted in the document, increasing slightly over time.

About the Michigan Eagle Mine

- Eagle mine extracted 758,398 tonnes of ore in 2020 – Talon, plans to extract about 1,300,000 tonnes per year, approximately 70% more than Eagle Mine.

Only 0.6% of the world’s supply of Nickel comes from the US
US only possesses 0.375% of the worldwide reserves of Nickel
Should we not save our meager reserves for the future?
(all US Nickel reserves are in upper Michigan and Minnesota)

From the USGS <https://pubs.usgs.gov/periodicals/mcs2022/mcs2022-nickel.pdf>

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