SCW
053 0531

Simplot

J.R. Simplot Company
P.O. Box 912,
Pocatello, Idaho 83204

208 235-5600 Business

February 9, 2018

Arthur Burbank
USDA Forest Service
4350 South Cliffs Dr.
Pocatello, ID 83204

Subject: Selenium Removal Treatment Technology
Water Treatment Pilot Study
January 2018 Progress Report

Dear Art,

This progress report summarizes key activities in January 2018 associated with Phase 2 of the Water Treatment Pilot Study located near Hoopes Spring. This Pilot Study is being conducted as part of the Smoky Canyon Mine Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) to provide information on the effectiveness of the active biological treatment system in removing selenium and other COPCs from South Fork Sage Creek Springs and Hoopes Spring.

Work related to the approved Phase 2 Pilot Study continues at the site in accordance with the Final *Phase 2 Pilot Study Work Plan and Sampling and Analysis Plan, Ultra-Filtration/Reverse Osmosis and Biological Selenium Removal Fluidized Bed Bioreactor Treatment Technology* (Phase 2 WP/SAP).

Identification of Deliverables and Data Transmittals

There were no outstanding deliverables or transmittals for the month of January.

Completed Activities

The following activities associated with the Phase 2 Pilot Study were completed in January 2017:

- Continued system startup to achieve steady state operation and treatment of selenium
- Began commissioning of the biosolids dewatering system.

Attached are graphs of the operational startup data. Figure 1 shows the influent and the effluent selenium concentrations and the observed percent selenium removal since full scale startup. The average Treatment System Pilot (TSP) influent and effluent concentration were respectively 136 ug/L and 8.2 ug/L during the last month. This represents an average 94% total selenium removal.

Figure 2 shows the average system flows. The average flow of the TSP was 1,829 gpm for January. The days that the flow was below 1,500 gpm are typically days that one of the reverse osmosis (RO) units was undergoing a cleaning cycle. During these cleaning cycles the flow is approximately 1/3 less than normal since one of the three units is not in production. Since full scale operations began in early December 2017 a total of 149 million gallons of impacted water has been treated.

USEPA SF
1561459

J.R. Simplot Company
P.O. Box 912,
Pocatello, Idaho 83204

208 235-5600 Business

Upcoming Activities

The following activities associated with the Phase 2 Pilot Study are planned through February 2018:

- Continue system startup to achieve steady state operation and treatment of selenium.
- Establish initial steady state operation and begin system monitoring in accordance with the sampling and analysis plan (planned for February 14).
- Complete commissioning of the biosolids dewatering system and begin dewatering solids.

Please contact me if there are questions regarding this monthly progress report.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Hamilton
Environmental Engineer

cc:

Arthur Burbank – USFS, 410 East Hooper, Soda Springs, ID 83276
Sherri Stumbo – USFS, 4350 South Cliffs Dr., Pocatello, ID 83204
Rick McCormick – CH2M, email only
Doug Scott – CH2M, email only
Doug Tanner – IDEQ, email only
Brady Johnson – IDEQ, email only
Kathryn Venable – IDEQ, email only
Colleen O'Hara – BLM, 4350 South Cliffs Dr., Pocatello, Idaho 83204
Matt Wilkening – USEPA, email only
Sandi Fisher – USFWS, email only
Jeremy Moore – USFWS, 4425 Burley Dr., Suite A, Chubbuck, ID 83202
Kelly Wright –Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, P.O. Box 306, Fort Hall, ID 83203
Susan Hanson – (b) (6)
Gary Billman – IDL, email only
Alan Prouty – J.R. Simplot Company, email only
Burl Ackerman – J.R. Simplot Company, email only
Lori Hamann – J.R. Simplot Company, email only
Jon Witt – J.R. Simplot Company, 1099 West Front Street, Boise, ID 83702
Dedra Williams – J.R. Simplot Company, email only
Chad Gentry – J.R. Simplot Company, email only
Ron Quinn – J.R. Simplot Company, P.O. Box 1270, Afton, WY 83110
Andy Koulermos – Formation Environmental, email only
Lily Vagelatos – Formation Environmental, email only
Jeremy Aulbach – Brown and Caldwell, email only

J.R. Simplot Company
P.O. Box 912,
Pocatello, Idaho 83204

208 235-5600 Business

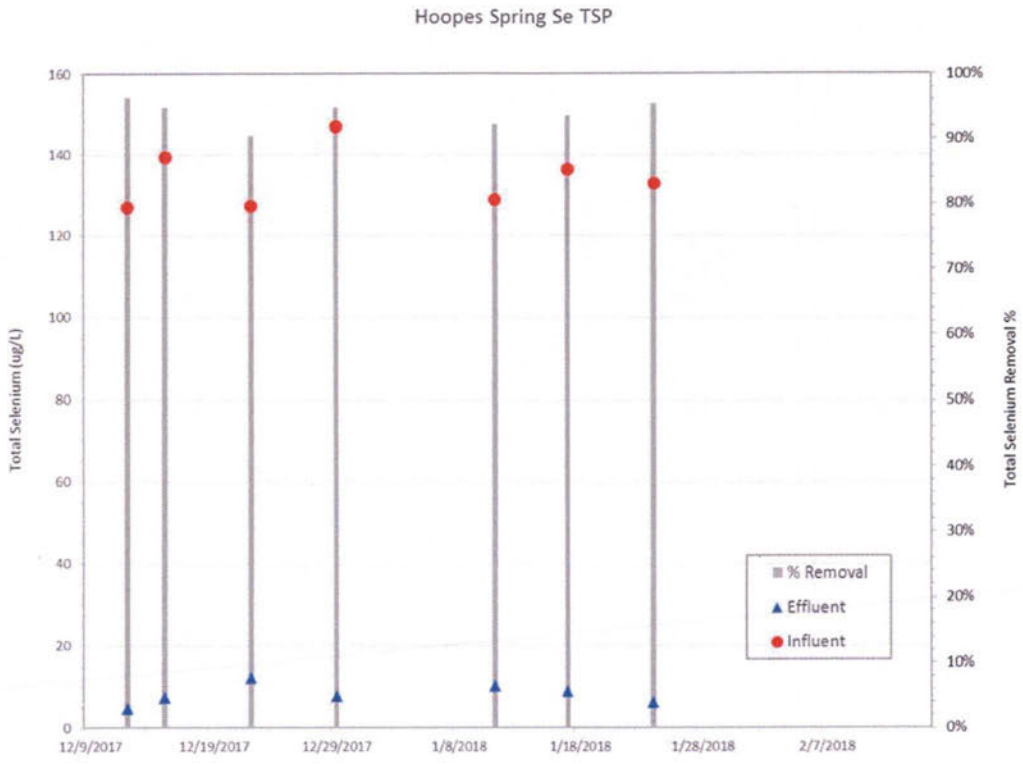

Figure 1 – Hoopes Spring TSP Selenium Concentration Data

J.R. Simplot Company
P.O. Box 912,
Pocatello, Idaho 83204

208 235-5600 Business

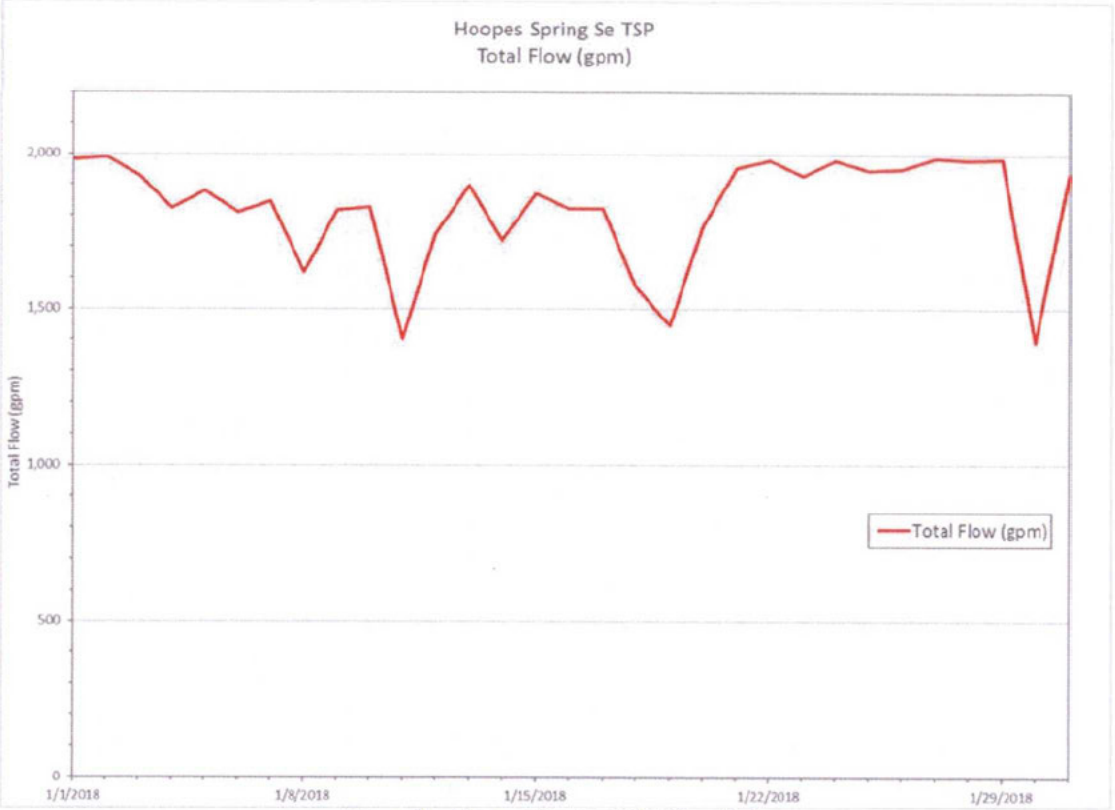

Figure 2 – Hoopes Spring TSP Flow Data