

From: ALAN BRICE <email address removed>
Sent: Sunday, January 13, 2019 8:53 PM
To: Grassy Mountain (CEAA/ACEE) <ceaa.grassymountain.acee@canada.ca>
Subject: project 80101

To The Joint Review Panel,

I am a resident and business owner in the Crowsnest Pass. My husband and I have run a fly fishing shop for the past 18 years in Coleman. We are , obviously greatly concerned to the extensive negative impact Riversdale's Grassy Mountain mine will have on our rivers and head-water streams. I am sure you are aware Blairmore, and Gold Creeks flowing south into the Crowsnest River hold pure strain native Cutthroat trout ; a protected species. This past summer Blairmore Creek ran deep rust, bringing selenium into the Crowsnest. The cause was lack of diligence on river bank erosion and maintenance by Riversdale. The slide occurred on their property.

I would like to include here text from " Crowsnest and it's People "published 1979 . This is from an article submitted by Gordon Kerr (Sc.Zoology) He is speaking of the extinction of Dolly Vardon (Bull Trout ,also now a protected Native species) from the Crowsnest river upstream of Lundbrek Falls. Specifically referencing the creeks flowing around and thru McGillivray Coal Mine , McGillivray Creek and Allison Creek These creeks are very similar in their setting as Gold and Blairmore are to Grassy. He also includes Tent Mountain Coal Co.,and Crowsnest Creek which flows into Crowsnest Lake. "Constant pressure took it's toll but loss of spawning areas and decline in water quality have been the primary cause of their (Bull Trout) disappearance . Allison Creek and Crowsnest Creek were two important spawning streams. Crowsnest Creek ceased to support viable fish populations coincident with coal mining in the area,while the Allison Creek diversion ultimately cut off that spawning area.

..The Tent Mountain mine has had major siltation impact on Crowsnest Creek and Crowsnest Lake ...In Coleman the impacts have been added to by mine effluence at McGillivray Creek and by coal processing. Nez Perce Creek has been impacted by mining...Since 1900 fish populations of all species have declined both in numbers and average size. "

While we (residents) are aware of the more modern environmental restrictions and changes in machinery in the Coal industry ,we have only to look next door to Teck Coal in Sparwood B.C. who are able to ,and must spend millions of dollars in attempting to halt the continuous selenium released into the Elk river. There is simply no way the Grassy Mountain project can protect the wild native trout in the surrounding head water creeks and the Crowsnest river. Their operation would clearly bring the same disaster Teck is facing now,and the citizens of the Crowsnest Pass faced until1982. This was the end of mining here.

I'd like to mention the dismissal of mining in the head waters of Crowsnest area has allowed all species to flourish , tho there are still no Bull Trout above the falls. While there is more to be done in sustaining river habitat both in and out of flowing waters the addition of Riversdale's Grassy Mountain coal mine would bring us back to the devastation of trout species as witnessed in the past.

Yours Most Sincerely, Susan Douglas-Murray

Owner Crowsnest Cafe and Flyshop , Alberta

Flyfishing Adventures

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