

## Calico Grassy Mountain Gold Mine State of Oregon Draft Permits Public Hearing January 29, 2026

Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries  
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# Public Meeting Agenda

- Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries
  - Proposed Grassy Mountain Mine
  - Consolidated permitting process and update
  - Draft Operating Permit / Draft Order
- Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Draft permits
- Informal Question & Answer session
- BREAK



# Public Hearing

- Please sign in to register to provide public comment
- Comments should be specific to draft permits
- Public comment period ends February 6, 2026
- Submit via email: [information.grassytn@dogami.oregon.gov](mailto:information.grassytn@dogami.oregon.gov)
- Submit via US Postal Service mail:



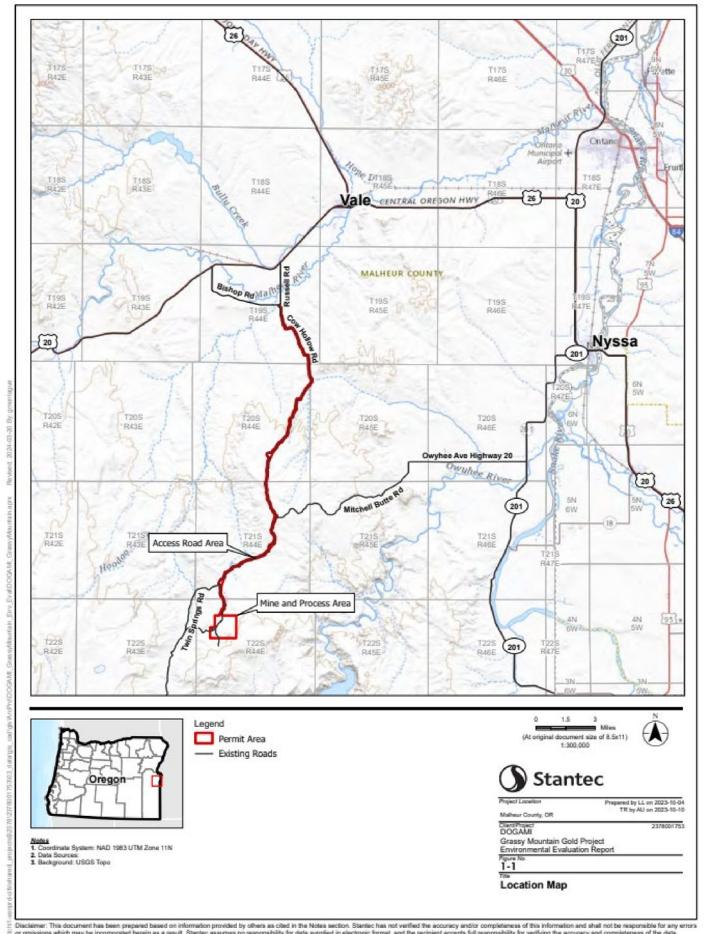
Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries  
Mineral Land Regulation & Reclamation Program  
229 Broadalbin St SW  
Albany, OR 97321-2246

The screenshot shows the DOGAMI website with a blue header bar. The header includes the Oregon.gov logo, a link to 'An official website of the State of Oregon', and a 'How you know' link. The main navigation menu has links for 'Data & Publications', 'Geohazards', 'Geology', 'Permits', and 'About Us'. Below the header, the page title is 'Mineral Land Regulation and Reclamation'. A sub-navigation bar shows 'Home' and 'MLRR Grassy Mountain Project Documents'. The main content area is titled 'MLRR Grassy Mountain Project Documents'. On the left, there is a sidebar with links to 'MLRR Home', 'Home', 'Program Overview', 'Regulations & Statutes', 'Newsletter', 'MLRR Awards', 'DOGAMI Governing Board', 'Surface Mining', 'Permitting Process: Surface Mining', and 'Surface Mining FAQ'. The main content area features a section for 'Calico Resources USA Corp. - Grassy Mountain' and a 'Process Documents' section for '12/8/2025 Draft Permits'. This section lists various documents with links, including 'Public Notice', 'Aviso Público', 'Press Release', 'DOGAMI Operating Permit', 'DOGAMI Order', 'WPCF-N Permit', 'WPCF-N Fact Sheet', 'WPCF-OS Permit', 'WPCF-OS Fact Sheet', 'ACDP Permit', 'ACDP Fact Sheet', and 'WOP 1200-Z Permit'. To the right, there are two boxes: 'Public Meetings' (listing the 'Grassy Mountain Mine Draft Permits Public Hearing' on January 29, 2026) and 'How to Receive Project Notifications' (instructions for US Mail). The footer of the page includes a copyright notice for DOGAMI, the State of Oregon, and the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.



# Proposed Grassy Mountain Gold Mine

- Applicant: Calico Resources USA Corp / Paramount Gold Nevada
- Malheur County, ~22 miles south-southwest of Vale
- 2.07 million short tons of mill-grade ore (gold, silver)





# Proposed Grassy Mountain Gold Mine

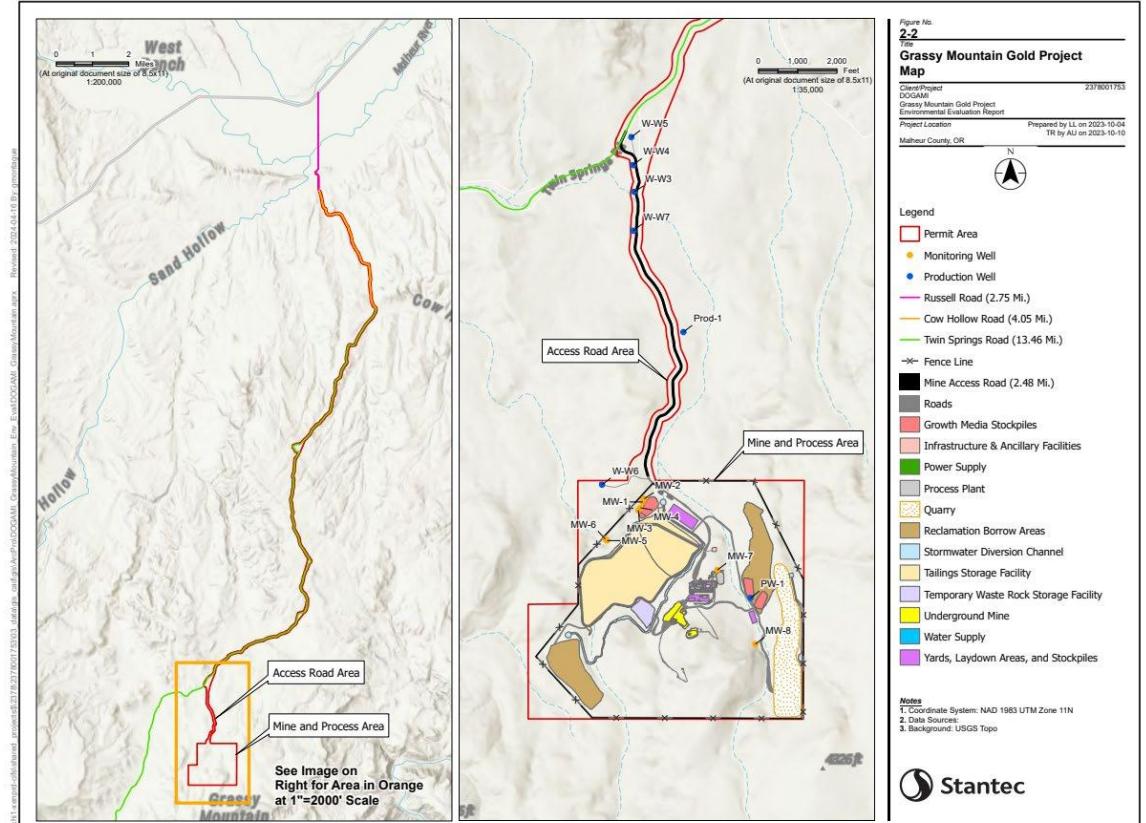
- Permit area:
  - Private and public land
  - Mine and process area
  - Access road area (improvement)
- Underground mine
- Indoor ore processing facility

➤ 2 years of construction

➤ 8 years of operation

➤ 4 years reclamation/closure

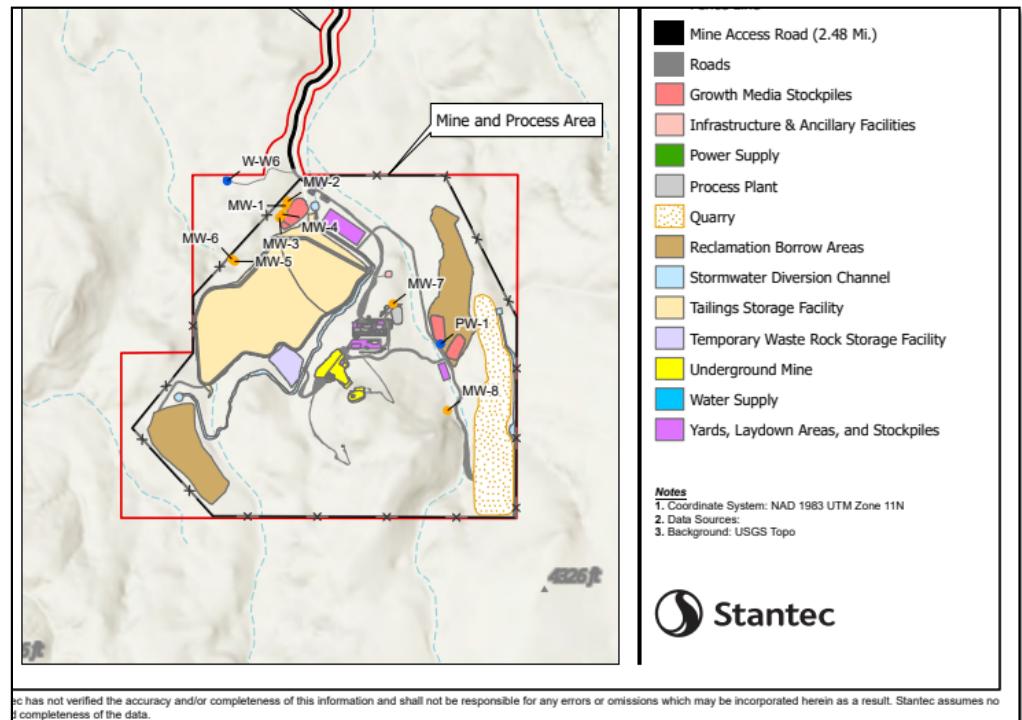
➤ 27 years of post-closure monitoring





# Proposed Grassy Mountain Gold Mine

- Temporary conventional mill
- Temporary waste rock storage facility (lined)
- Permanent tailings storage facility (lined)
- Ore processing plant
- Cyanide destruction process
- Placement in tailings storage facility
- Water recovered for reuse in mill
  - Groundwater supply wells





# Consolidated Permitting Process – OAR Chapter 632 Division 37

- Economic growth and opportunity while protecting Oregon's environmental resources and public health and safety
- DOGAMI lead agency - coordinated process across multiple agencies
- **Technical Review Team** - interdisciplinary review of technical permitting issues and serves advisory capacity to Project Coordinating Committee
- **Project Coordinating Committee** - interagency governmental committee that shares information and coordinates permitting and provides oversight and guidance
- Transparency in review and decisions via public meetings and info sharing



Oregon  
Health  
Authority



Oregon  
Department of  
Agriculture



Department of  
Land Conservation  
and Development



# Consolidated Permitting Process – Analyses and Documents

- Baseline data reports
  - Air quality, aquatic resources, environmental justice, geology, groundwater, noise, recreation, socioeconomic, wildlife...
  - Cultural resources
- Consolidated permit application
- Environmental evaluation
- Socioeconomic impact analysis
- Wildlife protection plan
- Wildlife mitigation plan
- Seep and spring monitoring plan
- Groundwater monitoring plan



## State Consolidated Permitting Process – Grassy Mountain

- Jun 2012** Calico files a Notice of Intent to develop Grassy Mountain Mine
- Sep 2012** Calico files a notice of readiness to collect baseline data
- Mar 2013** Final baseline study collection plans approved by the Technical Review Team
- Jul 2015** Calico files a new Notice of Intent that changes processing facility location
- Aug 2015** Calico files a new notice to collect baseline data
- Jul 2016** Calico acquired by Paramount Gold Nevada Corp.
- Feb 2017** Calico files a new Notice of Intent that expands proposed permit boundary
- May 2017** Calico files a new notice of readiness to collect baseline data



## State Consolidated Permitting Process – Project History

- Nov 2019** Calico files a Consolidated Permit Application (application)
- Feb 2020** Project Coordinating Committee holds public hearing on application completeness; DOGAMI informs Calico application is not complete
- Dec 2021** Calico files a revised application
- Feb 2023** Technical Review Team accepts final baseline data as complete
- Oct 2023** Calico files revised application; Technical Review Team accepts as complete
- Nov 2023** DOGAMI issues the Notice to Proceed with permitting process
- Aug 2024** Stantec completes the Environmental Evaluation and Socioeconomic Impact Analysis on behalf of DOGAMI

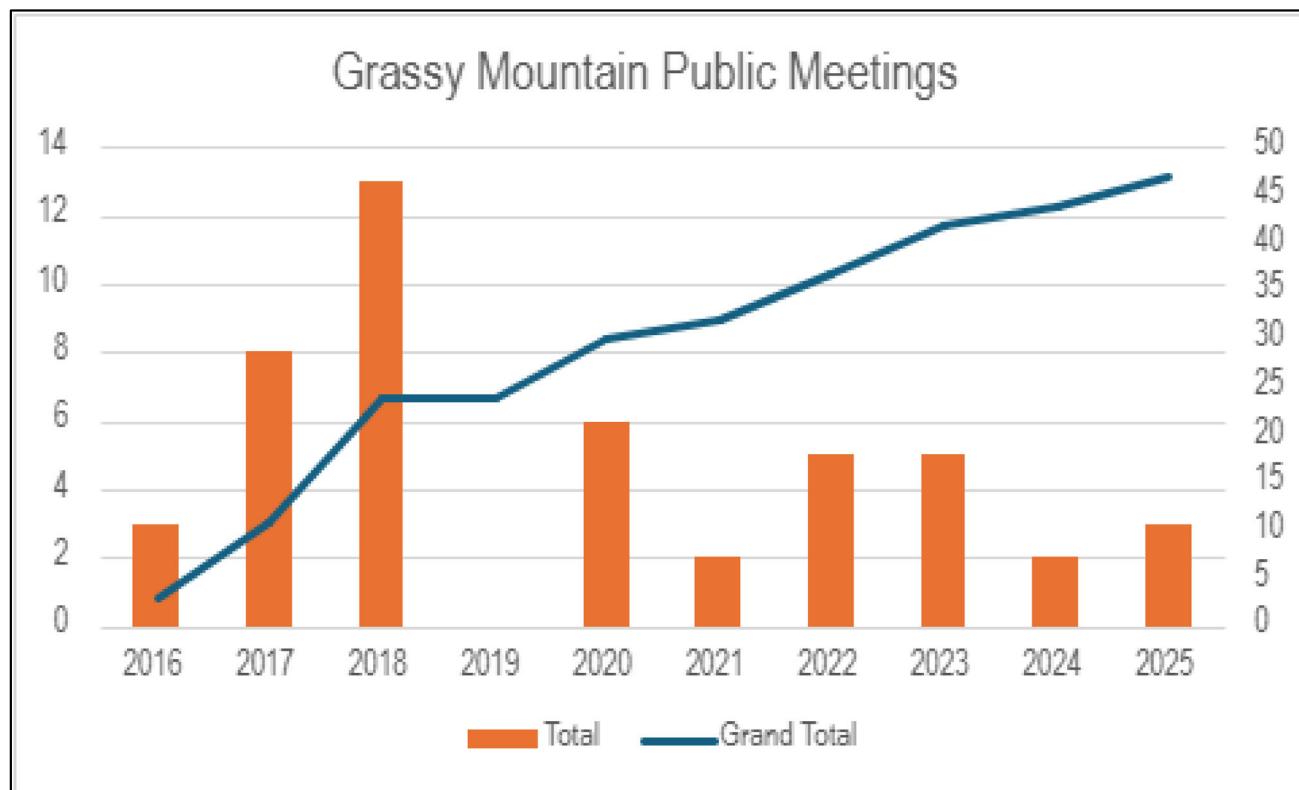


# State Consolidated Permitting Process – Project History

- Oct 2024**      Technical Review Team accepts the Environmental Evaluation and Socioeconomic Impact Analysis as complete; permit drafting started
- Mar 2025**      Technical Review Team approves the Best Available Practicable and Necessary Technology measures
- Dec 2025**      DOGAMI and state permitting agencies issue draft permits, which are posted for public review and comment
- Jan 2026**      [Public hearing on draft state permits](#)



# State Consolidated Permitting Process – Public Meetings





# Draft Consolidated Operating Permitting

- DOGAMI permit
- Draft State permits/approvals attached:
  - Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
  - Oregon Water Resources Department
- Permit conditions - agencies contributing to permit development
  - DOGAMI
  - Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
  - Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
  - Oregon Health Authority
  - Oregon Water Resources Department

 **Oregon Dept. of Geology & Mineral Industries**  
Mineral Land Regulation & Reclamation Program  
229 Broadalbin St. SW  
Albany OR 97321-2246  
(541) 967-2039

**CONSOLIDATED OPERATING PERMIT**  
ISSUED SUBJECT TO ANY LISTED CONDITIONS

Calico Resources USA Corp. 665 Anderson Street Winnemucca, Nevada 89445	ID No.: 23-7001
	Site Name: Grassy Mountain
	County: Malheur
	Legal: T22S, R44E, Sec. 8

This permit shall be in effect, unless revoked or suspended for cause, from the date of issuance and shall remain in effect so long thereafter as the Permittee pays the annual renewal fee established by the State Geologist (no less than \$2,500), complies with the provisions of ORS 468.020, 496.012, 506.109, 517.750 through 517.989, as applicable, the Rules as promulgated to administer the Oregon Mined Land Reclamation Act, the approved consolidated permit application, and all permits and conditions attached to this permit, and maintains a performance bond as required by the Act.

State Permits (attached):

1. DEQ Air Contaminant Discharge Permit (ACDP)
2. DEQ Water Pollution Control Facilities Permit (WPCF-N)
3. DEQ Water Pollution Control Facilities Permit (WPCF-OS)
4. DEQ Stormwater Permit (NPDES 1200-Z)
5. WRD Permit to Appropriate the Public Waters (G-11847, previously approved)
6. WRD Tailings Dam Approval (previously approved)

Issued

Sarah Lewis  
MLRR Program Manager

cc: Malheur County Planning Department  
Bureau of Land Management

**DRAFT**



## Draft Permits and Conditions - Development

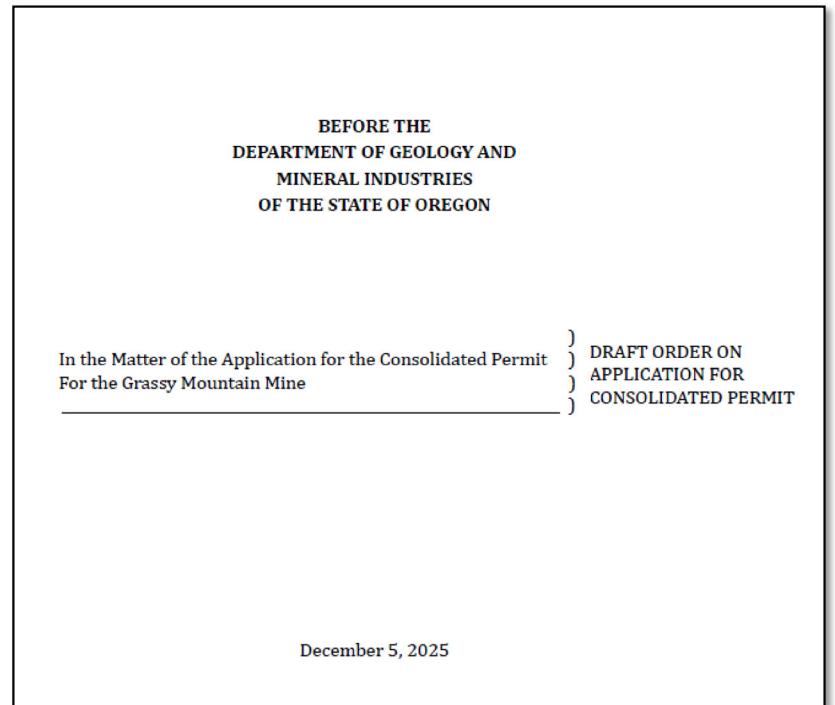
Development of permits and conditions and monitoring plans by agencies focused on:

- Use of cyanide in gold extraction process
- Potential impacts on wildlife
- Water supply and impacts on groundwater and surface water
- Cultural resources impacts
- Regional employment



# Draft Order

- Proposes approval of consolidated application
- Procedural history of the proposed project
- Documentation of Oregon standards compliance
- State agency responsibilities
- Required permits and approvals
- Documentation of environmental review
- Application and evaluation of Oregon standards
- Findings of fact conclusions of law
- Final order to accompany final permits





# Federal National Environmental Policy Act Process

- Federal land in permit area triggered National Environmental Policy Act of 1969
- Federal process led by the Bureau of Land Management
- Parallel yet distinct from Oregon consolidated permitting process
- Environmental Impact Statement
- Record of Decision



# DEQ DRAFT PERMITS





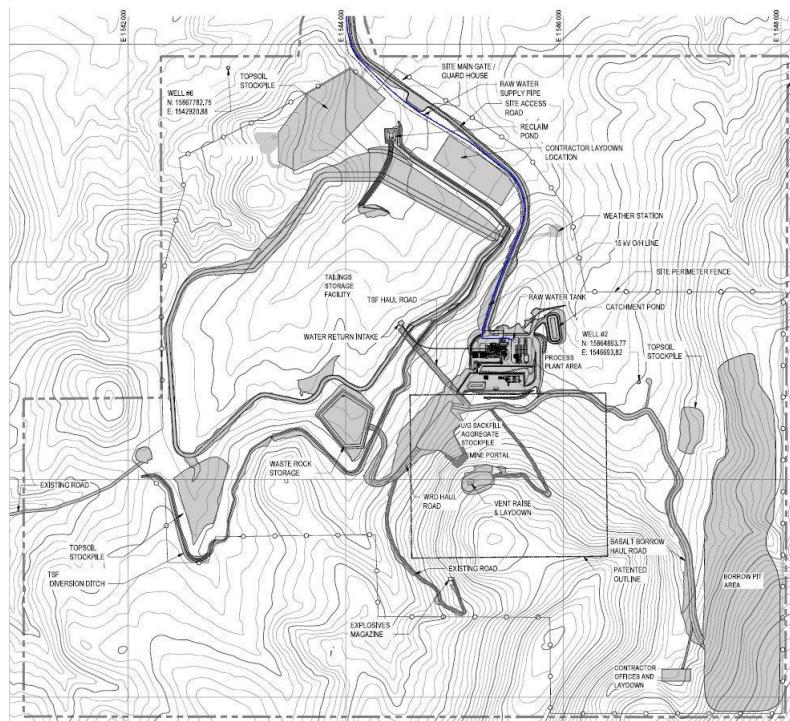
# Grassy Mountain Mine – Public Hearing

## Air, Land, and Water Quality Program

January 29, 2026  
Vale, Oregon

# What we'll discuss?

- What DEQ regulates
- The proposed draft permits and their functions
  - Water Pollution Control Facilities Permit (WPCF-OS)
  - Stormwater Pollution Control Discharge Permit (1200-Z)
  - Air Contaminant Discharge Permit (ACDP)
  - Water Pollution Control Facilities and Solid Waste Permit (WPCF-N)
- Then, we want to hear from you on the draft permit.



# An Introduction to DEQ

DEQ oversees a broad range of environmental regulatory programs:

Air Quality  
↑  
Clean Air Act

Water Quality  
↑  
Clean Water Act

Land Quality  
↑  
Resource  
Conservation and  
Recovery Act

# Water Pollution Control Facility – Onsite

Key Components of WPCF-OS permit:

- For sanitary wastewater if no municipal connection exists.
- Proper sizing and siting to avoid groundwater contamination.

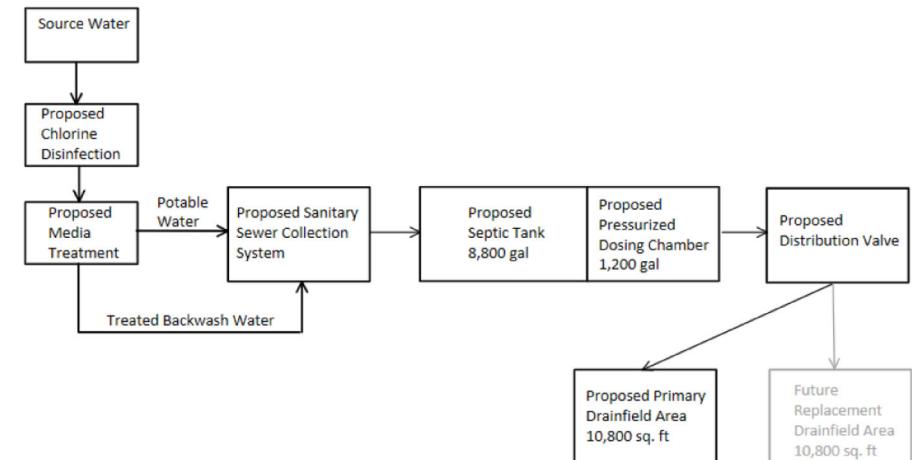
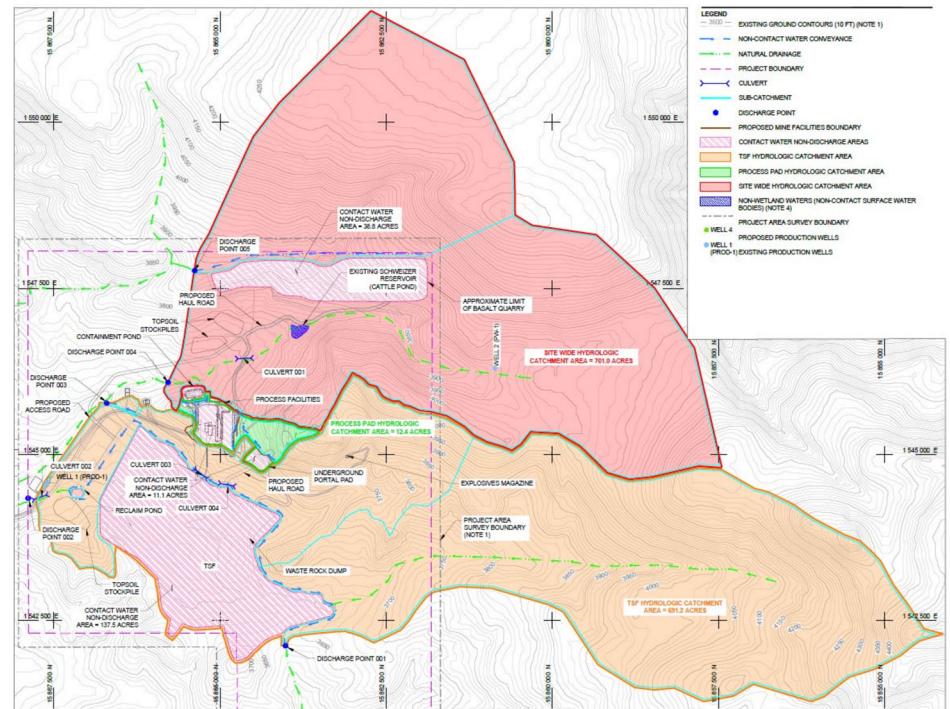


Figure 4. Schematic Diagram

# Industrial Stormwater Discharge Permit

## Key Components of 1200-Z permit:

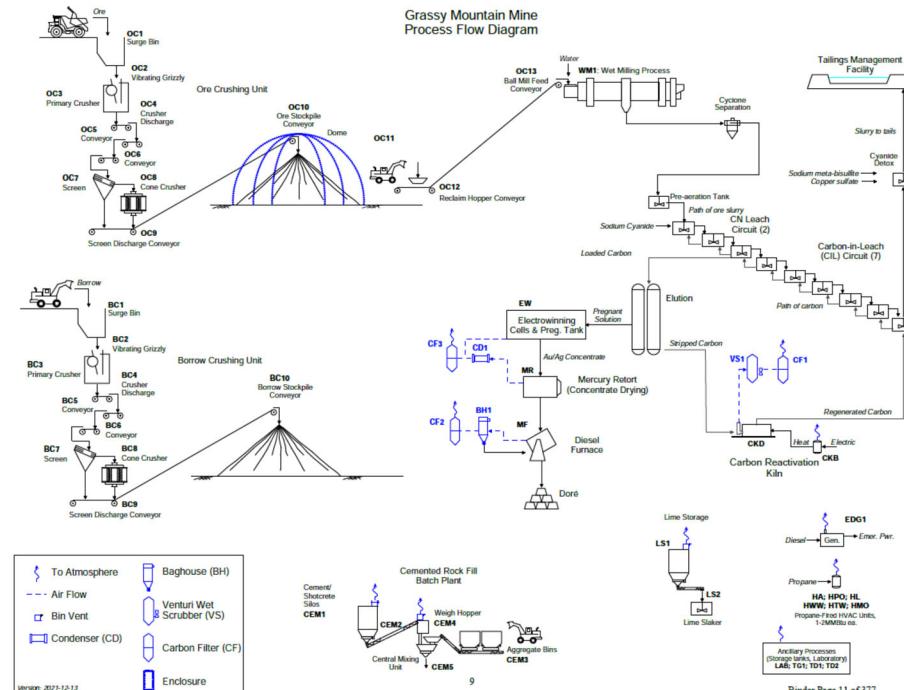
- Regulates stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity from Metal Mining facilities.
- Requires implementation of control measures to prevent pollutant discharges during construction and operation – Stormwater Pollution Control Plan (SWPCP).



# Air Contaminant Discharge Permit

## Key Components of ACDP permit:

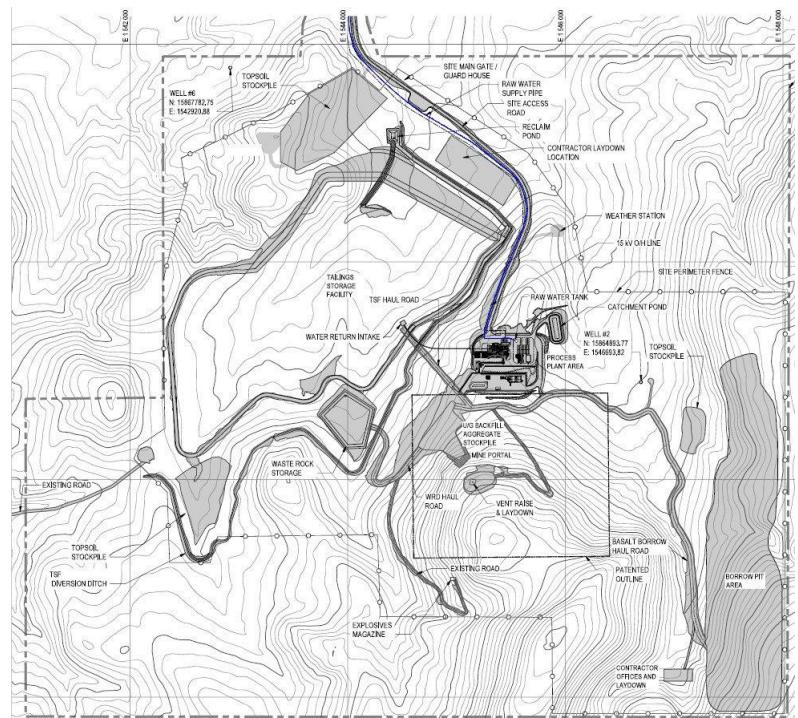
- Covers emissions from milling, crushing, and processing.
- Regulations do require this facility to obtain a Title V Operating Permit (when applicable).
- This site does not require Site Specific Cleaner Air Oregon permit conditions for air toxics.



# Water Pollution Control Facilities Permit

Key Components of WPCF-N permit:

- Groundwater protection
- Permit Limits
  - Wildlife exposure & human health
- Solid Waste Disposal Regulation
- Beneficial Use Determination
- Financial Assurance



# Solid Waste Components of the WPCF-N

What is Solid Waste in the State of Oregon?

Any useless or discarded material is solid waste.

Solid Waste Regulations Apply to:

Mine Tailings Storage Facility

Reuse of Waste Rock within Cemented Rock Fill

# Beneficial Use Determination

DEQ supports beneficial use of solid waste, such as these waste materials, in lieu of disposal at a permitted solid waste facility, as long as the proposed re-use meets conditions of the rule and is adequately protective of human health and the environment.

DEQ has evaluated the application and proposes to issue approvals of the proposed beneficial use requests.

# Continued DEQ Review and Approvals

- Conduct Regular Compliance Inspections
- Review Monitoring Data and Reports
- Enforce Corrective Actions When Needed
- Maintain Long-Term Oversight Post-Closure
- Engage with Communities and Interested groups

# Thank you!

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541-298-7256



State of Oregon  
**DEQ** Department of Environmental Quality



# Next Steps in Consolidated Process

- Public comment period ends February 6, 2026

- Submit via email:

- [information.grassymtn@dogami.oregon.gov](mailto:information.grassymtn@dogami.oregon.gov)

- Submit via US Postal Service mail:

Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries  
Mineral Land Regulation & Reclamation Program  
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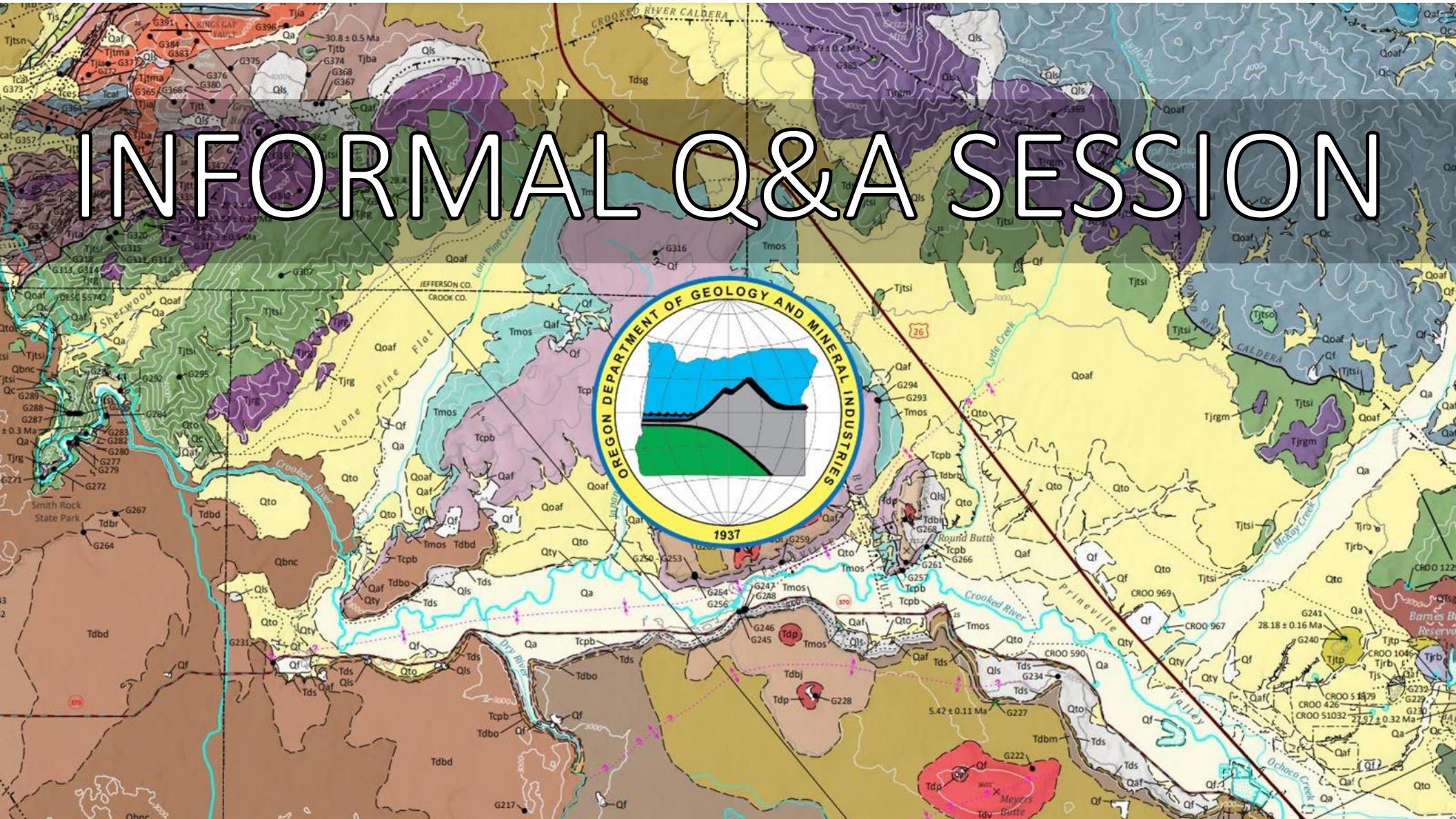
- Comments should be specific to draft permits and conditions
- May inform revisions to State permits and conditions



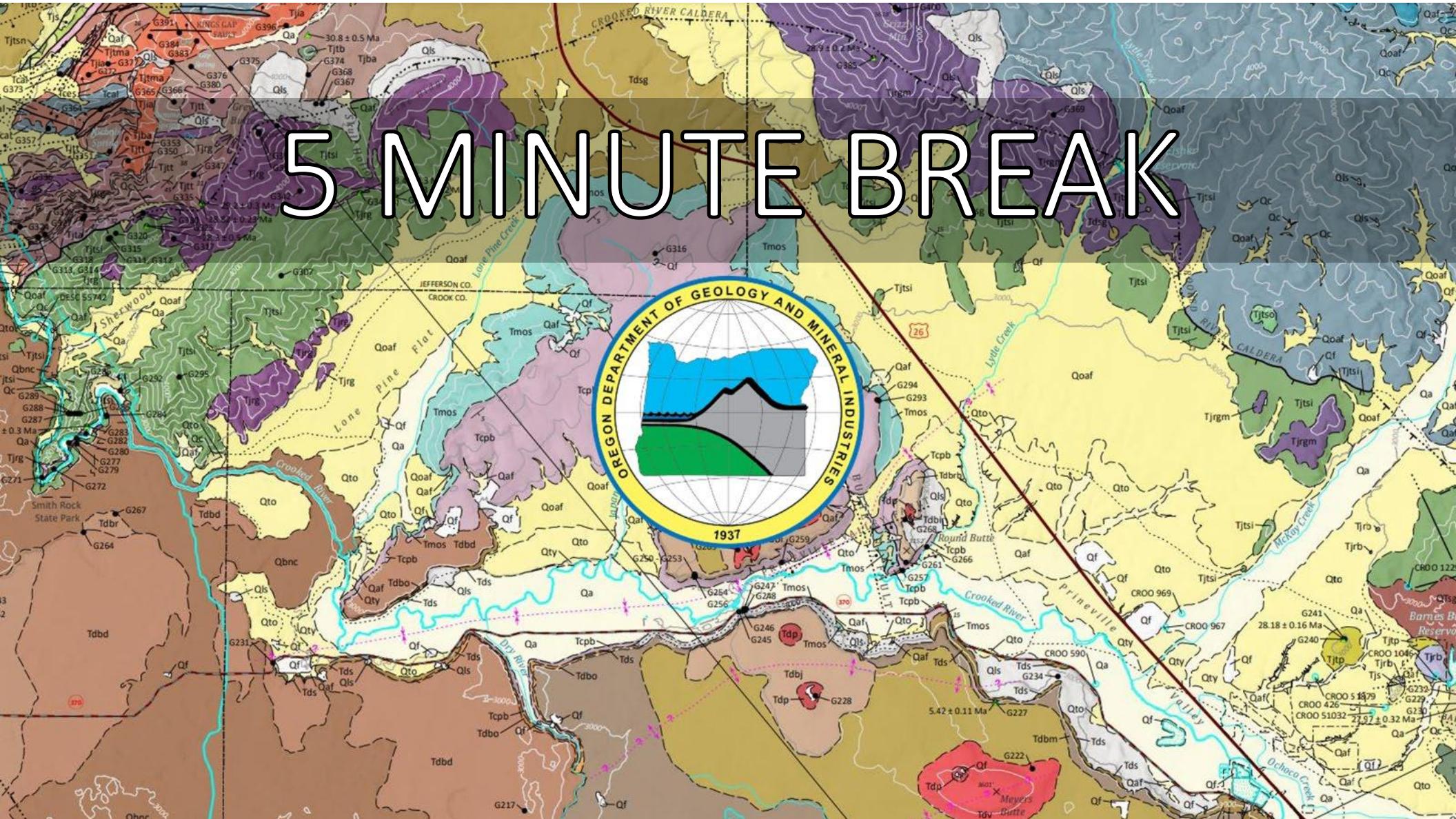
## Next Steps in Consolidated Process

- State preparation of final permits and final order
- Wildlife mitigation coordination
- Bonding and financial assurance
  - Joint reclamation bond
  - Credible accidents bond
  - "...shall be posted before the start of any construction, excavation or other ground disturbing activity..." (OAR 632-037-0135)

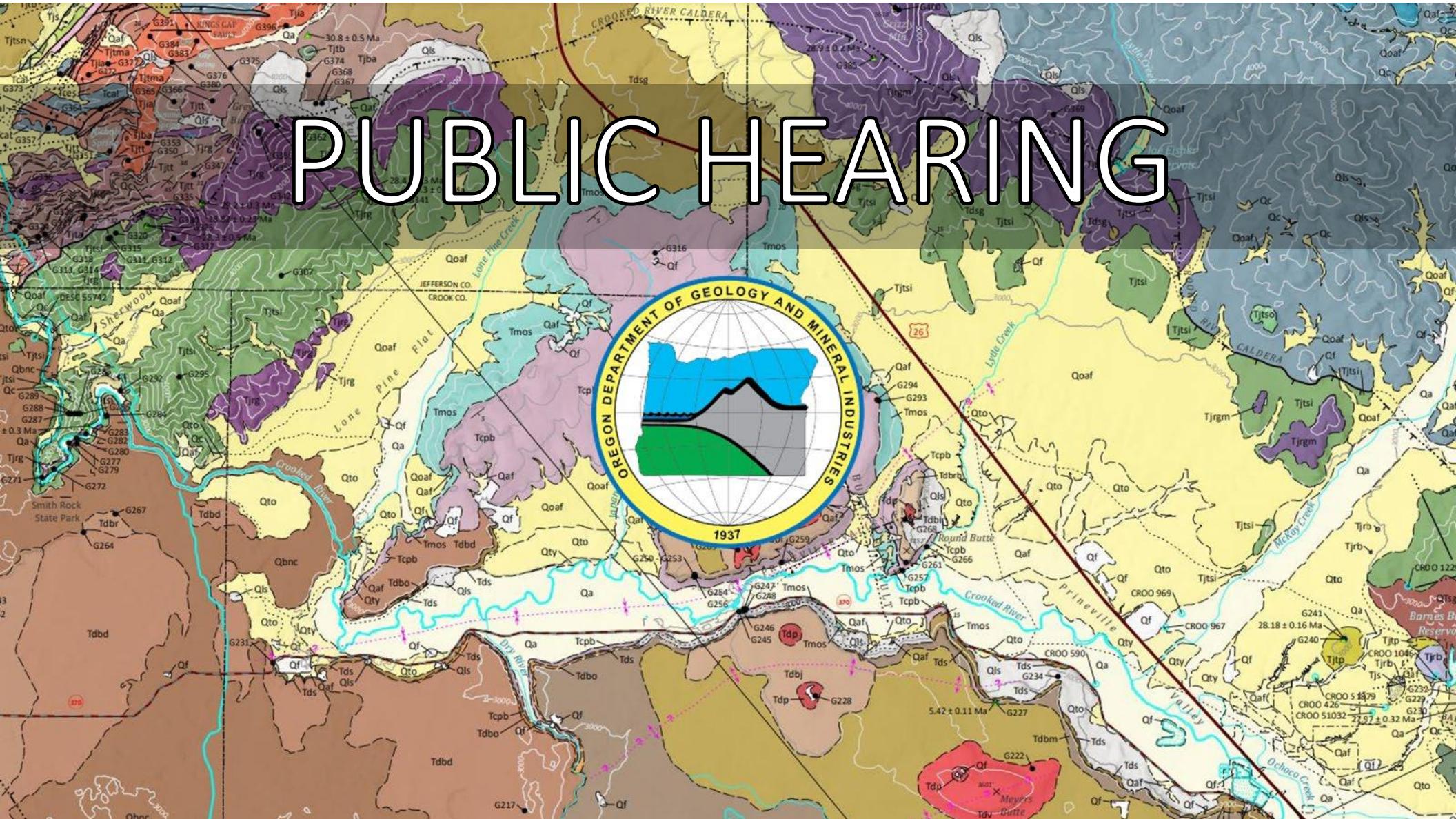
# INFORMAL Q&A SESSION



# 5 MINUTE BREAK



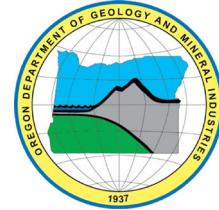
# PUBLIC HEARING





# Public Hearing

- Register to provide verbal public comment – in person or on Zoom
- Written comments can be emailed or mailed to DOGAMI until February 6, 2026



- Agencies will not respond to public comments during the public hearing

# FINAL REMARKS

