## BC MEND Duck Pond Reclamation ARD Water Management

November 30, 2022 Darren Hennessey



### Agenda

### Site Overview

- Location
- Geology
- Site Overview

Water and ARD Management

Site Automation System

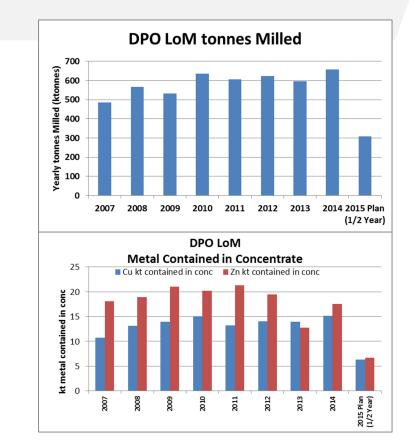
# Duck Pond Cu-Zn Mine

- 30km South of the town of Millertown
- 110km South of the nearest major town of Grand Falls-Windsor
- Metal and Diamond Mine Effluent Regulations (MDMER) for the Polishing Pond outlet (DAMC)
- Duck Pond Closure Water Quality
  Monitoring Program 2015 (NL)



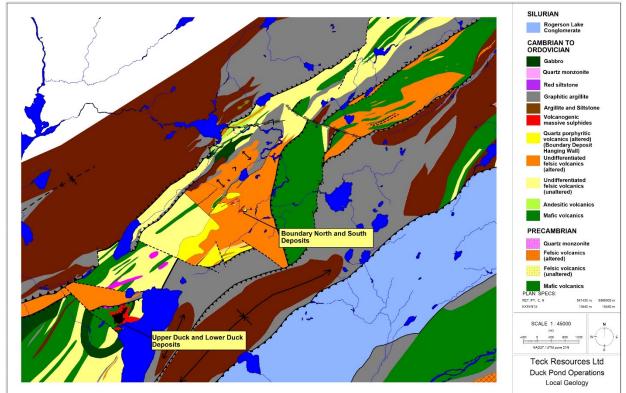
### Duck Pond Cu-Zn Mine History

- Operated for 8 years:
  - Production started in 2007
  - Ceased operations in 2015
- Milled 5.01 Mt
- Produced Cu–Zn concentrate
- Underground and open pit operation
- Reclamation activities started in 2015
- Scheduled completion of active closure work Q3 2023

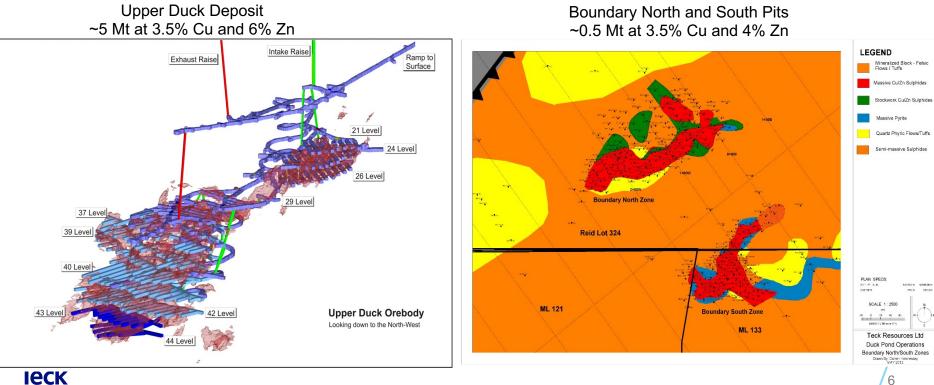


## Geological Setting (Local Geology)

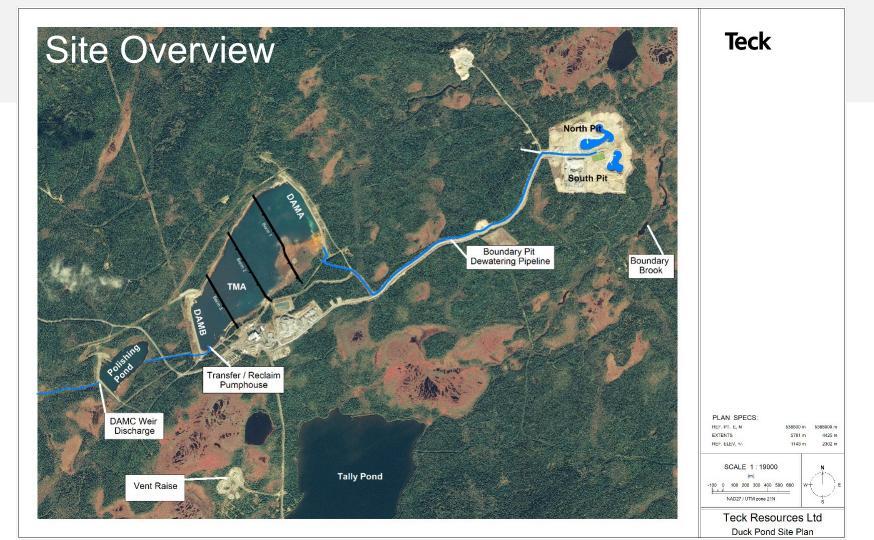
- Tally Pond volcanics hosts the Duck Pond and Boundary VMS deposits, and several additional base metal showings
- Massive sulphide lenses consisting mainly of pyrite, chalcopyrite, sphalerite, galena.
- Boundary Deposits are Chalcopyrite-Sphalerite rich with minor chalcocite, bornite and covellite associated within a fault zone between the two deposits.
- Hydrothermal alteration with disseminated and stringer chalcopyrite-pyrite-sphalerite mineralization.



### Duck Pond Deposits – Upper Duck and Boundary



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## Strategy to Manage ARD at Duck Pond

### Tailings

- Considered PAG
- Closure approach is to keep tailings saturated and under a water cover
- Treat water at the TMA before transfer to the Polishing Pond
- PAG rock was used to construct three internal berms across the TMA to reduce to wave fetch to minimize risk of resuspending tailings
- Metal-impacted soils from site reclamation work were also placed in the TMA for long term storage

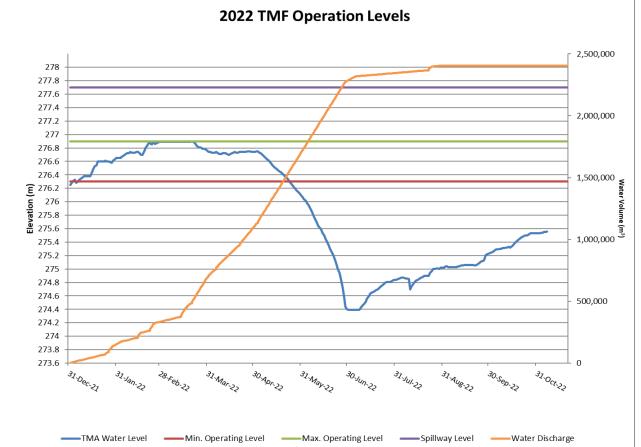
### Waste Rock

- Underground waste rock remaining on surface was used to build the internal berms
- Boundary waste rock was placed in the pits with added quicklime
- Pump water from pits to the TMA to mitigate potential impacts
- A water cover is maintained in the pits
- Underground is flooded and plugged at the raises and portal



### Water Management Permitted Final Discharge Point - DAMC

- Managed 2.4M m<sup>3</sup> of effluent
- Lowered TMA for the placement of metal impacted soils
- Exposed portion of tailings for ~6 months



Teck



- Water is pumped from three main areas to a central pumphouse, then conveyed to the TMA These areas include:
- 1. Pit surface water
- 2. Pit porewater
- 3. Groundwater extraction wells



### Management of PAG waste rock (Boundary)

- 180,000 m3 of PAG waste rock backfilled in the North and South pits
- Pit PAG mixed with quicklime during ٠ backfilling
- Remainder of PAG waste rock was placed • in the TMF for long-term storage



**Teck** 

#### North Pit cross section west to east Porewater extraction wells Water cover TOP LAYER OF LIME AT 1 kg/m<sup>2</sup> COVERED WITH 10 cm CLASS "A" Lime BACKFILLED WASTE MIXED WITH LIME AT 4.5 kg LIME/m3 WASTE INITIAL LAYER OF LIN E AT 1 kg/m<sup>2</sup> No Lime UNLIME Pit depth outline WASTE 100 150 200 250 300 SECTION A-A' FUTURE WATERLINE HORIZONTAL SCALE 1:1000 TOD OF LIMED WASTE VERTICAL SCALE 1:250

BOTTOM OF LIMED WAST

### Porewater Extraction (Chimney) Wells



- CW10 drilled to 65 ft
- Continuous draw 27 GPM
- Programmed on pit surface elevation

- CW10 drilled to 88 ft
- Continuous draw 27 GPM
- VFD controlled

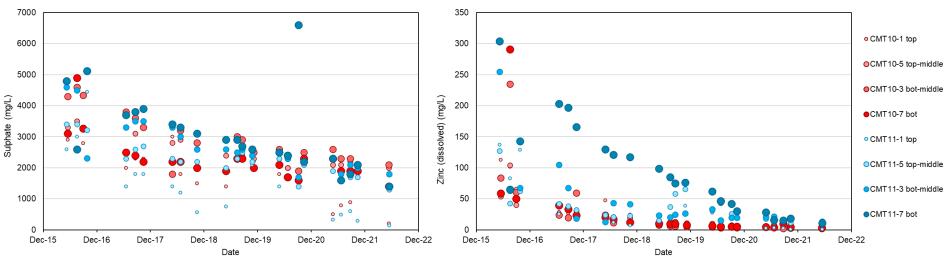


# Water Quality – North Pit

- Historical ARD evident in wells (CMT)
- Installed two pump wells to extract pit porewater at depth
- System replicated in the South Pit

### Sulphate

Teck





Zinc

### Boundary North Pit

- Both pits are treated with slacked lime while extracting the pit porewater
- 0.2-0.5 m water cover is maintained
- PAG has a 0.5m NAG cap



### Site Water Management Automation

- The DPO site is currently 95% automated
- DAMC weir discharge is our only manual operation (final discharge point)
- Automation implemented to:
  - Reduce human error
  - Reduce employee time to focus on other tasks
  - Optimize water quality
  - Reduce maintenance cost
  - Reduce both long and short-term risks
  - Ability to operate the site from anywhere
  - Optimize as lessons are learned

### Water Treatment System

Quick Lime automated slaking system

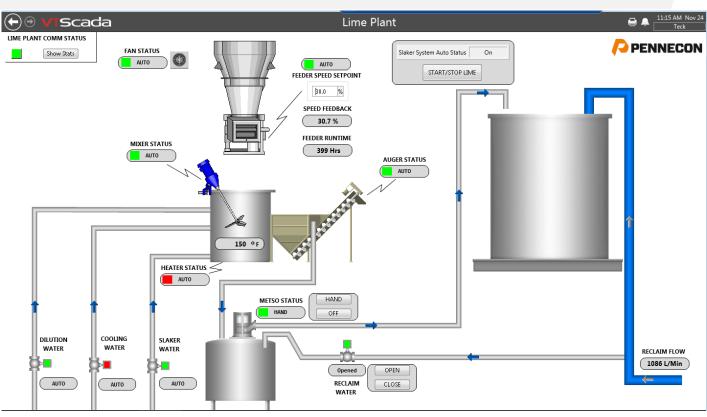
- Redesign of the water treatment distribution system
- Ability to treat ٠ each individual cell of the TMA
- Result in a more efficient water management



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## Water Treatment Plant

- Water treatment plant is fully automated and can be remotely started or shutdown
- Reduce exposure
- Monitor lime usage and water reclaim flows
- Flow treatment volumes change depending on which cell of the TMA is being treated
- Water is analyzed on site (Cu, Zn, Fe, Pb, TDS, pH, DO)



## **Reclaim and Transfer**

- Transfer to the Polishing
  Pond
- VFD controlled
- PLCs monitor pH
- Pump automatically adjust flow depending on pH
- All can be controlled remotely



## **DAMC** Final Discharge

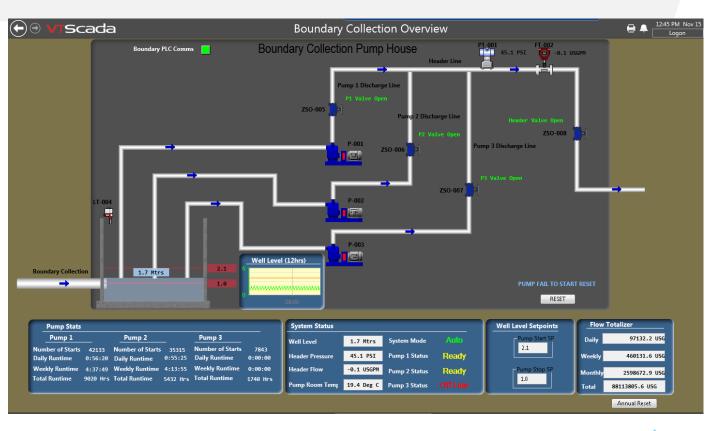
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- Continuous monitoring of pH at DAMC
- Optimization for more accurate discharge flow currently being reviewed for programming

VTScada		Dam "C"	1:12 PM Nov 15
VTScada	DCWD V-Notch Weir	Dam "C"	E A Li2 PM Nov 15 Logon
	Dam C PLC Comms Show Stats		

## **Boundary Site**

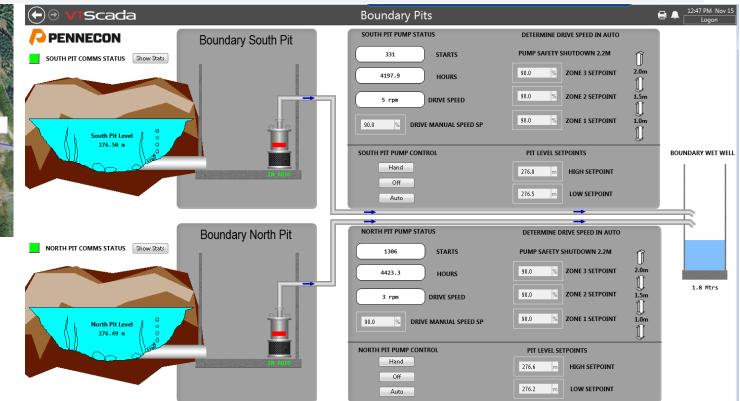
- Pits maintain a controlled elevation (user input)
- Pumped to main pumphouse to collection area where then pumped 4km back to the TMA
- All volumes are logged



## **Boundary Pits**



 Environmental safety features programmed



### **Boundary Ground Water Automation**

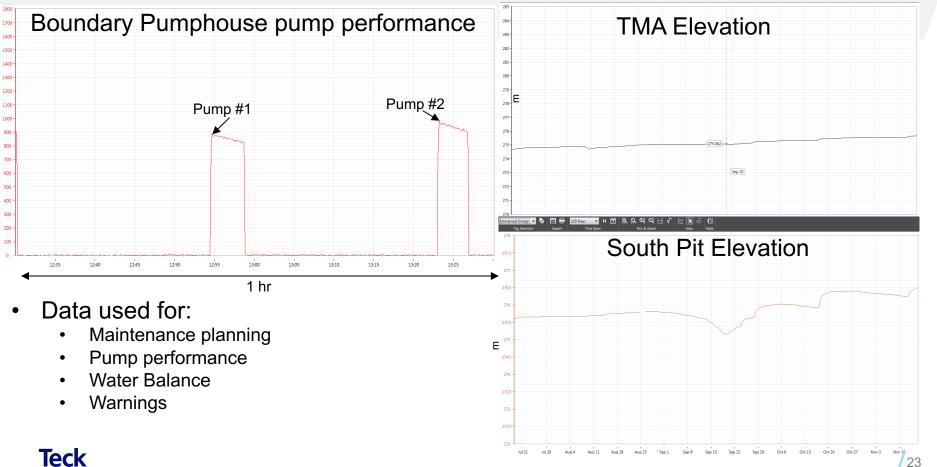


System replicated in the north

- Optimize groundwater extraction
- Reduce labour/errors
- Track maintenance and pump performance
- VFD controlled
- Maintain specific well elevations



## **Data Tracking and Recording**



### **Flow Volume Totalizers**

- All pumps have volume totalizers
- Stats on startups and hrs of operation and performance for better preventative maintenance planning
- Annual reporting

			🖶 🌲 1:19 PM Nov 15 Logon		
			NORTH WELLS	-	n pennecon
ər	WELL #1 TOTALIZED FLOW 6745 m3 RESET 5745 m3 RESET 5745 m3 RESET 00 K07 GLOP RESET 18 UNLES KOR RARE HOURS RESET	WELL #2 TOTALIZED FLOW 984 m3 RESET STARTS DONOT CLOP RESET 43 HOURS RESET 3914	WELL #3 TOTALIZED FLOW 2364 m3 RESET STARTS ON OF CLOCK RESET 400 NOT CLOCK RESET HOURS RESET	WELL #4 TOTALIZED FLOW 0 m3 RESET STARTS DO KOT CLOCK RESET 0 UNLESS TO KENNE 10 RESET 0	WELL #5 TOTALIZED FLOW 9000 m3 RESET STARTS DO NOT OLICA RESET 13 UNLESS TORS LONG 13 RESET 4660
			SOUTH WELLS	-	
	WELL #1 TOTALIZED FLOW 4584 m3 RESET STARTS 3817 HOURS 4660	WELL #2 TOTALIZED FLOW 3329 m3 RESET STARTS 4035 HOURS 4660 RESET	WELL #3 TOTALIZED FLOW 708 m3 RESET STARTS 12563 HOURS 4660	WELL #4 TOTALIZED FLOW 354 m3 RESET STARTS 9210 HOURS 3579 RESET	WELL #5 TOTALIZED FLOW 354 m3 RESET STARTS ON TO LOK RESET 5744 WELLS INN SURE HOURS RESET 2281



- Duck Pond's long-term plan to reduce oxidation potential for PAG materials (i.e. for both tailings and waste rock) in closure is to maintain a target water cover
- In-situ treatment of the backfilled pits managing water quality in the TMA
- Automation is supporting continued good management of the site
- Continue to build on lessons learned

## Questions

