



Snapshot

Resolution Copper Project – Tailings Alternatives

#4: Silver King

SUMMARY

This is the lone alternative proposing to use filtered tailings – instead of slurry tailings -- at the Tailings Storage Facility (TSF).

As with other alternatives, Alternative 4 would include a split-stream tailings processing method with two tailings types:

- Non-potentially acid generating (NPAG) tailings (also known as scavenger tailings)
- Potentially acid generating (PAG) tailings (also known as pyrite tailings)

From the West Plant Site, pipelines would transport the two tailings slurry streams to filter plants at Silver King. Pressure filters would extract about 85 percent of the water from the tailings, resulting in a more solid product and a decrease in water pumped for operations. The water would be recycled in the process water at the West Plant Site.

Conveyors and mobile equipment would mechanically deposit NPAG and PAG tailings in two separate, adjacent TSFs.

To limit exposure of tailings to water, all runoff would be directed to perimeter ditches, sumps, and/or

underdrains. Water coming into contact with exposed tailings would be collected in large ponds located in natural valleys downstream from the TSF. Large dams also would be needed to keep upstream stormwater from reaching the TSF.

Arizona National Scenic Trail

The TSF and associated auxiliary facilities would impact approximately 5.5 miles of the Arizona National Scenic Trail, resulting in the rerouting of that portion of the trail.

Location

Tonto National Forest, north of the West Plant Site near Superior, Arizona

Numbers

2,300 acres – disturbance footprint at tailings storage
5,700 acres -- total footprint within the fenceline for auxiliary facilities and tailings storage

*Embankment height -- Filtered tailings do not use an embankment to contain tailings; however, for comparison with the other alternatives, the overall height of the facility would be approximately 1,000 feet

**Embankment length – not applicable

ALTERNATIVES OVERVIEW

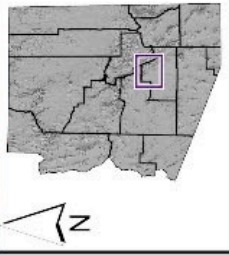
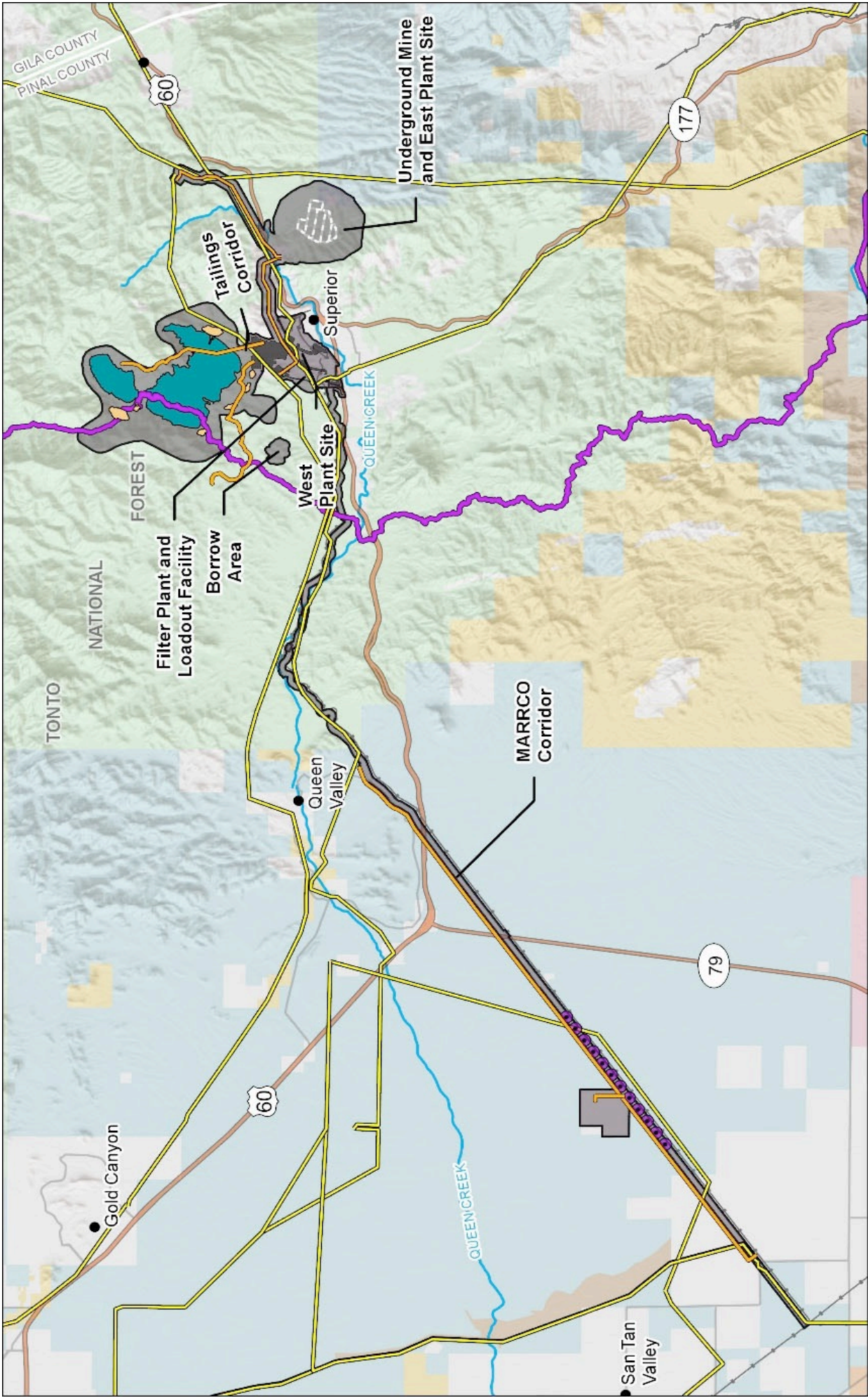
The National Environmental Policy Act requires the Forest Service to investigate alternatives to the various aspects of the proposed action as part of the Environmental Impact Statement process for the Resolution Copper Project and Land Exchange.

Alternatives are a mix of reasonable strategies that meet the purpose of and need for the proposed action, while resolving or addressing key issues identified during scoping.

In addition to the No Action Alternative (sequentially

known as Alternative #1), the Forest Service is considering five reasonable “action” alternatives. A Draft EIS document will include an alternatives chapter that expands on each reasonable alternative. The Forest Service is projecting a late July/early August 2019 release of the Draft EIS.

Resolution Copper Project and Land Exchange info is available at: <http://www.resolutionmineeis.us/>.



- Pumping Wells
- AZ Scenic Trail
- Existing Power Line
- New Power Line
- Railroad
- Proposed Action Component
- Tailings Storage Facility
- Seepage Dams
- Mining Panels
- Existing Disturbance
- Forest Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Department of Defense
- State
- Private/Other

Resolution Copper Project and Land Exchange

