

## Victoria Boyne

---

**From:** ResolutionProjectRecord  
**Subject:** FW: Response to Mitigation Comments - Part 4 - M-W16

---

**From:** Peacey, Victoria (RC) <[Victoria.Peacey@riotinto.com](mailto:Victoria.Peacey@riotinto.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 20, 2020 2:50 PM  
**To:** Rasmussen, Mary C -FS <[mary.rasmussen@usda.gov](mailto:mary.rasmussen@usda.gov)>  
**Cc:** Chris Garrett <[cgarrett@swca.com](mailto:cgarrett@swca.com)>; Donna Morey <[dmorey@swca.com](mailto:dmorey@swca.com)>  
**Subject:** FW: Response to Mitigation Comments - Part 4 - M-W16

**EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside SWCA. Please use caution when replying.**

---

Hello Mary – For your review and consideration and as a follow-up to the submittal on Oct 16, 2020, please see the response to M-W16 below.

### **M-W16**

Include mitigation requiring water levels be maintained at current levels, and replacement of water lost in fractured Queen Creek bed by pumping water into Queen Creek above Magma Bridge.

### **Response:**

Resolution Copper will replace stormwater that would otherwise flow to Queen Creek, but does not as a direct result of subsidence. Resolution Copper plans to do so by placing water into Queen Creek above the Magma Bridge and potentially other locations.

Precise timing of actual subsidence impacts will depend on timing and sequencing of underground mining. Mitigations for stormwater flow loss to Queen Creek resulting from future subsidence impacts will be incrementally implemented in advance of and concurrent with future subsidence impacts in collaboration with the Town of Superior and other downstream stakeholders with a presence along Queen Creek in order to offset the actual impacts of future activities. Thus, this mitigation will be supported by a process of baseline data collection to measure impacts. All mitigations involving discharge of replacement water are contingent on successful permitting, including the receipt of an AZPDES permit from ADEQ.

Additional mitigations for Queen Creek that would further enhance the riparian area are contained within the Compensatory Mitigation Plan as required by the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) compensatory mitigation rule (33 C.F.R. Parts 325 and 332 and 40 C.F.R. Part 320; published in 73 Fed. Reg. 19594-19705) (Corps and EPA 2008) and are currently included as a condition of issuance of a final permit for the Skunk Camp tailings storage facility under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and include the removal of tamarisk to allow native riparian vegetation to return to its historic composition and promote more natural stream functions, select man-made debris would be removed while avoiding disturbance to existing mature woody vegetation, seeding of native plant species and establishment of a site protection instrument to restrict future development and provide protected riparian and wildlife habitat.

Vicky Peacey

Senior Manager Permitting and Approvals



102 Magma Heights

Superior, AZ 85173, United States

T: +1 520.689.3313 M: [REDACTED]

[Victoria.peacey@riotinto.com](mailto:Victoria.peacey@riotinto.com) [www.resolutioncopper.com](http://www.resolutioncopper.com)