# RIO TINTO HOLDEN MINE CLEANUP PROJECT

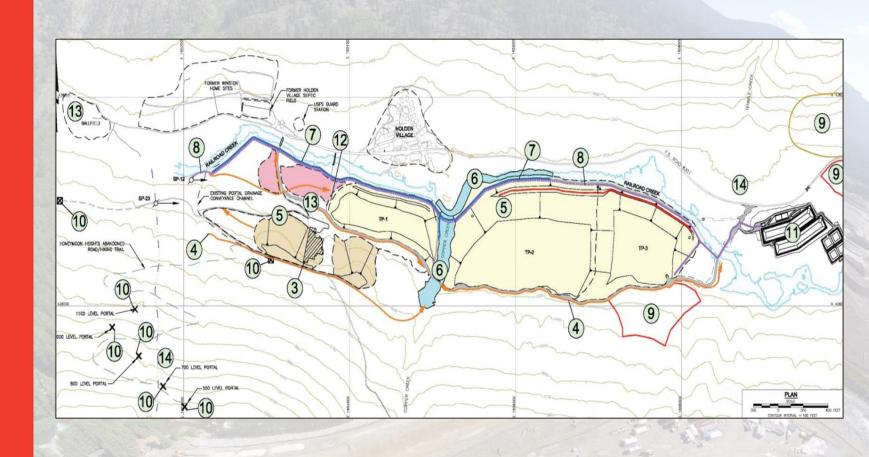
**APRIL 28 2016** 

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## Why is Rio Tinto in the Railroad Creek Valley?

- Government-ordered cleanup of the old Holden Mine
- Holden Mine produced copper between 1938 and 1957
  - Howe Sound Mining Company abandoned the mine, leaving behind many environmental problems.
- Rio Tinto never owned or operated the mine, but inherited the responsibility for the cleanup through acquisition of another company.
- No taxpayer dollars used. Rio Tinto is paying the entire cost of the cleanup

### **Phase 1 Remediation Plan**



## 2011- 2016: What We Have Accomplished

- Re-shaped and re-contoured 9 million tons of tailings and 250,000 tons of waste rock piles
- Sealed off mine entrance
- Built water collection system and underground barrier to prevent further contamination of creek
- Demolished and buried old mill building
- Re-aligned 900 feet of Railroad Creek
- Built new barge ramp at Lucerne
- Built new parking lot at Chelan Boat Company to allow staging area
- Built new bridge to bypass Holden Village
- Built and began operating water treatment plant

### **Timeline**

2011-2012 Early Works 2013 Major Construction 2014 Major Construction 2015 Major Construction 2016 Finish Construction On-going Monitoring

- Bypass bridge around Railroad Creek (2011-2012)
- Bypass around Holden Village (2011-2012)
- Quarry and borrow site
- · Contractor staging area
- Underground cleanup begins
- Barging from Chelan Boat Company begins
- · Community outreach
- Safety improvements on roads (ongoing)

- Realign 900 feet of Railroad Creek
- Temporary diversion of Copper Creek
- Demolish mill building/ Holden Village museum
- · Site prep/monitoring:
- Platform for barrier wall construction
- Sediment controls
- Water quality monitoring
- Quarries for rock (erosion protection) and soil (cover)
- Temp. staging areas for equipment/supplies at Lucerne and Chelan
- Barge ramp improvements

- Begin installing barrier wall to collect contaminated water
- Begin construction of groundwater collection system
- Reshape and cover the tailings and waste rock piles with soil to restore vegetation
- Consolidate tailings or cover contaminated soils and restore vegetation

- Complete minor work on Railroad Creek
- Complete Installation of Barrier Wall
- Installation of Ground Water Collection System
- Construction of Water Treatment Plant
- Complete re-grade of tailings and waste rock piles
- Placement of Cover and Re-Vegetation (2015/16)
- Complete Copper Creek Isolation and Construction
- Jet Grouting of Foundation Materials
- Improving soil quality

- Re-vegetation of cover
- Reclaim quarry and borrow areas
- Operation of water treatment plant
- Improving soil quality
- Wetlands mitigation
- Surface water retention area
- Honeymoon Heights seeps
- Replacement of HV buildings
- · Trail system
- Making repairs to Forest Service road 8301
- Lucerne reclamation

## **Remediation Plan**



Cap re-graded tailings with crushed stone and growing medium, then plant



Regrade tailings and waste rock piles to prevent leaching into Railroad Creek



Demolish mill building



Iron staining in reek will eventually dissipate after cleanup



















# **Chelan Boat Company Parking Lot**



# August 2015: Wolverine Fire



# Winter 2015- 2016: Construction of Water Treatment Plant





# 2016: Wrapping it Up

#### **Highlights:**

- Re-claim quarry and borrow areas
- Stabilize and re-vegetate tailings piles
- Operate water treatment plant
- Improve trail system
- Replace Holden Village buildings
- Replace Holden Village foot bridge
- Extend Holden Village hydro plant
- Repair Forest Service Road 8301
- Ongoing monitoring
- Plant trees (2017)

### What Are the Benefits?

- Railroad Creek water will meet standards for sensitive aquatic life.
- Ground and surface water at the site will be monitored continuously.
- Re-shaped tailings and waste rock piles will be much more likely to withstand a major earthquake.
- Tailings and waste rock piles will be covered with soil and revegetated, improving habitat and aesthetics.
- Community receives improved parking area and boat ramp at the Lake Chelan Boat Company.
- Improvements to Holden Village.

# **Economic Impact: 2010 - 2015**

#### **Highlights:**

\$153 million **Direct benefits** (wages to local employees, contractors, equipment providers + property, sales & use, employment taxes to local and state governments)

Local expenditures 2010-2015

Other, 0.4%

Local

Engineering, 13%

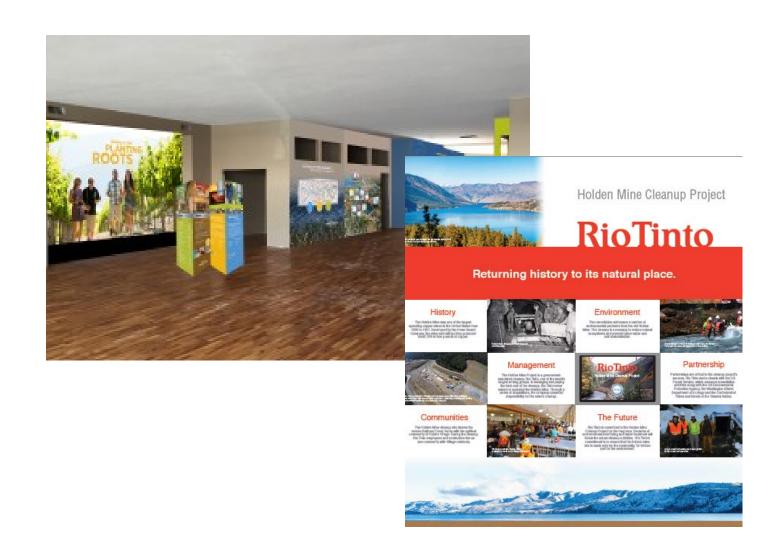
stakeholder

- \$38.7 million Indirect benefits
  (goods purchased from local industries)
- \$ 45.3 **Induced benefits** (revenue generated by individual salaries and expenditures within local communities)

Total Economic benefit = \$237 million

Total regional jobs over the life of the project = 1,875

### **Community Partners: Chelan Visitor Center**



## **Community Partners: Chelan Public Library**









# **Community Partners: Lake Chelan Community Hospital Foundation**



# THANK YOU, CHELAN!