

# Surface Water Quality and Flows

The proposed Area F permit area lies within the Trail Creek, McClure Creek, Black Hank Creek, Donley Creek, and Robbie Creek drainages. Although the permit area includes portions of the headwaters of Trail Creek and McClure Creek, the area is drained primarily by ephemeral drainages which are tributary to the five creeks. All five watersheds will receive surface water runoff from disturbed lands.

## ► Surface Water Quality

- ◆ Increased sediment loads in overland flow and ephemeral streams are anticipated in the proposed mine area.
- ◆ Proposed practices to control and minimize pollution include:
  - stabilizing disturbed areas through land shaping,
  - regulating channel velocity of water,
  - mulching,
  - selectively placing and sealing acid-forming and toxic-forming materials (currently none have been identified), and
  - selectively placing waste materials in backfill areas.
- ◆ No water treatment facilities other than sediment control measures are currently anticipated.
- ◆ All runoff from disturbed areas would be treated in sedimentation ponds designed for total containment of the 10-year, 24-hour precipitation event.

## ► Surface Water Flow

- ◆ The most significant effect on surface waters would be interruption of surface water flows from ephemeral watersheds within the mining permit area.
- ◆ Interruption of surface water flows would continue throughout the life of the mining operation until reclamation is complete and sedimentation ponds are removed.

