SCOPING MEETING AGENDA

Seating; Sign In; Review Displays	5:00 to 5:15
Introduction by Forest Supervisor	5:15 to 5:30
Project Overview, Scoping Process, Meeting Purpose	5:30 to 5:45
Questions and Answers	5:45 to 6:00
Public review of visuals, and speak directly with specialists! Public may record comments	6:00 to 8:00

A Few Reminders for Tonight's Gathering

❑ We appreciate the chance to share the Pinto Valley Mine Project EIS with you and your community.

❑ We believe in mutual respect. To respect everyone's time and participation, please comment only on the proposed project. Also, we ask that you please listen patiently as others express themselves. Please contribute in ways you believe will be most helpful.

❑ There will be time for a general Question and Answer session immediately following this presentation.

Project, Purpose, & Process

- **Project:** The Pinto Valley Mine is an existing open pit copper and molybdenum mine with adjacent milling and processing operations, tailings disposal areas, and waste rock disposal, all operated by Pinto Valley Mining Corp., (PVMC) mostly on private land.

- Currently, some pipelines, roads, power lines, and a portion of tailings are operated by PVMC on National Forest System (NFS) lands surrounding PVMC property.

Project (continued)

❑ PVMC submitted a Mining Plan of Operations (MPO) to expand activities on National Forest System (NFS) lands.

❑ This proposed expansion would increase the overall footprint of activities on the Tonto National Forest (TNF) by approximately 245 acres.

❑ Most of this expansion is in the area of Tailings Storage Areas (TSF) 3 & 4 (~194 acres total), new roads and borrow source (~44 acres), and pit expansion on to the Forest (~5 acres). Please review maps located around the room.
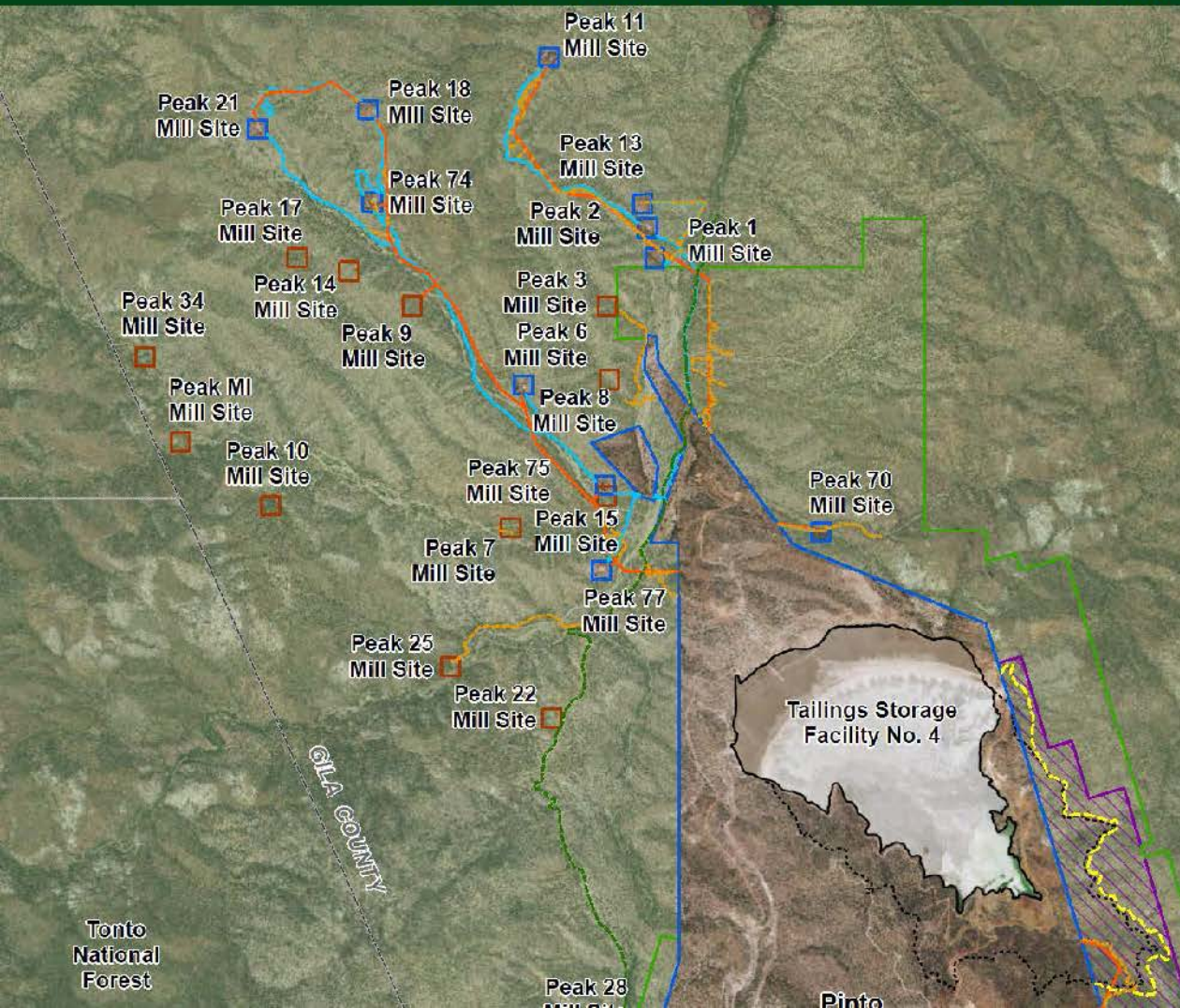
Project (continued)

❑ It may be necessary to approve an Amendment to the Forest Plan, originally issued in 1985, in order for the MPO to be approved.

❑ This would be a project specific Amendment, and the effects of this Amendment must also be evaluated as part of the NEPA process.

❑ We welcome public input on the scope of changes to the Forest Plan that may be required.

United States Department of Agriculture
Tonto National Forest

Pinto Valley Mine

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Legend

- - - - - Forest Road (FR) used by PVMC

- - - - - Forest Road 287 (FR287) Pending Separate Agreement

- - - - - Temporary Access Road (TAR)

- - - - - Future Perimeter Temporary Access Road (Approximate Alignment)

——— Electric Cables

——— Water Pipeline

☐ 2015 Facility Footprint

⬚ Proposed Final Facility Footprint

▨ Proposed New Use Area

☐ Private PVMC Property Boundary

☐ Approximate Boundary Unpatented Peak Mill Site Claims

☐ Approximate Boundary Unpatented Claims
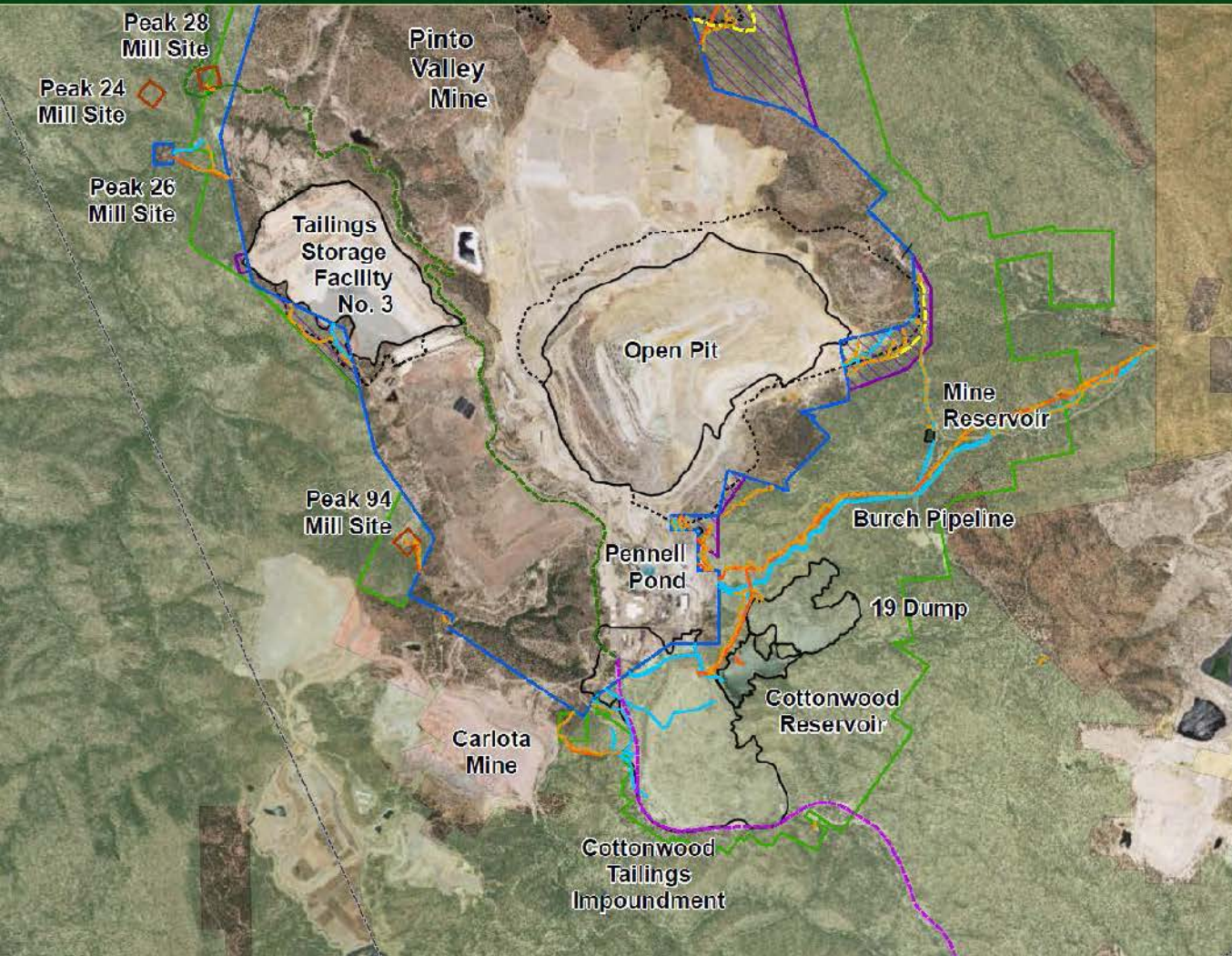
Surface Management

☐ Bureau of Land Management

☐ Private Land (No Color)

☐ US Forest Service

Map labels: Peak 11 Mill Site, Peak 21 Mill Site, Peak 18 Mill Site, Peak 13 Mill Site, Peak 74 Mill Site, Peak 17 Mill Site, Peak 2 Mill Site, Peak 1 Mill Site, Peak 14 Mill Site, Peak 3 Mill Site, Peak 34 Mill Site, Peak 9 Mill Site, Peak 6 Mill Site, Peak MI Mill Site, Peak 8 Mill Site, Peak 10 Mill Site, Peak 75 Mill Site, Peak 70 Mill Site, Peak 15 Mill Site, Peak 7 Mill Site, Peak 77 Mill Site, Peak 25 Mill Site, Peak 22 Mill Site, Peak 28 Mill Site, Tailings Storage Facility No. 4, GILA COUNTY, Tonto National Forest, Pinto

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Pinto Valley Mine

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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- ——— Water Pipeline
- ⬜ 2015 Facility Footprint
- ⬚ Proposed Final Facility Footprint
- ▨ Proposed New Use Area
- ⬜ Private PVMC Property Boundary
- ⬜ Approximate Boundary Unpatented Peak Mill Site Claims
- ⬜ Approximate Boundary Unpatented Claims

Surface Management

- ⬜ Bureau of Land Management
- ⬜ Private Land (No Color)
- ⬜ US Forest Service

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Purpose (and Need):

❑ The Forest Service must analyze the proposed action (the MPO) as required by regulations. Approval of the MPO would be a "major federal action" subject to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), so...

❑ The FS must prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in order to:

  ❑ Identify the scope of issues associated with the MPO;

  ❑ identify and assess reasonable alternatives;

  ❑ minimize, mitigate, or avoid adverse effects; and

  ❑ evaluate and disclose those effects to you, the public.

(Purpose and) Need:

❑ The Forest Service needs to comply with regulations that govern the use of surface resources in conjunction with mining operations on NFS lands.

❑ These regulations require the FS to respond to parties who submit proposed mining plans for approval.

❑ The FS has limited options by law. The Forest Service may:
   ❑ Approve the proposed MPO
   ❑ Require changes in the MPO in order to meet the regulations at 36 CFR 228A.

❑ The Forest Service may **NOT** categorically prohibit mining operations that are reasonably incident to the mining of locatable minerals on NFS lands in the area of the proposed action.

Process – National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

❑ As part of NEPA process, the Forest Service is required to:

- ❑ **Involve the public** to identify issues and concerns surrounding the proposed action **(scoping)**

- ❑ **Develop technically feasible alternatives** to address the identified issues and concerns

- ❑ **Analyze and compare foreseeable impacts under each alternative** to make an equitable and informed decision
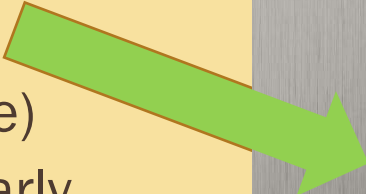
Process - Scoping

❑ Public Scoping (we are here)

❑ Public scoping allows for early public involvement in the EIS process and provides the public, agencies, tribes, and other potentially affected parties an opportunity to:

  ❑ Learn more about the project

  ❑ Provide comments on the project

  ❑ Identify issues to be analyzed on the project

NEPA Process Flowchart

Proponent Submits Plan of Operations	Pinto Valley Plan Submitted Spring 2016
Federal Register Notice of Intent to Prepare EIS	Notice Published March 28, 2017
WE ARE HERE — Public Scoping Period and Scoping Meetings	Public Meetings: April 18 & 20, 2017 Scoping Closes April 27, 2017
Compile and Review Existing Data	
Prepare Project Description and Identify Project Alternatives	
Describe Affected Environment, Analyze Impacts, and Identify Mitigation	
Prepare Draft EIS	
Federal Register Notice of Availability of Draft EIS	
45-Day Public Review and Comment Period with Public Meetings	
Respond to Public Comments And Prepare Final EIS	
Federal Register Notice of Availability of Final EIS and Draft ROD	
45-day Administrative Objection Period	
Issue Record of Decision	Key Points of Public Participation

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Process – Scoping Comments

❑ You are encouraged to provide comments at this meeting and/or submit your comments prior to the close of the public scoping period (April 27, 2017). Your comments will help inform the development of the EIS and will become part of the public record.

❑ What are we looking for?

    ❑ Specific environmental and community concerns

    ❑ Reasonable alternatives that should be considered

    ❑ Data sources that may be relevant to the project

    ❑ Mitigation, compensation, and/or restoration concerns

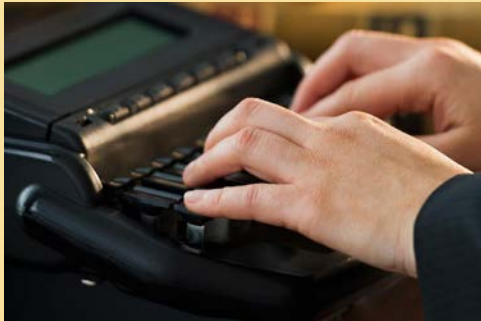   ❑ Assumptions, methods, or approaches that should be used to analyze impacts

Process – Scoping Comments (continued)

❑ How can you comment?

Give your statement to the court reporter here tonight!

Email, fax, letter or phone on your schedule

Documents & Details available at: www.pintovalleymineeis.us

Fill out the comment form here tonight!

Questions?

❑ *BRIEF* (15 minutes) Question and Answer Session starts now!

❑ Please line up at the microphone with your question.

❑ *Please limit your question to three minutes.* That way, we can get through more of them.

❑ Your questions are not necessarily part of the project record. Please submit an official comment so that we can make sure we address your concern.

❑ Please comment only on this project. Thank you.