

#### **Section 2.6.5.24 Wyoming State Lease 42804 (WSL04) Amendment Hydrology**

Page 2.6.5.24-2 through 2.6.5.24-4 tabulates the surface and groundwater rights within and three miles adjacent to the WSL04 Amendment area. Surface and groundwater rights information was compiled from the Wyoming State Engineer's Office website at <http://seo.state.wy.us/>. Bentonite mining takes place at a shallow depth and since groundwater is deep in the area bentonite mining is not expected to affect groundwater.

Pages 2.6.5.24-5 through 2.6.5.24-36 contains quarterly pre-mine baseline water sampling for a one year period for ponds currently located on WSL04.

The surface water drainage and mine maps for the Wyoming State Lease 42804 Amendment area are shown respectively on Map 1.8.1-25 and 2.10.58-1. The WSL04 claim contains a variety of terrain with slight change in elevation, disturbance is not planned for areas with steeper slopes and surface hydrology is not expected to be of concern. One drainage will be affected by mining in the amendment area, this drainage is illustrated in the Mine Plan Map 2.10.58-1. The drainage will be mined through and replaced to pre-mine condition. In addition, the southern pond (0.4 acre) in the amendment area will also be mined through and replaced with improvements. Correspondence with USACE (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) regarding mining in this area can be found in section 2.12.20.

General BMP's utilized, concerning discharge, are listed in the Bentonite Performance Minerals' Wyoming General Storm Water Permit for Mining Operations Authorization and are listed in Section 2.10.11-1 of Permit 267C.

In addition, due to the revised Wyoming General Storm Water Permit for Mining Operations Authorization, Bentonite Performance Minerals will be allowed to discharge to "waters of the state" however will be required to monitor discharged water for Total Suspended Solids.