

Earthworks

Mission: Protecting communities and the environment from the adverse effects of energy and mineral development, while seeking sustainable solutions.



Protecting Communities and the Environment
from the Impacts of Mining, Digging, and Drilling

www.earthworks.org

U.S. Hardrock Mining/Water Impacts:

- Leading source of toxic releases in U.S.
- 93% of operating U.S. copper mines, accounting for 99% of U.S. copper production, resulted in significant water quality impacts.



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Montana Mines

- Water quality impacts at 92% of mines.
- Acid mine drainage, metals leaching, spills, etc.



TRACK RECORD

Montana Modern Hardrock Mining
WATER QUALITY IMPACTS AND RECLAMATION BONDING

SEPTEMBER 2018



EARTHWORKS



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Cabinet Mountains Wilderness

- Predicted flow impacts to 26 miles of streams.
- Reduce stream flows in 2 most important bull trout recovery streams.
- Impacts will last 1300 years.



Recent Accomplishments

Montana – Mine Specific

- Court decision to require water users to consider harm to Outstanding Resource Waters before receiving a water use permit.

Global – Mining Practices

- Initiative for Responsible Mining Assurance – mining standard and certification system for mining. <https://responsiblemining.net/>



IRMA

- Multi-stakeholder (mining industry, conservation groups, labor unions, downstream metal users (e.g., jewelry companies, electronics and automotive), effected communities.
- International mining standard.
- Independent – third party certification.



How can you help?

- www.earthworks.org (take action)

