

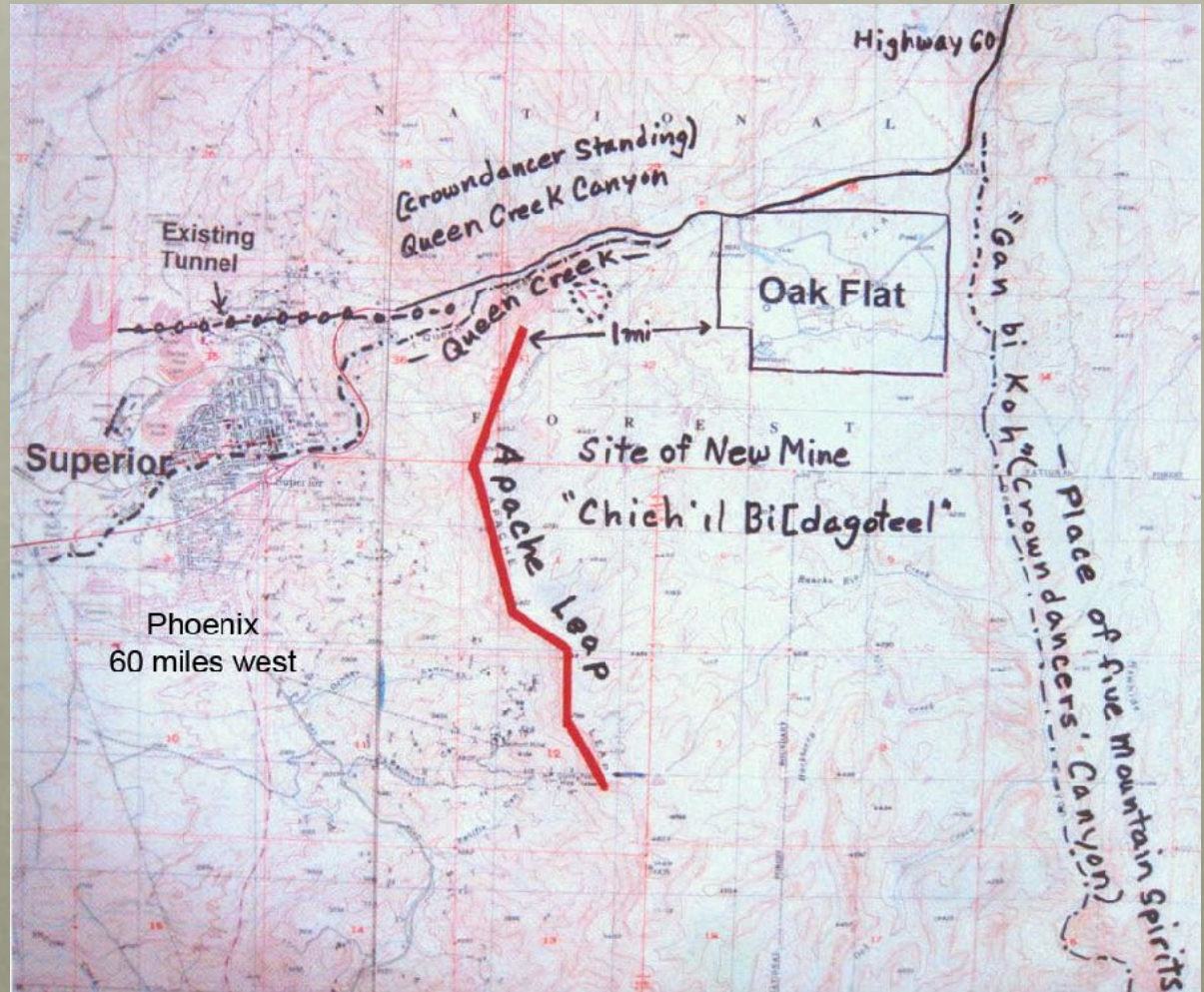


What does Rio Tinto want to
do at Oak Flat and what is
the Tonto National Forest
Analyzing in the DEIS?

Arizona Mining Reform Coalition

Location

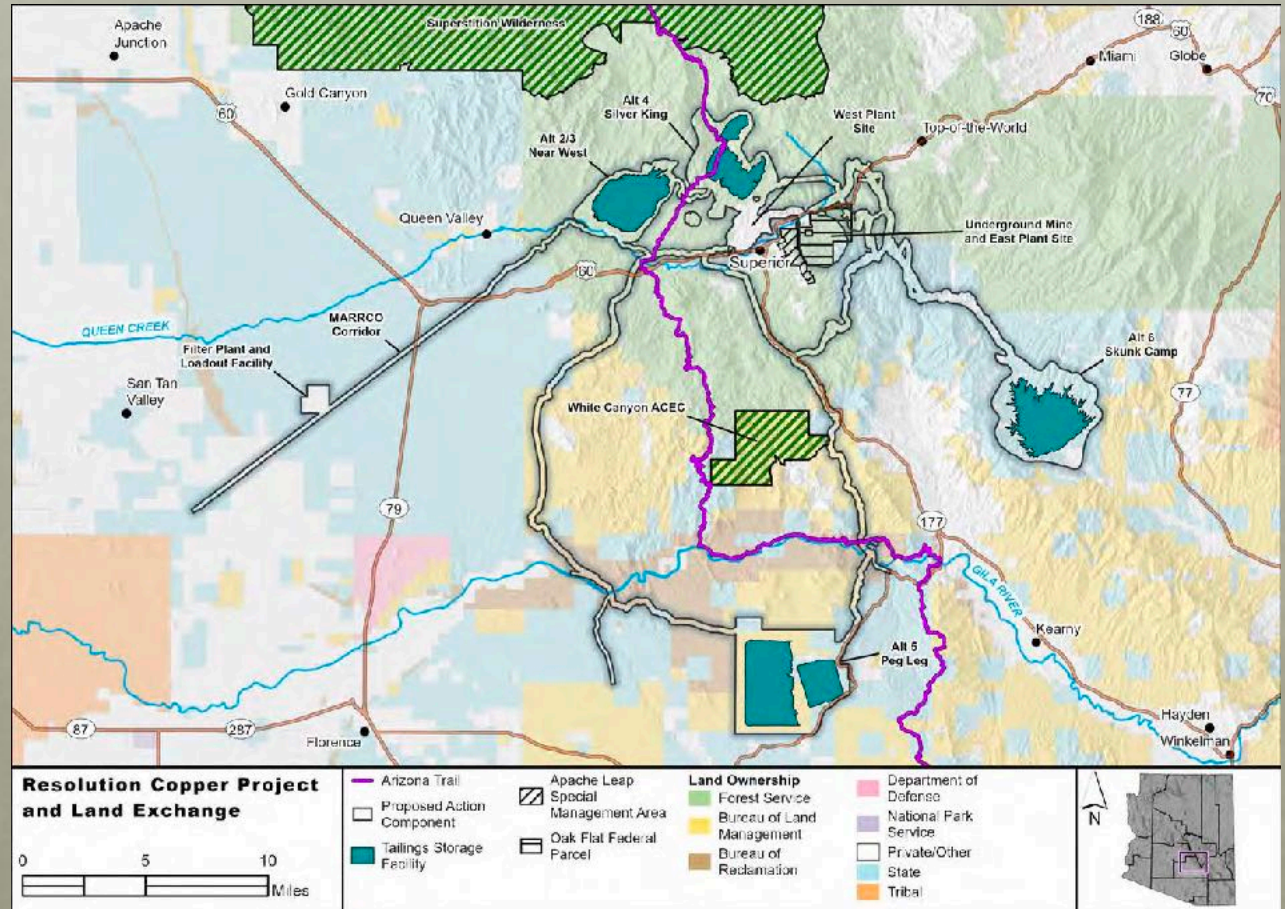
- The Sacred Site of Oak Flat is an hour east of Phoenix, Arizona, and ½ hour west of the San Carlos Apache Reservation.
- The Oak Flat watershed is a rare and sensitive desert riparian ecosystem.
- Oak Flat is one of the best rock climbing locations in North America and heavily used for recreation.



Mining Plan

The Resolution Copper Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) contemplates development of:

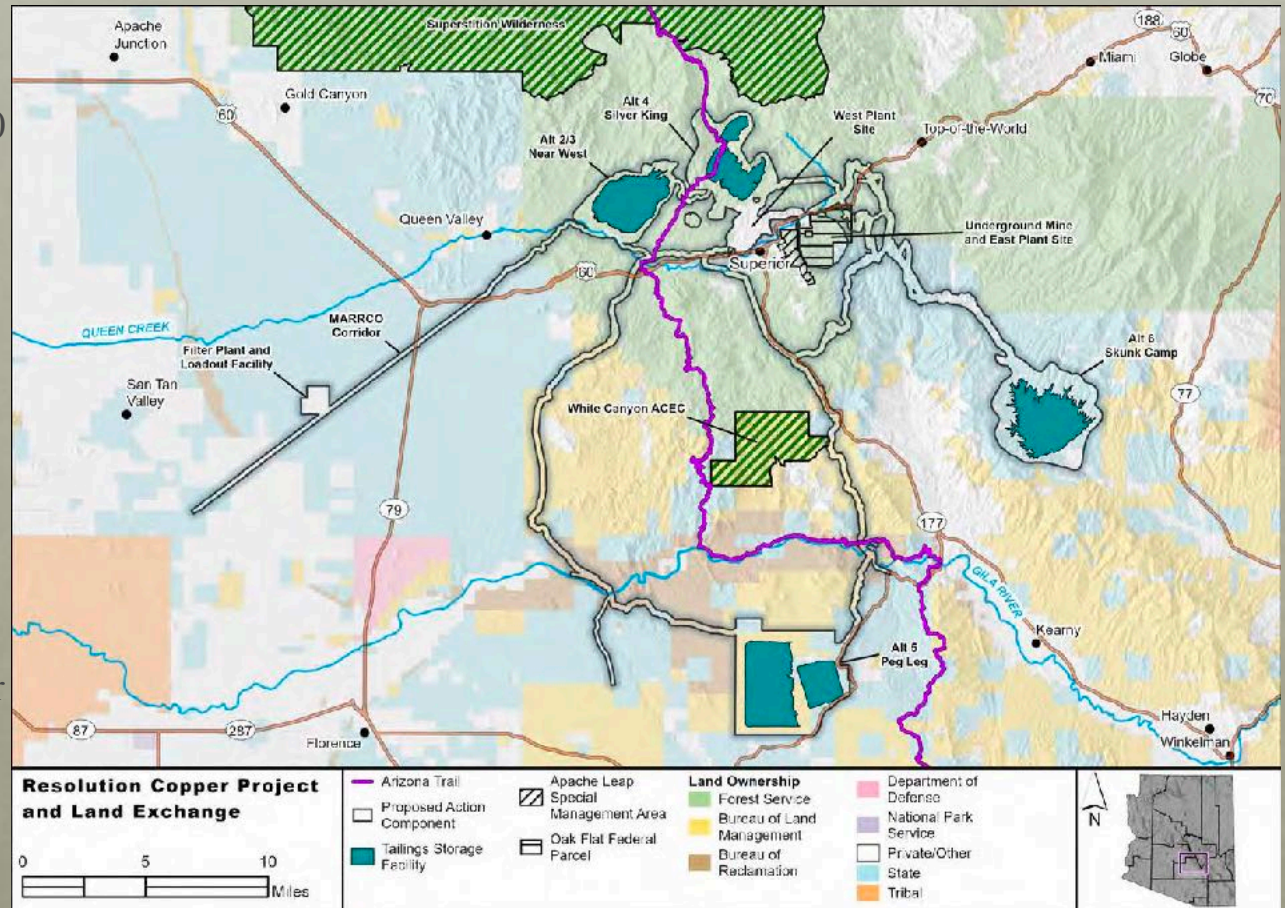
- A massive block cave mine at Oak Flat, to mine copper and molybdenum.
- A concentrating plant west of Superior outside the town boundary.
- A toxic tailing dump at one of 4 locations.
- A loading facility west of Florence Junction.
- 30 water wells in the MARCO railroad corridor close to the town of Magma.



Mining Plan

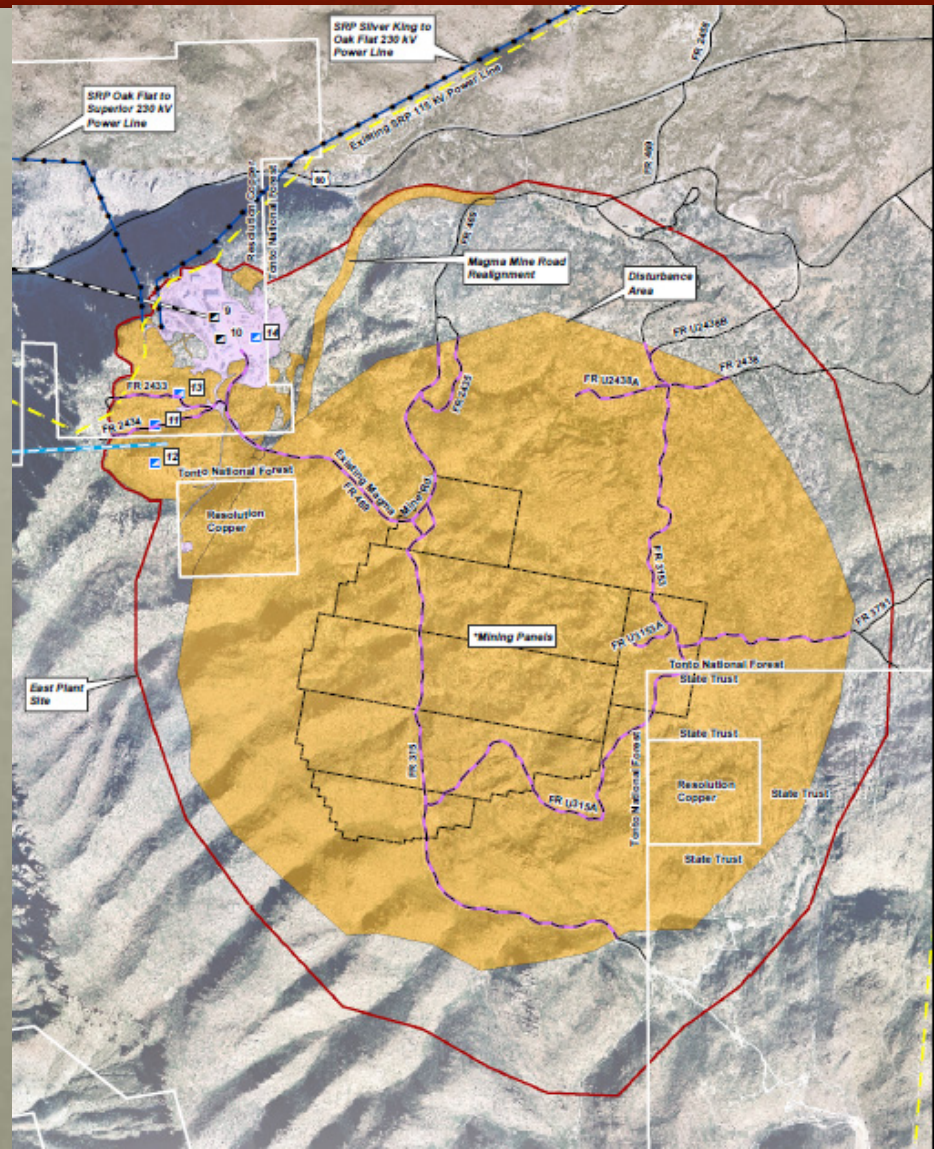
Rio Tinto's mining plan would:

- Use the same amount of electricity as between 219,000 and 1.6 million US households.
 - As much as 17% of the total electrical capacity of the state of Arizona.
- At least 50,000 acre-feet of water per year (for 40 years).
 - More than the city of Tempe (180,000 people).
 - Arizona is preparing for severe water shortages leading to the reduction of 320,000 acre-feet of water from the Colorado River.
- At the point that Rio Tinto water wells would pump groundwater, Pinal County agricultural water users would be the most severely impacted by the shortage.



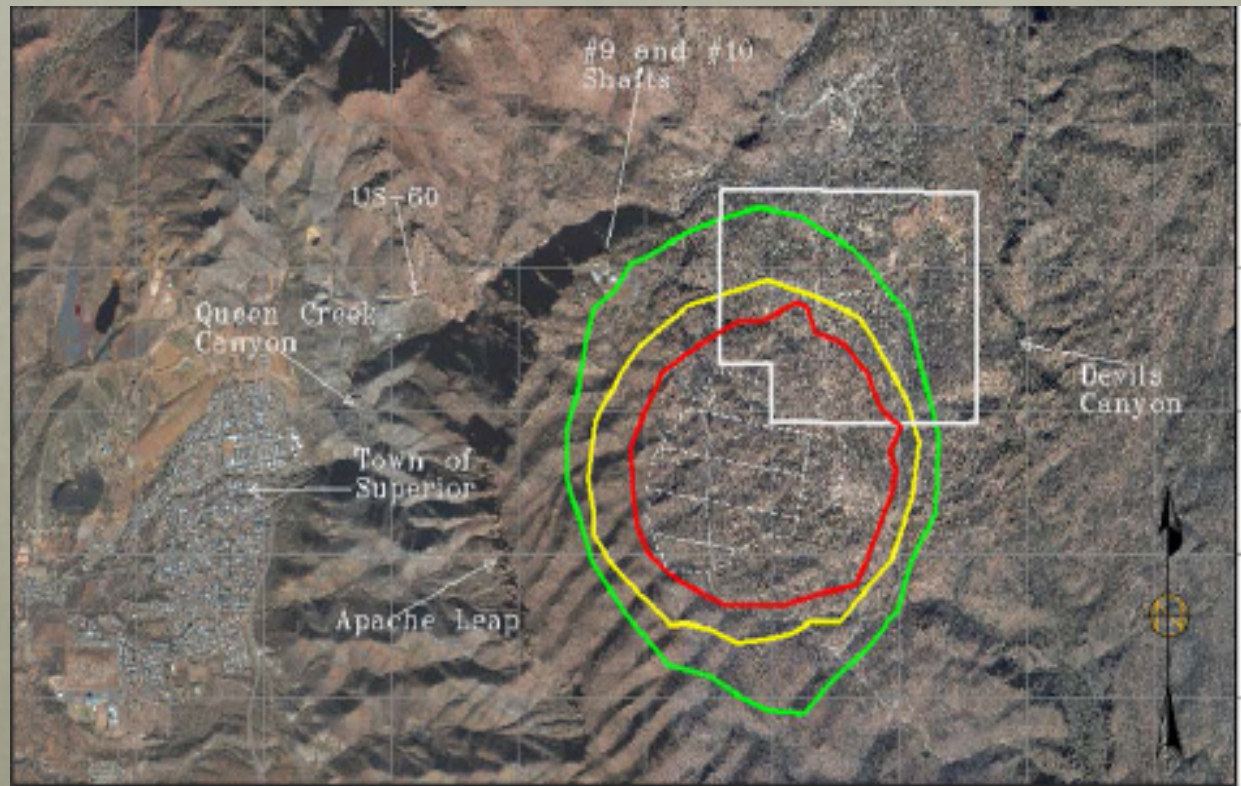
Underground Mine at Oak Flat

- The proposed block cave mine would be a cubic mile in size and located approximately a mile underground.
- Block caving is akin to an “upside-down open pit.” All ore would be removed from 7,000 feet under the ground, resulting in a huge void in the earth.
- The massive void would cut through multiple underground aquifers and require intense mine dewatering.
- As the mine progresses, the ground would collapse, siphoning surface water and groundwater supplies from the area.



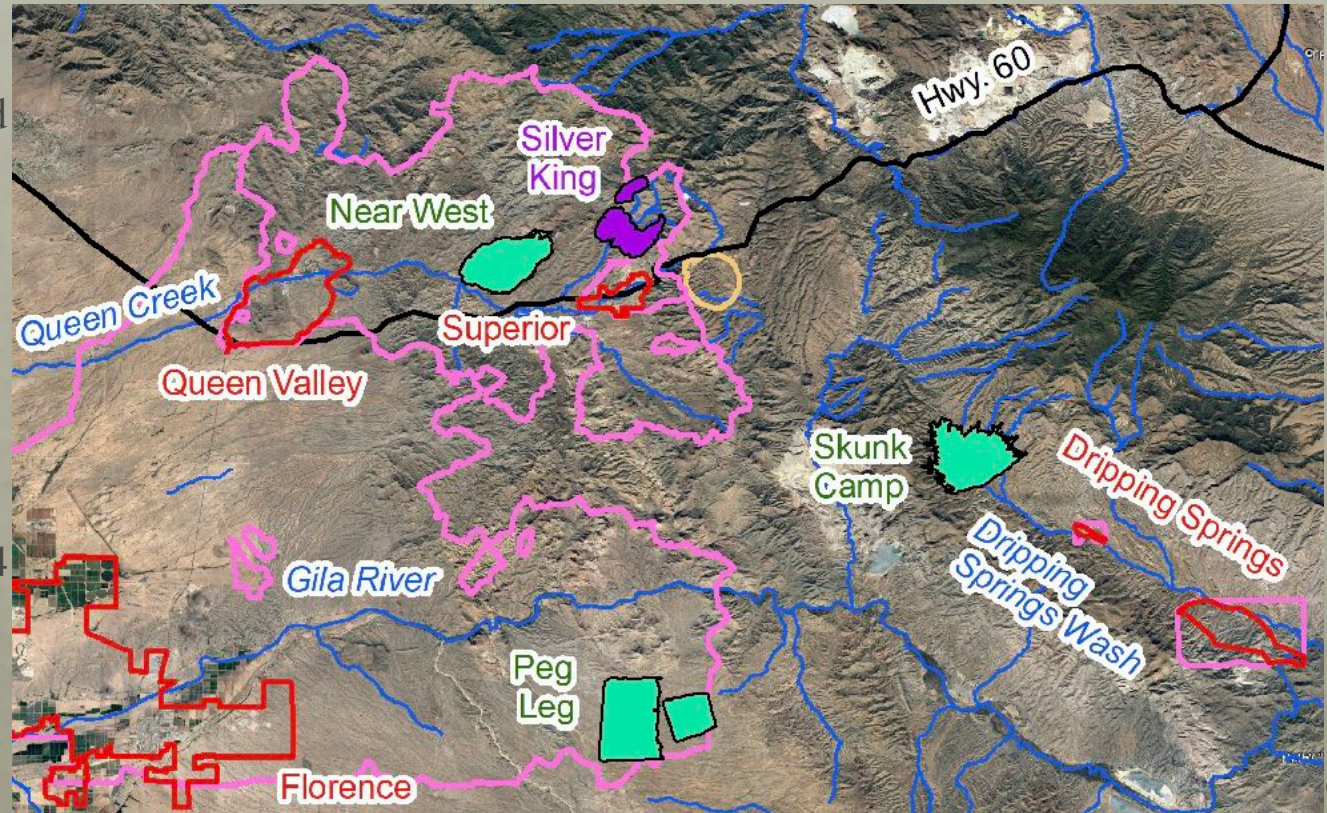
Subsidence

- Rio Tinto estimates that subsidence would destroy or render unsafe at least half of the Oak Flat Campground.
- The plan calls for a subsidence crater 1,000 feet deep and 2.5 miles in diameter.
- Based on incomplete Rio Tinto data, there is a 5.3% chance that Apache Leap would be reached by subsidence.
 - An unacceptable risk for the destruction of irreplaceable cultural heritage.



Tailings

- 1.5 billion tons of toxic waste would be placed in one of five possible unlined dumpsites.
- Design criteria for all alternatives is weaker than current Canadian and Brazilian laws.
- Depending on the site chosen, a dam collapse would reach Superior in 2.4 minutes, Dripping Springs in 16 minutes, Queen Valley in 18 minutes, and Florence in 51.5 minutes.

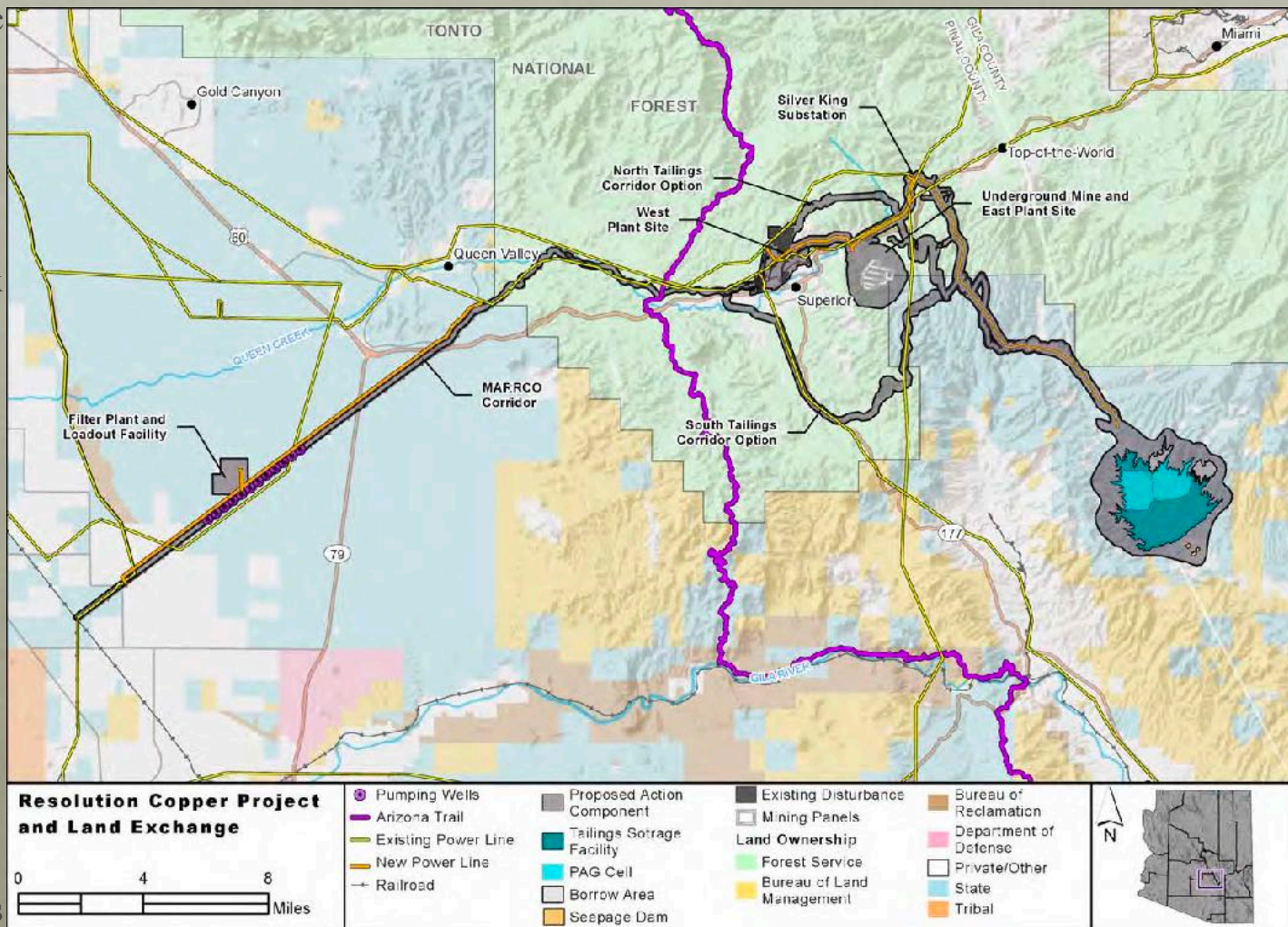


- Predicted runout from dam failure for all alternatives would be in the range of 200 – 370 miles.
- Dam height would be: Near West #2 = 520'; Near West #3 = 510'; Silver King = 1,040'; Peg Leg = 310'; Skunk Camp = 490'.

Tailings

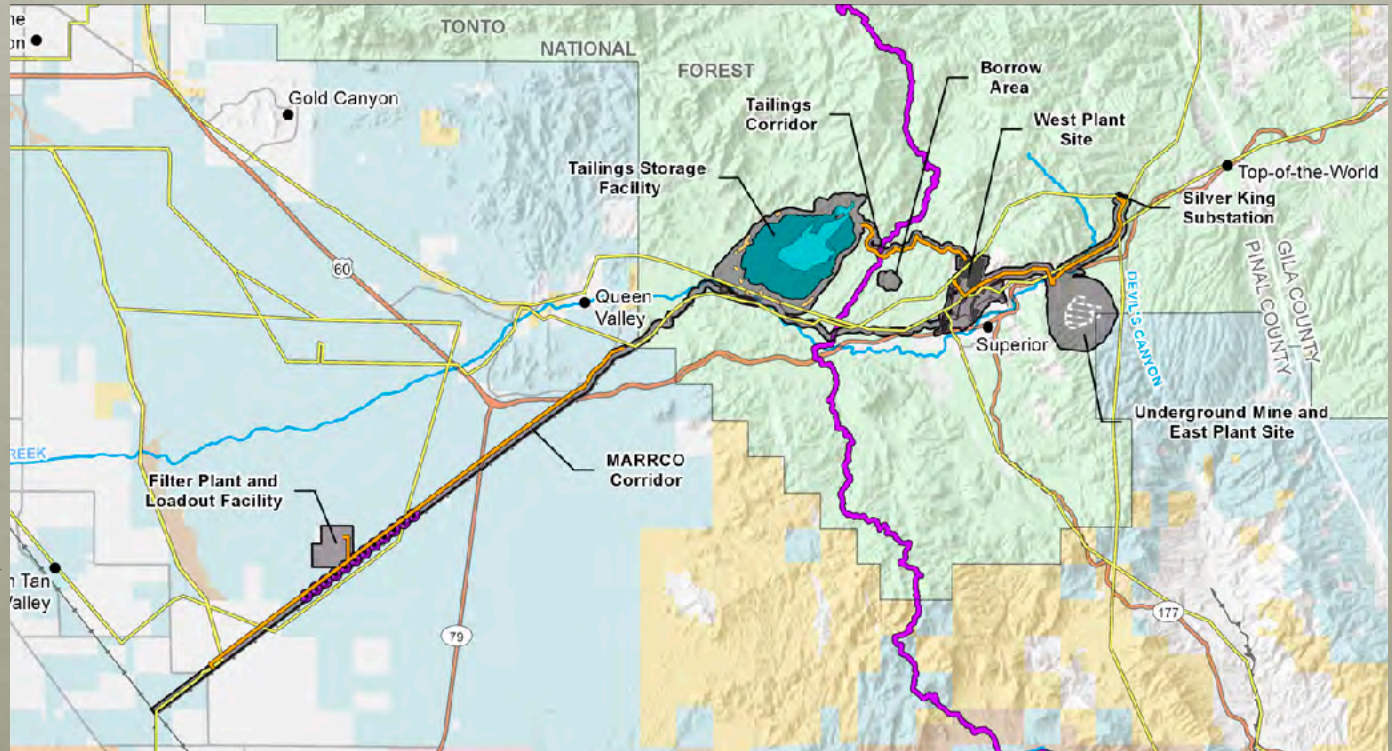
Skunk Camp Alternative

- 1.5 billion tons of toxic waste would be placed in the Dripping Springs (Gila) watershed.
- The land needed for this alternative is a mix of State Trust land and private land although access for tailings pipeline, power line corridor and road is across Federal public land.
- Total disturbance for this alternative would be 15,872 acres.
- The height of the tailings would be 490'.
- A dam collapse would reach Dripping Springs in 16 minutes.



Tailings Near West

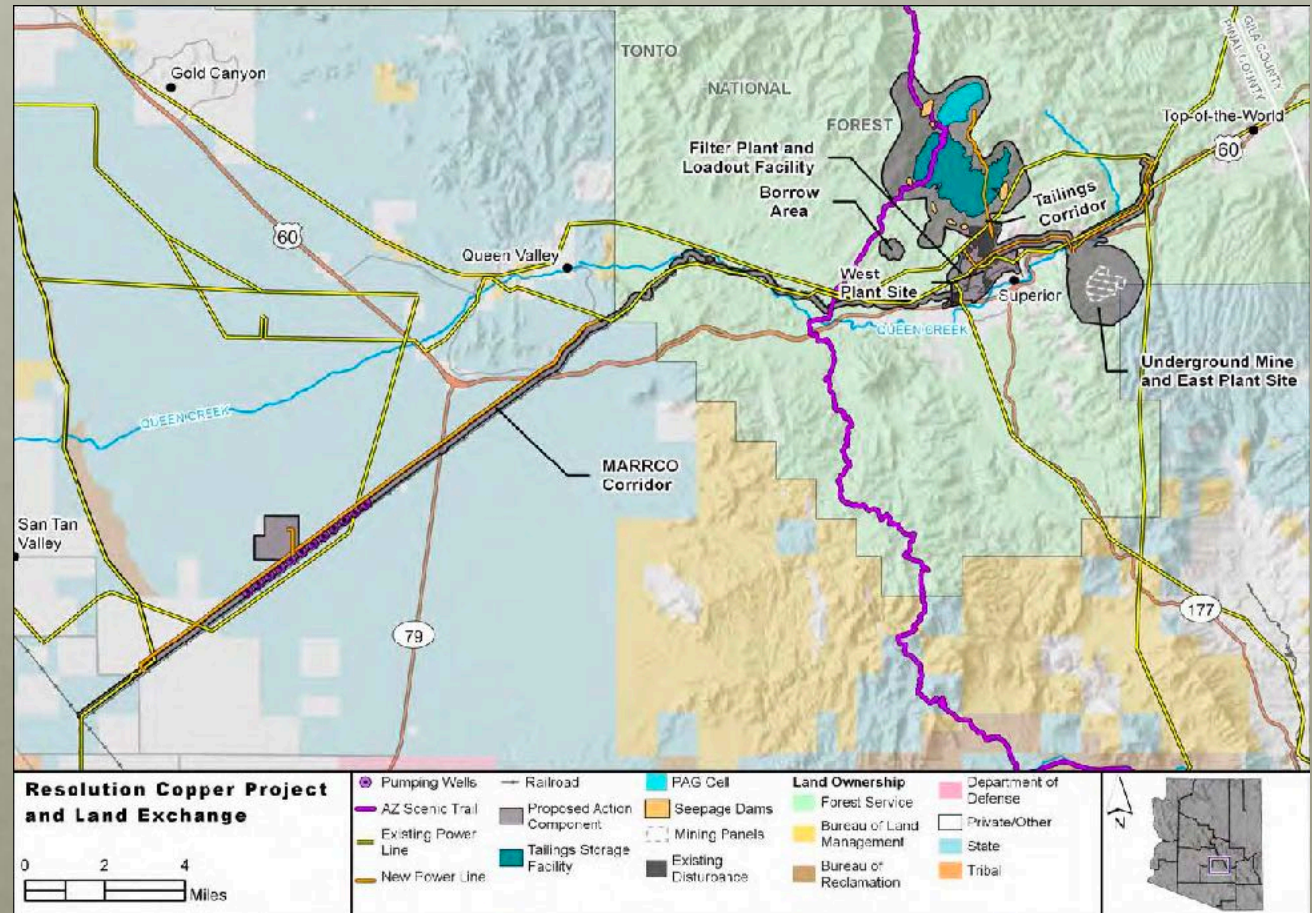
- 1.5 billion tons of toxic waste would be placed in the Queen Creek Watershed 4.5 miles upstream of the community of Queen Valley.
- The tailings would be placed directly on the ground - without a liner to control acid mine drainage.
- A dam collapse would reach Queen Valley in 18 minutes.
- Tailings would be acid generating and would contain elevated levels of chromium, selenium, uranium, and cobalt. Samples have elevated levels of aluminum, iron, manganese, chloride, fluoride, and sulfate when compared to US drinking water standards. Acid would begin to leach from the tailings within 90 days.



Tailings

Silver King Alternative

- 1.5 billion tons of toxic waste would be placed in the Queen Creek Watershed.
- The tailings would be placed directly on the ground - without a liner to control acid mine drainage.
- Total footprint for this alternative is 10,617 acres.
- The tailings height is 1,040' for NPAG pile and 750' for PAG tailings.
- A dam collapse would reach Superior in 2.4 minutes, and Queen Valley in 41 minutes.



Tailings Peg Leg Alternative

- The tailings would be placed directly on the ground - without a liner to control acid mine drainage.
- Total disturbance for this alternative would be 17,285 acres using the west tilings corridor and 16,938 acres using the East Tailings corridor.
- Dam height would be 310' (NPAG) and 200' (PAG).
- A dam collapse would reach Florence in 51.5 minutes.

