



OCEANAGOLD

HAILE OPERATION

Fall 2017

Endangered Species: The Carolina Heelsplitter



The crisp, clear, cool waters of Flat Creek flow through land owned by the Haile Operation and in late September, for the first time in recorded history, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) agents released Carolina heelsplitter mussels, raised in captivity, into the wild in Flat Creek. "This is one of the rarest animals on the planet," said Morgan Wolf, lead USFWS agent on the heelsplitter project.



The Carolina heelsplitter is a fresh water mussel that was once abundant in the streams of South Carolina's Piedmont and in the streams of Lancaster County. The Carolina heelsplitter is in danger of becoming extinct but fortunately, the clean water in Flat Creek and Gills Creek will allow the populations of heelsplitters to survive. Environmental experts estimate there are fewer than 200 heelsplitter mussels alive in the wild. "When we learned of the endangered Carolina heelsplitter, we knew we wanted to help with the preservation effort," said David Thomas, Vice President and Country Director at Haile. The Haile team included critical habitat land for the heelsplitter in the gold mine's mitigation plan drafted during Haile's permitting process. That was several years ago. Since then both state and federal environmental regulators have been planning for this historic heelsplitter day celebrated 25, September 2017.



Welcome to Haile

Newly elected U.S. Representative Ralph Norman and his staff toured OceanaGold's Haile Operation in August. Congressman Norman serves the 5th District of South Carolina which includes Lancaster County.



In September, Haile hosted site tours for the Bethune Water District, the Lancaster Soil and Water Conservation and elected leaders from Camden and Kershaw County.





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Blood Drive

In August, Haile held a blood drive with the Blood Center of the Carolina. The goal was 20 units but employees rallied to donate 33 units of blood which will help 99 people.



Green Tie Luncheon

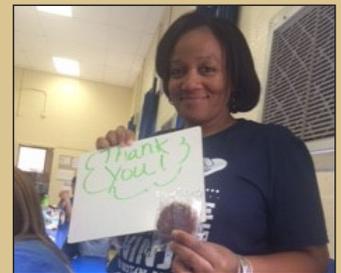


The annual Green Tie Luncheon hosted by the Conservation Voters of South Carolina was another big success. The

luncheon recognizes public servants and conservation activists for their dedication to conserving South Carolina's natural assets. Representative from Haile Gold Mine were in attendance.

Snacks for Students

In September, Haile donated snacks to 4th graders at Kershaw Elementary for their field trip. And they thanked us.



Adopt-a-Highway

Haile Gold Mine has joined the State's Adopt-a-Highway program to help keep litter off our roadways. Haile is responsible for trash pickup on Highway 601 from Haile Gold Mine Road to Old Jefferson Highway. The first litter pickup took place in late September. A sign officially designating Haile accountable for that stretch of road should be in place by November.





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Camden Community Dinner

In October, Haile Vice President and Country Director David Thomas, General Manager Terry Strong and Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Michael Holmes spoke to an attentive crowd of Camden residents about OceanaGold's Haile Operation, its progress, its environmental stewardship and its future.

