

2017 Report Black Flags





Área Medio Marino

Edición: Ecologistas en Acción
 Marqués de Leganés 12 - 28004 Madrid
 Tel.: 915312739

www.ecologistasenaccion.org/mar

Octubre 2017

Ecologistas en Acción agradece la reproducción y divulgación de los contenidos de este informe siempre que se cite la fuente.



Este informe está bajo una licencia Reconocimiento-No comercial-Compartir bajo la misma licencia 3.0 España de Creative Commons. Para ver una copia de esta licencia: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/es/>

Summary

Introduction	3
Andalucía	5
Almería	5
Cádiz	6
Granada	7
Huelva	8
Málaga	9
Asturias	11
Baleares	13
Canarias	15
Las Palmas	15
Sta. Cruz de Tenerife	16
Cantabria	18
Cataluña	20
Barcelona	21
Girona	23
Tarragona	26
Ceuta	28
Euskadi	31
Bizkaia	31
Gipuzkoa.....	32
Galicia	33
A Coruña	33
Lugo	37
Pontevedra	38
Melilla	41
País Valenciano	42
Alicante	42
Castellón	48
Valencia	50
Región de Murcia	53
Conclusions	62
Annex 1: Blue Flags	64
Annex 2: Posidonia oceanica	67

Galicia

A Coruña

➤ For pollution

San Fins Mines in Lousame (Ría de Muros-Noia, within the Lower Rías)

In the San Fins Mines the underground works of concession holder Tungsten San Finx S.L., a Sacyr group subsidiary, cause acid mine drainage due to contact of water infiltrations with kilometers of mine works. These industrial mine waste waters with a low pH facilitate the dissolution of heavy metals. In San Fins Mines drainage present high levels of cadmium, copper and zinc. Cadmium concentrations are of special concern as it is defined as priority dangerous substance.

The volume of acid mine residual water drainage that is discharged with high concentrations of these metals lacking any form of treatment is approximately 50.000 liters per hour. In the Traba bridge, in the proximities of the point where the river meets the sea, in the inner part of the Muros-Noia estuary, in spite of dilution, cadmium levels measured by the Galician Waters Administration in March 2017 is above the legal limit in annual average.

Between 1928 and 1939 the mining concession holders built two dams for the decantation of mining waste. These dams are completely filled up and in in very poor condition. The failure of the dams would imply the release of hundreds of thousands of tons of mining waste into the Muros-Noia estuary and the irreparable damage of the mussel gathering sand banks which are the main economic driver for the area. In year 2000 the concession holder stopped presenting the mining work plans but the administration did not rescue the concessions.

In 2009 a new concession holding company sought to reactivate the mine, but became bankrupt in 2013 after receiving almost 2 million euros in public subsidies. The mine development and restorations projects were not subjected to an environmental impact study, in spite of being mandatory and that it had already been requested several times to the previous concession holder. These 2009 projects that are still in force do not foresee any kind of treatment of acid mine drainage, the removal of the mining dams in the San Fins river or the restoration of the area affected by the mining activity. In 2015 Valoriza Minería, a Sacyr group subsidiary, acquired the mining concessions ignoring any responsibility over the dams and other restoration responsibilities arguing that they are not part of the mine's development project.

Responsible administrations: Directorate General of Energy and Mines of the Regional Ministry of Economy, Employment and Industry, Galician Waters Administration, Regional Ministry of the Environment and Territorial Planning; Lousame City Council.

Legal basis: RD-Leg. 1/2008, de 11 de enero, por el que se aprueba el texto refundido de la Ley de Evaluación de Impacto Ambiental de proyectos (in force until 12/12/13); Ley 21/2013, de 9 de diciembre, de evaluación ambiental; Orden de 26 de abril de 2000 por la que se aprueba la Instrucción Técnica sobre Depósitos de lodos en procesos de tratamiento de industrias extractivas (vigente hasta el 14/06/2009); Real Decreto 975/2009, de 12 de junio, sobre gestión de los residuos de las industrias extractivas y de protección y rehabilitación del espacio afectado por actividades mineras; & Real Decreto Legislativo 1/2001, de 20 de julio, por el que se aprueba el texto refundido de la Ley de Aguas.

State of the procedure: currently the concession holders has requested a discharge permit from the Galician Waters administration for mine industrial waste, a project being processed in spite of lack of Environmental Impact Assessment.

Social and environmental impact: the mine development project currently in force foresees a total of 12 workers during the 10 years of mine development. In contrast, the estuary offers a plurality of sustainable economic realities, for present and future generations. These activities not only do not harm the ecosystem, but actually help to keep the delicate equilibrium between resources and human action. Fishermen's guilds, production groups and environmental associations have united in the "Vida e Ría ou Minaría?" platform (Life and Sea or Mining?) to demand that the Administration enforces the law strictly: that an environmental impact study is carried out, the active treatment of acid mine drainage, the restoration of the mining ponds, an adequate management of mining waste, etc.