

WILLIAMS COUNTY

Planning Unit 089: AML Printout #489: T156N, R102W, Section 14, NE

Additional Legal Location: See Notes, below

Name:

Owner:

Cow Creek Coat Mine (1912-1913)
Big Four Coal Mine (1914-1917)
Cow Creek Coal Co. (1922-1930)

H.H. Skogberg (1913)
Ben Fedge (aka Fedje)
(remaining years)

Category: Commercial/local

Type: Underground, drift, single entry

Overburden:	Coal Seam:	Thickness Mined:	Source:
50 ft.	7 ft.	6 ft.	SEBR:1914, 1916, 1918
70 ft.	7 1/2 ft.	6 1/2 ft.	CMID:1926

Cultural Resource Site Number: Not formally recorded

Basic Data (excerpted from primary sources):

This mine is not listed as a new mine in 1913, and it may have been in operation prior to that time. According to the 1914 SEBR, "The coal outcrops on the side of a hill on a coulee and the entry is driven directly into the coat bed. The mine is dry excepting that a little seepage occurs in the summer time. Water is said to be satisfactory for steam purposes, and wells are 14 to 18 feet in depth. Herald (1913) indicates that the Big Four Mine was a drift mine with double entries about 40 ft. apart; the air shaft was located about 125 feet south of the main entry of the mine. The 1916 SEBR indicates that the Big Four Coal Mine was formerly the Cow Creek Coal Mine; the main entry of the mine extended 500 ft. by early 1916. The 1918 SEBR indicates, "A new drift was driven a short distance from the old mine which has been worked out." No listings were noted following those in the 1918 SEBR, until a listing noted in the 1922 CMID. It is not known whether or not the mine was operated from 1919 through 1921. The mine was operated and reported from 1922 through 1929; the 1930 CMID indicates that the mine was closed. No listings were noted for this mine following 1930. It appears likely that the mine was not operated following 1930; however, it is possible that the mine was operated and not reported or that the mine was operated and reported under some other name following that year.

Descriptive information pertaining to this mine is included in:

[source:year(pages)]

CMID:1926(58)	SEBR:1916(158)
Herald:1913(111, Plate X)	SEBR:1918(169)
SEBR:1914(148)	WCB map:1924

Cow Creek/Big Four Coal Mine (continued)

Notes:

Various locational discrepancies were noted in reference to this mine:

SEBR (1914): T156N, R102W, Section 14, SW, NW
SEBR (1916, 1918): T156N, R101W, Section 14, NW, NE
Herald (1913): T156N, R102W, Section 14, E1/2
WCB (1924): T156N, R102W, Section 14, NE

No information was noted to definitely clarify which of these locations is most correct. It does appear likely that the mine was located at T156N, R102W, Section 14. It also appears likely that the mine was located in Section 14, NE; however, other part sections of Section 14 were noted. It is possible that some of these locations are in error; it also is possible that the mine was operated in more than one portion of Section 14. SEBR (1916, 1918) references to R101W appear to be in error.

Sources (primary and secondary):

CMID:see table, next page, for appropriate years
Herald:1913(111, Plate X)
SEBR:see table, next page, for appropriate years
WCB:1924

Mine: Cow Creek Coal Mine (1912-1913)
 Big Four Coal Mine (1914-1917)
 Cow Creek Coal Co. (1922-1930)

Planning Unit: 089
 AML Number: 489

Year	Days Operated	Employees	Price Per Ton	Tons Produced	Tons Local Trade	Tons Shipped	Owner or Superintendent*
1913	72	1	1.80	225	yes	no	H.H. Skogberg
1914	101	2	1.82	361	yes	no	Ben Fedge
1915	49	4	1.90	178	yes	no	Ben Fedge
1916	108	4	1.80	600	yes	no	Ben Fedge
1917	90	3	2.00	400	yes	no	Ben Fedge
1922	35	3	2.50	287	287	none	J.B. Beaton**
1923	159	3	2.533	1,645.59	1,645.59	none	J.D. Beaton**
1924	193	2	2.50	1,079	1,079	none	Ruber & Will*
1925	250	4	2.50	2,791	2,791	none	Ben Fedje**
1926	90	3	2.50	400	400	none	Ben Fedge**
1927	130	3	2.50	500	500	none	Ben Fedje**
1928	20	2	2.50	500	500	none	Ben Fedje**
1929	99	3	2.50	670	670	none	Ben Fedje**
1930	"Closed"						

*Unless otherwise indicated, name listed is that of owner.

**Individual was superintendent of the mine; owner not listed.