



Boscaro Self-Dumping Bins

assist with Pride of the Woods
site clean-up

Challenges? At Bigfoot, we take them all in stride.

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Built at the turn of the century, during Washington's short-lived mining boom, the Pride of the Woods mine was abandoned by the 1920s, leaving behind mine tailings laden with toxic metals like arsenic and lead. These tailings had been leaching into the soil and nearby groundwater, posing serious health and environmental threats to both man and nature.

It fell to the U. S. Forest Service to handle reclamation for this mine and other abandoned sites in the area. While the other sites had access roads to allow for more conventional clean-up, the Pride of The Woods was unique. Located in the pristine Henry M. Jackson wilderness area, and to restrict machinery access, no road had ever been built and none would be permitted – not even for this project. The challenge in getting Pride of the Woods mine cleaned up became two-fold: how to remove environmental waste without altering the existing environmental footprint in order to protect delicate eco-systems, endangered species and cultural and historical artifacts.

It was decided that fly-in helicopters would be used. Oregon-based Columbia Helicopters was hired to bring in excavators and buckets. The plan was for the excavators to dig out the contaminated rocks and soil and dump them into the bins, which were then flown out and taken to a nearby repository for safe storage.

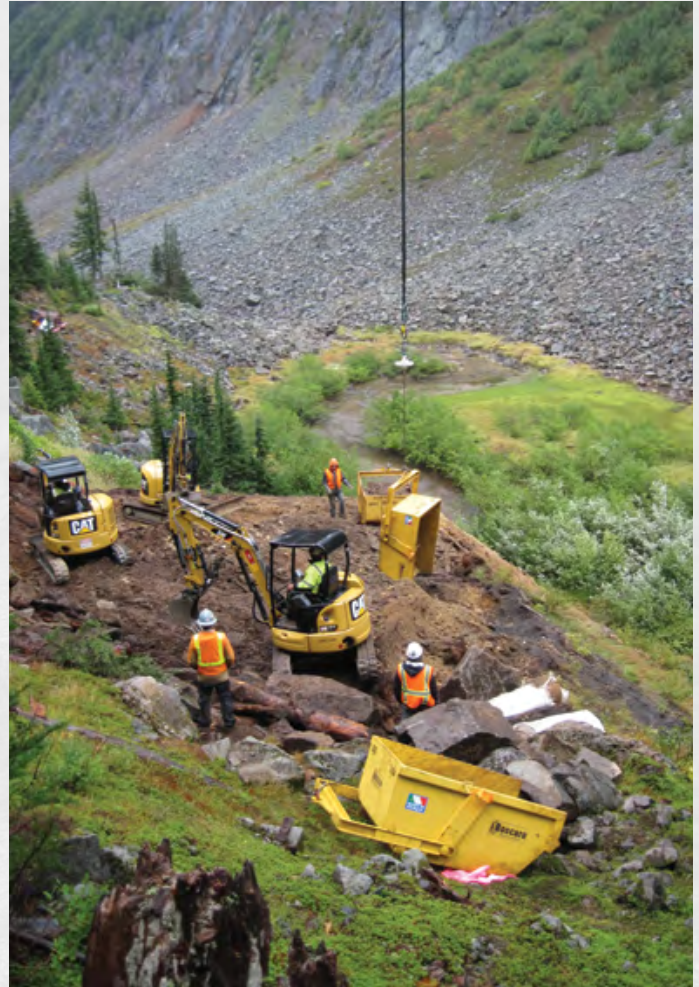
“It was definitely a challenge,” says Dave Horrax, Project Manager with Columbia Helicopters. While Columbia Helicopters could have used their own homemade bins or fill sacs, Dave notes they're difficult to load and they have to be manually hooked up every time. “We also needed to be sure that whatever product was used would be able to withstand heavy loads and extremely rough terrain.”

“I found the Boscaro self-dumping bins online through Bigfoot Crane Company. And since I knew up front what my weight limitations were, I was able to find the bin that I needed.” Dave ordered three A-200D Boscaro Self-Dumping Bins: two alternated between load and transit while one was kept in reserve.

About two thousand cubic yards of waste rock – 887 total bin loads – was removed during the site clean-up. The project took 12 days and actually required less time than originally planned, due in large part to the efficiency of the Boscaro bins. The mechanical arm on each bin allowed for easy hook-up and earned some serious respect from the helicopter pilots.

“The bins worked flawlessly from beginning to end,” says Dave. “Plus they're so well-made. They stood up to pretty much everything we put them through.” The best part, he adds, was that the site clean-up was done with minimal environmental impact.

“I'll definitely be using the Boscaro bins again and I'll be recommending them to others.”



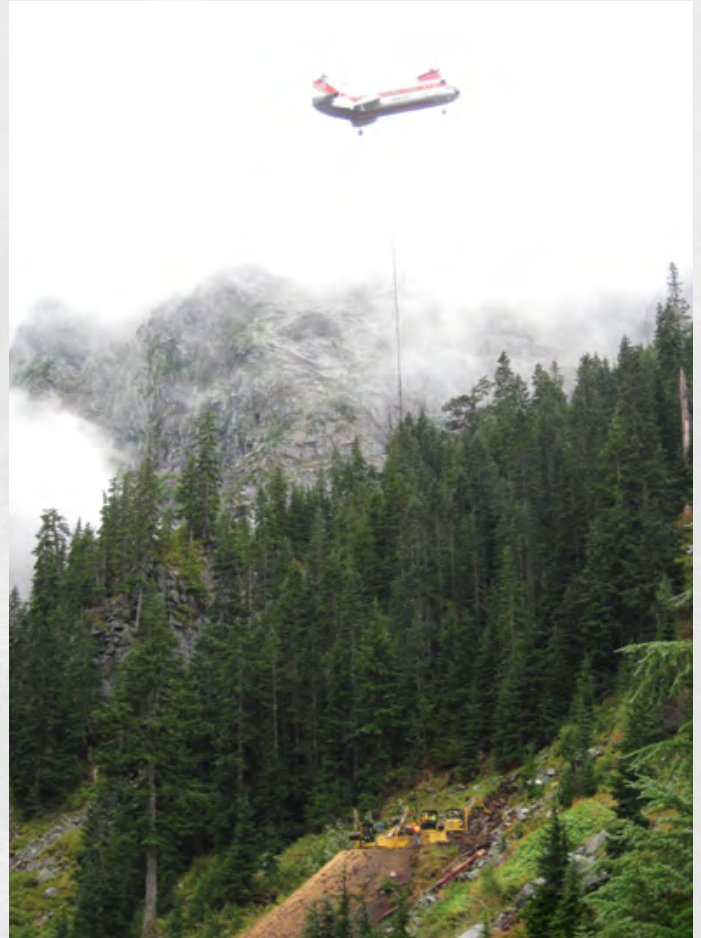


Boscaro Self-Dumping Bins

The A-D bin series by Boscaro consists of sixteen durable, light-weight models designed for hands-free unloading so you can enhance safety while increasing job site efficiency. All of the buckets and bins are approved for use in North America because they meet or exceed all ASME standards. To help ensure ASME accordance, each self-dumping hopper comes with its own corresponding serial number, included with product documentation. Rugged construction and compliance with engineering standards are the benchmarks of all Boscaro equipment. Utilizing more than 30 years of industry knowledge, Boscaro is one of the world's leading manufacturers of industrial equipment.

Specifications

- 16 models to choose from
- Engineered to meet or exceed all CE and ASME standards
- Durable powder-coated finish
- Tested for safety, strength, and longevity
- 100% welded steel construction



About Columbia Helicopters

Founded in 1957 and based in Portland, Oregon, Columbia Helicopters is the world leader in commercial heavy-lift helicopter operations. It is the only operator of commercial models of the CH-47 Chinook and CH-46 Sea Knight helicopters, which provide unmatched lifting services to industries such as forestry, construction, petroleum exploration, government support, disaster relief and firefighting (wild fires). The company is known world-wide, with an office in Papua New Guinea and a subsidiary office in Peru. They have worked on projects in Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Ecuador, Chile, Mexico, Laos, Malaysia, Indonesia, Panama, Afghanistan, Myanmar, China, Australia and New Zealand.

