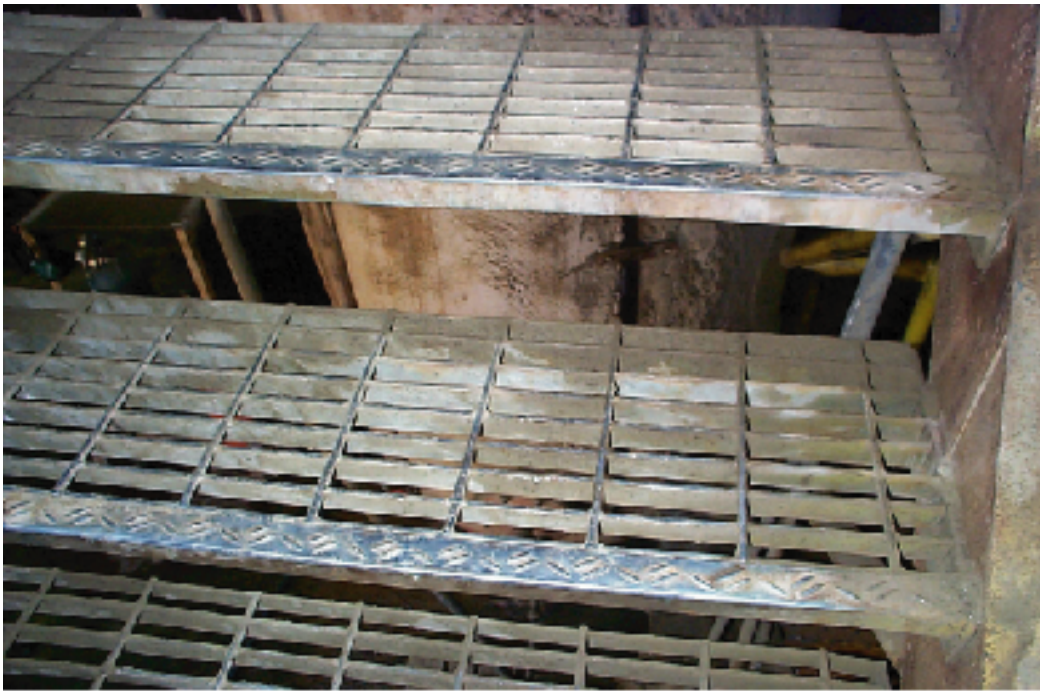




Division of Mineral Mining

## Accident Investigation: Fall Accident June 12, 2002

A mine employee sustained a laceration to his elbow, three broken teeth, and lost consciousness momentarily as a result of a fall in the mill section of a mine. The miner slipped and fell on the metal steps, shown in the photograph below, after carrying several 50-lbs. bags of ferric sulfate up the stairs to the blender.



**RECOMMENDATIONS:** To prevent a similar slip/fall accident from occurring in this wet work environment, the mine operator installed non-slip, perforated metal plating on the stair steps (see above-right photograph). Stairs and other travelways should be inspected each shift to ensure safe conditions, and should be adequately illuminated during hours of darkness.