California’s Abandoned Mine Lands Program Fact Sheet
Abandoned Mine Inventory and Remediation

Field Inventories


- Since 1997, the AMLU has inventoried more than **3,000** abandoned mine sites and **29,000** features (shafts, adits, etc.).

- To support its inventory work, the AMLU reviews the mine symbols from U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7½ minute topographical maps.

- The AMLU finds an average of 3.5 mine features per mapped symbol during field inventories. The number of features per symbol varies from site to site, as shown in the St. Louis Mine example to the right.
Remediations

In 2001, the AMLU closed a hazardous abandoned mine shaft as a public safety demonstration project. In 2002, the AMLU began funding abandoned mine remediation projects in addition to its inventory work. By partnering with land-owning agencies and other entities, which typically contribute funds or in-kind services, the AMLU has leveraged State dollars by nearly 100%, remediating more hazards than it could with its own resources only. The AMLU’s partners include those listed below.

State Agencies
- California Conservation Corps
- California Department of Fish and Game
- California Department of Parks and Recreation
- California Department of Transportation
- California State Lands Commission

Federal Agencies
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- National Park Service
- Office of Surface Mining
- U.S. Forest Service

Local Government Entities: City of Vallejo, Paradise Irrigation District

Nonprofits: Bat Conservation International, Solano Land Trust, Western States Trail Foundation

Private Companies: Foam Concepts, Teichert

Since 2006, the AMLU’s primary funding sources to remediate physical hazards at abandoned mines come from a fee collected on gold and silver mined in California ($5 per ounce for gold and 10¢ per ounce for silver)* and from federal awards. The AMLU has now helped to remediate hundreds of hazardous abandoned mine features, using the techniques listed below.

- Wire fences .................................................................
- Backfills ........................................................................
- Closed with polyurethane foam (PUF) ........................
- Fitted with bat-compatible gates, cupolas, or culverts ....
- Other (capped, hazardous debris removed, etc.) ...........

Total features remediated (through March 2010):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># Features Remediated</th>
<th>2001-05</th>
<th>2006-10 (Gold &amp; Silver Fees &amp; federal funds)</th>
<th>2001-10 (cumulative)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wire fences</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backfills</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closed with PUF</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fitted bat-cups</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>651</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* See Kuehl, Chapter 794, Statutes 2003; Public Resources Code § 2207(d)(4)(B).