

# AML FATALITIES AND “NEAR MISSES” & VANDALISM AT AML SITES (2000-2009)

California AML Forum  
February 17, 2010

California Department of Conservation  
Office of Mine Reclamation,  
Abandoned Mine Lands Unit (AMLU)

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**STAY OUT  
STAY ALIVE**

# Every year, people die or are injured in abandoned mine accidents

Man Who Fell Down Shaft Dies (*Desert Dispatch*)

Searchers Find Body in Abandoned Mine (*Fresno Bee*)

Boy Survives 200 Foot Fall Into Mine (*High Desert News*)

Motorcycle Rider Escapes Serious Injury After Tumble Down Mine Shaft (*The Daily Independent*)

Bike Rider, 11, Survives 40-foot Plunge into Unfenced Mine Shaft (*Los Angeles Daily News*)

4 Youths Killed in Old Eastbay Mine (*Oakland Tribune*)

Another Man Falls Down Abandoned Mine Shaft (*Victorville Daily Press*)

Fix Unmarked Mine Shafts Before Someone Else Dies (*Del Norte TriPLICATE*)

9-Year-Old Boy Who Fell Down Abandoned Mine Shaft Rescued (*The Bakersfield Californian*)

Brothers Die While Diving in Old Mine (*Los Angeles Times*)

Death Spurs Mines Alert (*Riverside Press Enterprise*)

**DANGER  
KEEP OUT**

2 Killed By Fumes in Abandoned El Dorado Mine (*CBS 13 News*)





**STAY OUT  
STAY ALIVE**

# 45 Reported Accidents in California in 2000-09 (14 Fatalities)

**KCRA 3**  
KCRA.com  
Where The News Comes First

Homepage > VIDEO

**KCRA 3 EXCLUSIVE**  
Courtesy: Tuolumne County Sheriff's Dept. 3 HD

**Man Rescued After 2 Nights in Mine Shaft**  
A man rescued from an abandoned gold mine after hanging more than 100 feet and spending his nights at the bottom of the 400 shaft said he expects not "to walk to..."

**Man Rescued After 2 Nights in Mine Shaft (August 17, 2008)**

**3 Men Died ... in Gold Mine (May 20, 2008)**

May 20, 2008 Central Valley's News Station: Fresno-Visalia

**KSEE 24 NEWS** **INSIDE FRESNO COURTS** WEDNESDAY 6PM

News Weather Sports Traffic Features YouNewsTV Programming Community Content  
Local News US & World Business Health KSEE Sunrise Politics Entertainment Technology

**UPDATE: 3 MEN DIED OF CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING IN GOLD MINE**

**MINE ACCIDENT**

DAVID ALISON MATTHEW ALISON BRANNON SCHARF

**TOOLS**  
SAVE  
E-MAIL  
PRINT  
YOUNEWSTV™  
MOST POPULAR  
RSS FEED  
DIGO  
DELICIOUS



**STAY OUT  
STAY ALIVE**

# WHERE

County	#
Alameda	2
Butte	1
Calaveras	2
Del Norte	1
El Dorado	3
Imperial	1
Inyo	2
Kern	14
Madera	1
Nevada	1
Orange	1
Placer	3
Plumas	1
Riverside	3
San Bernardino	6
San Diego	1
Tuolumne	2

**45**

**AML FATALITIES &  
"NEAR MISSES": 2000-09**

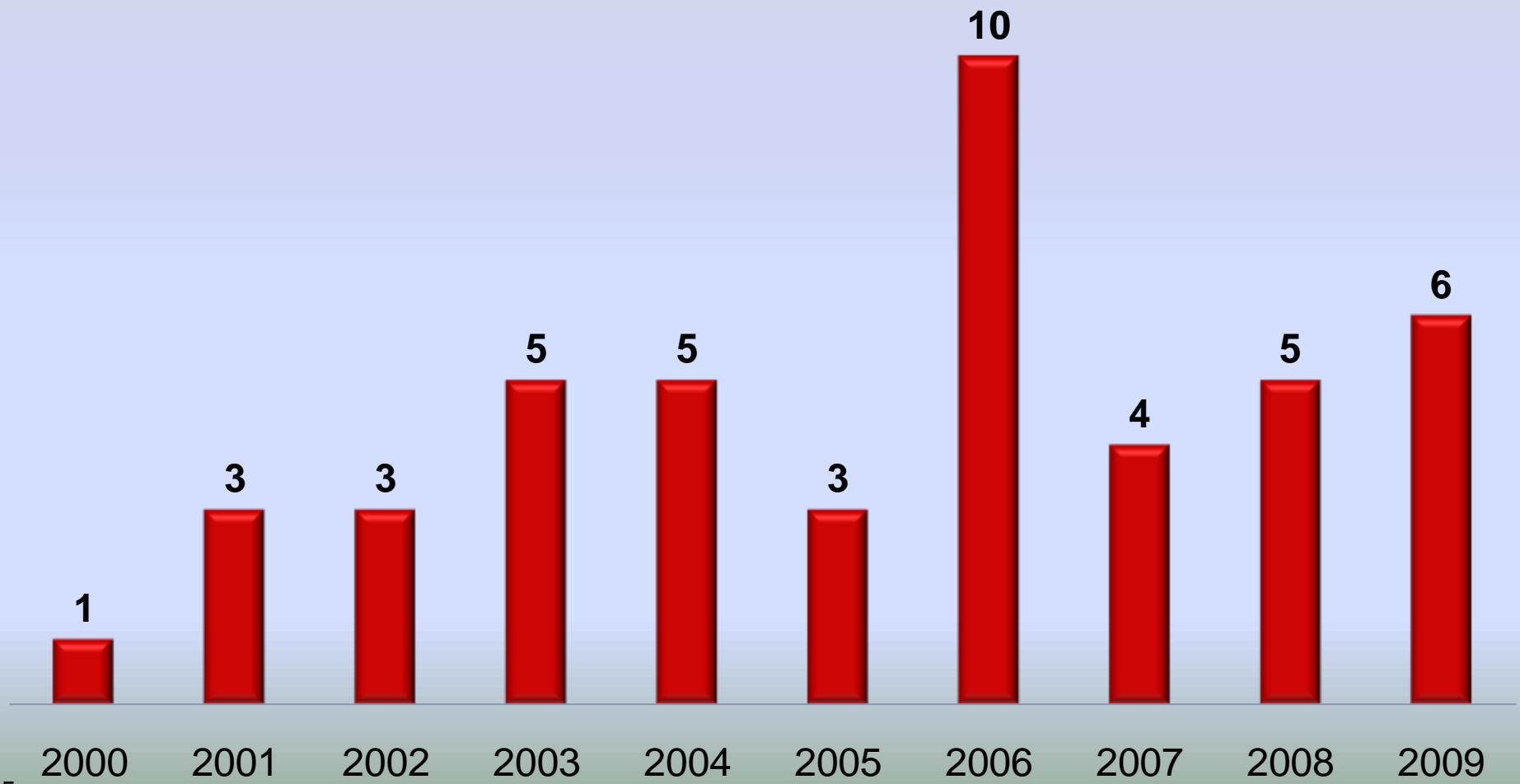
# Reported Accidents	# Persons Involved		# Animals
	Fatal	Near Miss	
45	14	33	14





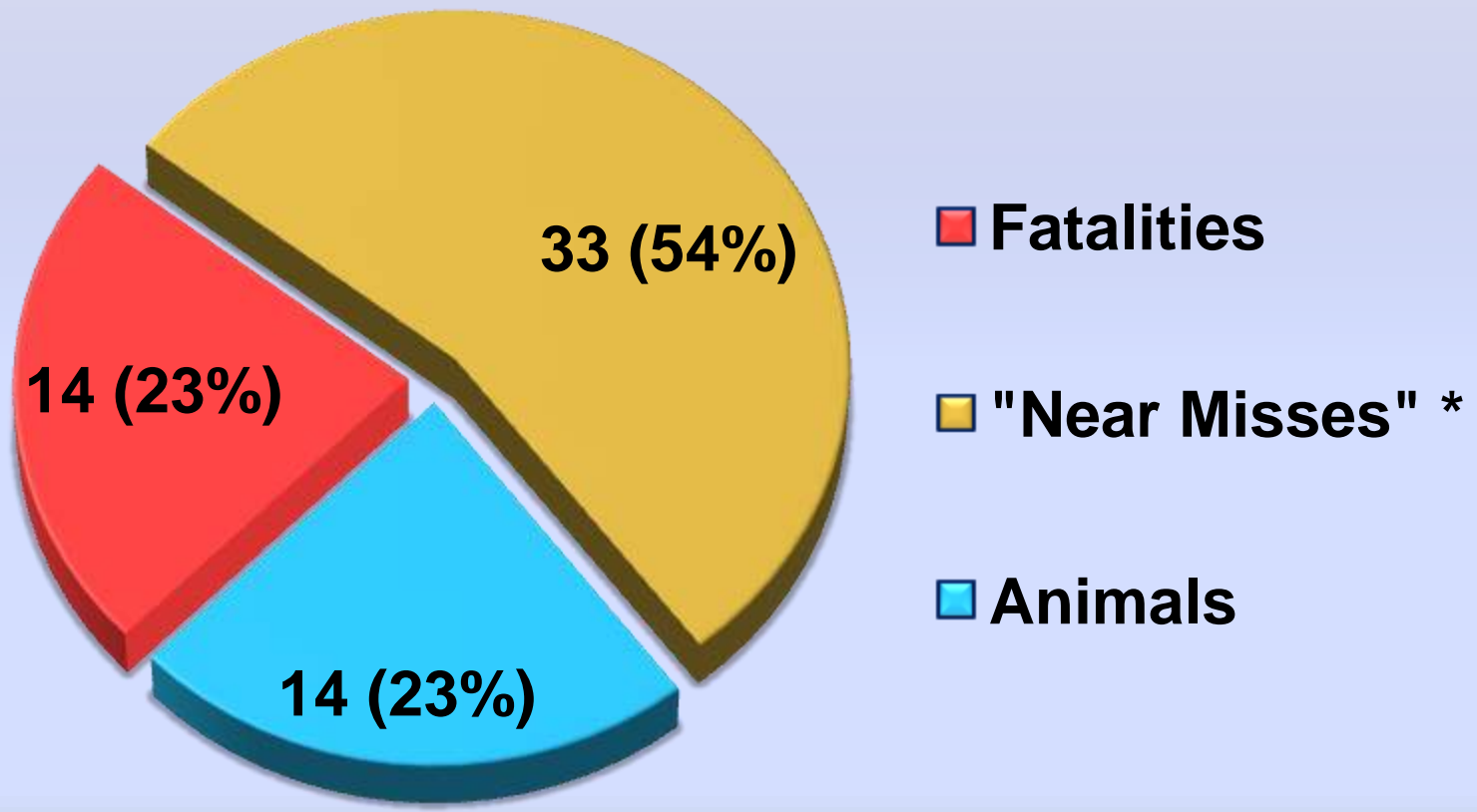
# California Statistics (2000-09)

**45 Reported Incidents (47 People, 14 Animals)**



# California Statistics (2000-09)

## 45 Reported Incidents (47 People, 14 Animals)

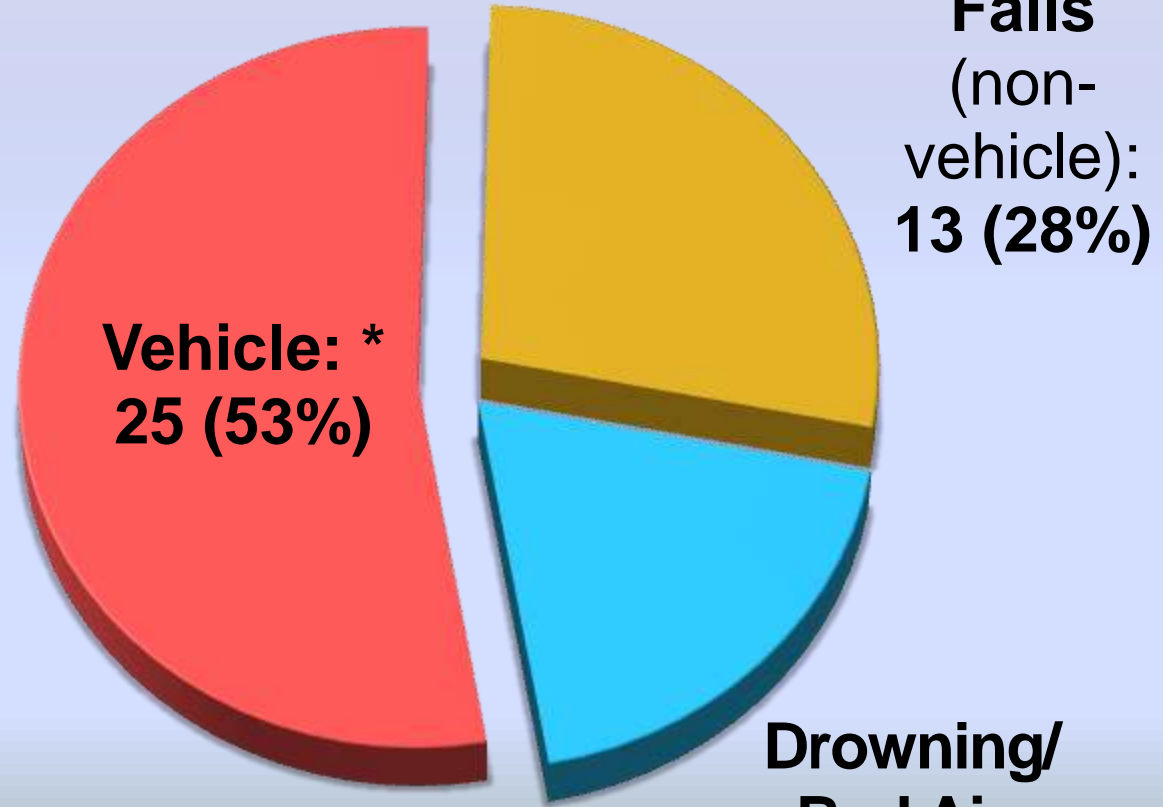


\* Accidents that could have resulted in a fatality, but did not.



# California Statistics (2000-09)

## 45 Reported Incidents (47 People)

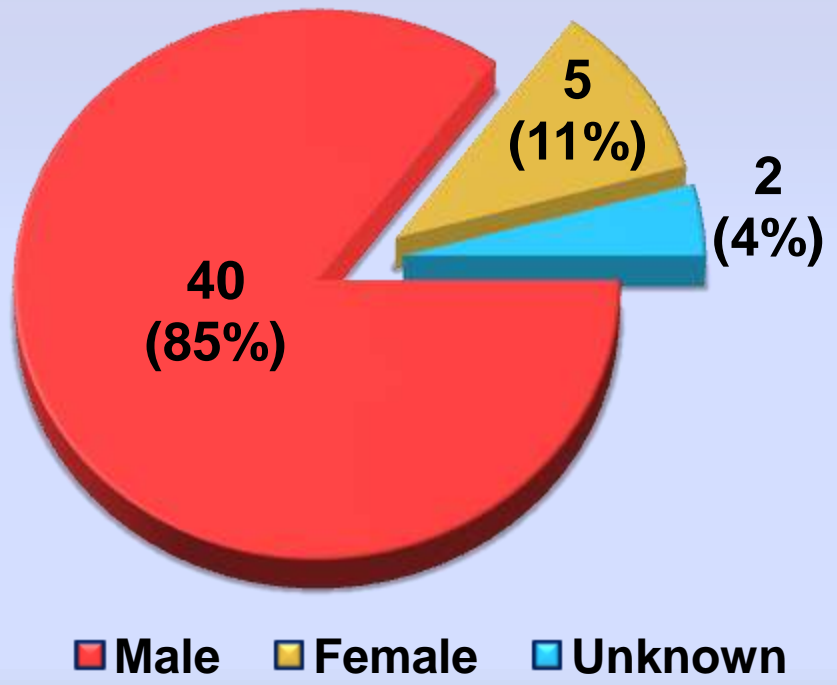


\* SUV, quad, motorcycle, bicycle....

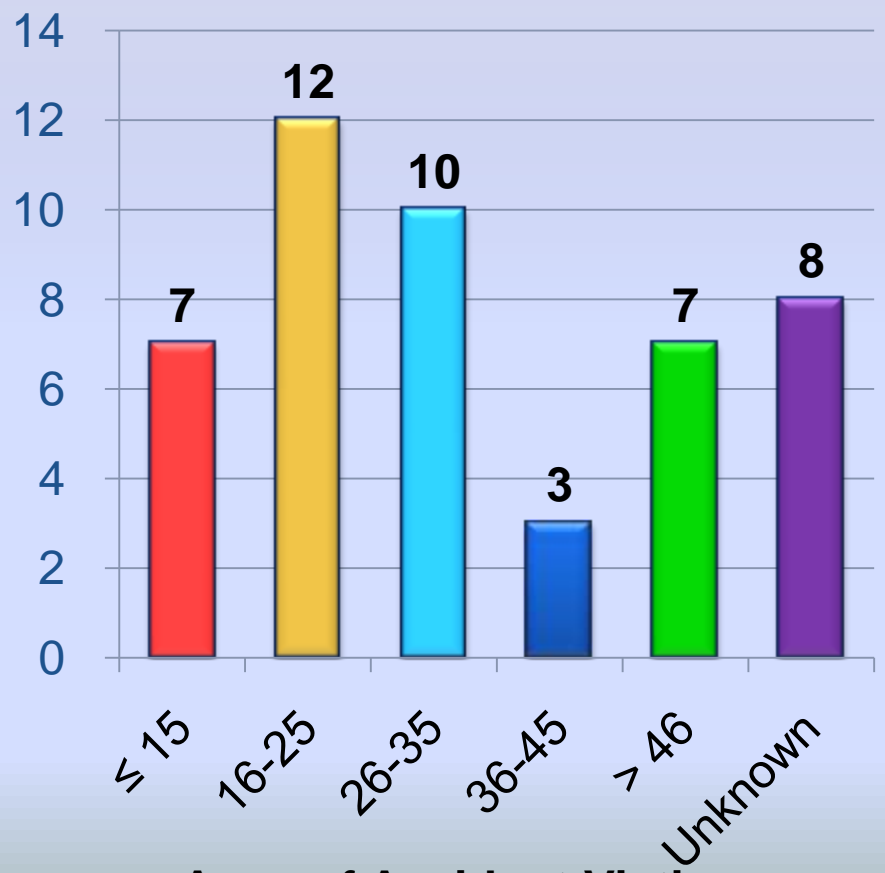


# California Statistics (2000-09)

## 45 Reported Incidents (47 People)



Gender of Accident Victims



Ages of Accident Victims





# Tungsten Peak Mine "Active Claim," Kern Co.



## Woman Dies After Falling in Mine Shaft *A Ridgecrest Woman is Dead After Falling Inside Mine*

UPDATED: 3:23 pm PST November 2, 2009

**INYOKERN, Calif.** -- A Ridgecrest woman is dead after falling 100 feet into a mine shaft that she was exploring in the Tungsten Peak Mine south of Bradys and northwest of Inyokern west of Highway 14 just south of the 395 junction.

The Indian Wells Mine Rescue Team was dispatched to the scene and worked with Kern County Fire crews to reach Linda Marie Rose, 30, of Ridgecrest, who was found dead from the fall by rescuers.

Rose fell about 100 feet down a vertical mine shaft around 2 p.m. Sunday, according to officials.

Rose's body was secured and removed using a technical rope recovering system.



# Californian Mine, San Bernardino Co.

## BLM Lake Havasu Field Office

- Along the busy “Parker Strip”; nearly fatal accident inside abandoned mine results in lawsuit, large settlement
- AMLU, BLM install gate in 2003
- Gate vandalized in 2007 (by battery powered grinder with cut off wheel?)—repaired within weeks with remediation \$



# American Girl Mine, Imperial Co.

## BLM El Centro Field Office

- **Gates installed by mining company in 1990s**
- **Area used by desert tourists, undocumented immigrants**
- **Broken welds allow access to underground hazards**
- **Repairs planned for early 2010**



# Little Black Top Mine, Riverside Co.

## State Parks, Salton Sea State Recreation Area parcel

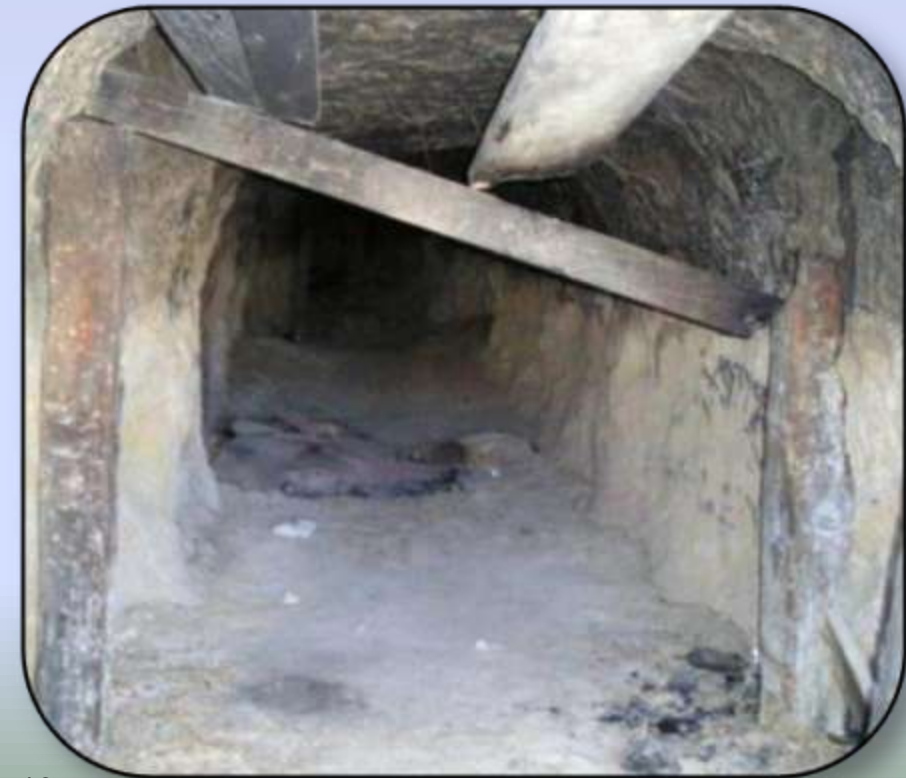
- Shaft at end of dirt road over blind crest
- Steel plate welded into place over vertical shaft
- Plate found removed two years later (sold for scrap?)
- PUF plug installed 12/08, dirt cover to disguise



## Tesla Mine, Alameda Co.

### State Parks, Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area

- Horizontal openings into unstable coal stopes
- Area closed to public but trespass, vandalism continuous
- Burnt timbers trigger emergency bat gate/support in 2008
- More gates, culverts installed in 2009-2010





**STAY  
STAY  
ALIVE**  
**OUT**

# Mojave National Preserve, San Bernardino Co.

## National Park Service, historic mine features

- Various historic mines show similar spray-painted markings
- NPS rangers catch prospectors digging trenches
- Chinese mining company had plans to increase prospecting efforts



# Los Padres Mine, San Bernardino Co.

**State Lands Commission lands (subject of next presentation)**





**STAY  
STAY  
ALIVE**  
**OUT**

# QUESTIONS?

**THINK THIS IS A PLAYGROUND?**

**THINK AGAIN...**

**STAY OUT  
STAY ALIVE**

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

[www.msha.gov](http://www.msha.gov)  
U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Administration

• **DANGER!** •

UNSAFE MINE

**STAY OUT-STAY ALIVE**

**1-877-OLD-MINE**

• CA Dept. of Conservation •

