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## ABANDONED MINE LANDS PROGRAM FACT SHEET

as of August 15, 2011

1. The Nevada Abandoned Mine Lands Program was initiated by the Nevada Legislature and is administered by the Nevada Division of Minerals under NRS 513.
2. It is estimated approximately 200,000 abandoned mine “features” exist in Nevada from historical mining operations. Approximately 50,000 may present physical safety hazards.
3. The program has two major tasks:
  - a. Abatement of Hazardous Conditions - The Division identifies and ranks the hazardous condition and conducts ownership research at the county courthouse. If a landowner or mining claimant is identified, the Division notifies them of their responsibility to secure the hazard and simultaneously notifies the county. If the securing is not accomplished in the time frame established by regulation, the Division notifies the county if enforcement action is necessary. If no landowner or claimant exists, the Division fences the hazard as soon as possible based on the hazard’s rank and posts warning signs.
  - b. Public Awareness - The Division educates the public about the dangers in and around abandoned mines. The motto “Stay Out and Stay Alive” is stressed at school presentations, on billboards, through public service announcements, and at other events.
4. The program is funded by fees paid by the minerals industry and grants from the Bureau of Land Management. Two Division personnel are primarily assigned to the abandoned mine lands program.
5. Since 1987 and as of **August 15, 2011**, the Division has identified and ranked **15,683** hazardous mine openings throughout the state. Landowners, claimants, counties, and the Division have secured **11,424** of these openings. Priority attention is given to hazards near populated areas.
6. For more information about abandoned mines contact the Division of Minerals.

Date	Incident	County
1/1961	Male juvenile (15) injured in 50 ft. fall down mine ventilation shaft	Storey
11/1970	Male juvenile (12) injured in fall down 110 ft. deep mine shaft	Washoe
5/1971	Male juvenile (15) injured in fall down 200 ft. deep mine shaft on Duck Hill	Carson City
4/1975	Two male juveniles killed when motorcycles fall into mine shaft near Searchlight	Clark
12/1978	Juvenile killed in fall down mine shaft (Ninety-Nine Mine), body never recovered	Clark
4/1979	Two teenagers killed in fall down mine shaft (Oest Mine)	Lyon
2/1986	Young adult male (20) killed in fall down winze in adit	Lyon
5/1987	Female child (5) injured in fall down 35 ft. deep mine shaft	Washoe
9/1988	Body of elderly male found at bottom of mine shaft	Lyon
9/1989	Male adult seriously injured in fall down winze in mine near Henderson	Clark
3/1990	Male juvenile lost for 19 hours in mine shaft near Tonopah old Mizpah mine run by Echo Bay Exploration at the time.	Nye/Esmeralda
5/1990	Dog killed in mine shaft MGL Mine – Winn. Dry Lake	Pershing
2/1991	Male adult (40) killed in fall down mine winze	Douglas
5/1991	Male juvenile (13) injured (minor) in fall down 20 ft. deep mine shaft	Washoe
12/1991	Male adult (44) killed in fall down mine winze Abandoned copper mine in the Malachite Mason Valley Mines west of Yerington.	Lyon
9/1992	Female adult (28) injured (cuts and bruises) in fall down mine shaft Hot Springs Mtn.	Douglas
10/1992	Male adult (27) news reporter injured in dynamite blast in mine remote mine west of Winnemucca, NV; Abandoned Mine at Happy Creek in the Jackson Mountains.	Humboldt
1/1993	Dog rescued from 25 ft. deep shaft	Humboldt
11/1993	Dog rescued from 30 ft. deep mine shaft near Iron Mtn. Estates	Storey
6/1995	Male adult (30) killed while scuba diving in mine shaft filled with water Per 6/5/1995, Winnemucca New Article, happened at the old Crown Copper UG Mine a few miles away from the Adelaide Crown Mine.	Humboldt
3/1996	Male adult (31) injured in fall down mine winze on west side of Las Vegas	Clark
5/1996	Male adult (44) fatally injured in fall off ATV at American Flats millsite	Storey
9/1996	Two male adults (35) killed in mine adit near Virginia City by suffocation	Storey
10/1996	Male juvenile (16) injured in fall down 19 ft. deep hole in concrete at American Flats millsite	Storey
4/1997	Two male adults (50's) injured in fall down hand dug well in town of Luning	Mineral
7/1998	Male adult (20's) slightly injured in fall down mine winze in Brouger Divide Mine near Tonopah, another adult male lost for 7 hours, total of 6 adult males in mine	Esmeralda
9/1998	Dog rescued from 20 ft. deep mine shaft	Douglas
10/1998	Two male adults seriously injured in fall down 50 ft. deep mine winze near Las Vegas	Clark
6/1999	Male juvenile (15) drowned swimming in open pit lake	Lander
10/1999	Female juvenile (11) killed in fall down 130 ft. deep mine shaft near Beatty	Nye
11/2000	Dog rescued from fall down 40 ft. mine shaft. Moderate injury to hip	Storey
12/2000	Dog rescued from fall down 60 ft. winze. Minor injury to hip	Pershing
7/2002	41 year-old male drowned swimming in open pit lake	Storey
10/2002	37 year-old CA male received severe injuries from fall down 25 ft. winze	Clark
1/2003	Dog fell down shaft	Humboldt
1/2003	62 year-old man received minor injuries from fall down 25 ft. winze (same as 10/2002)	Clark
4/2004	30 year-old man received moderate injuries from fall down 25 ft. winze near Las Vegas	Clark
5/2005	Woman of unknown age, received cuts and bruises from fall down a 35 ft. winze in Carson City	Carson
5/2006	Dog rescued from 22 foot-deep mine shaft	Washoe
5/2007	Adult male (mid-20's) injured in fall down ~200' inclined winze	Clark
5/2007	Adult male (63) suffered fatal injuries after rolling his jeep ~450' into the Loring Pit in Virginia City	Storey
8/2008	Adult male (58) injured in 50' fall down inclined winze	Esmeralda
9/2008	Dog reportedly fell down 100' shaft, not recovered	Washoe
10/2008	Adult male (62) suffered fatal injuries after falling 60' down a winze	Lyon
5/2009	Dog fell down inclined shaft, rescued 10 days later	Esmeralda
3/2011	Adult male (28) suffered fatal injuries after falling 190 feet down a shaft	Pershing
7/2011	Dog fell down shaft, rescued 8 days later	White Pine

Abandoned Mine Lands Program began in 1987.  
No injuries or fatalities in 1994, 2001 and 2010