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## ABANDONED MINE LANDS PROGRAM FACT SHEET

**As of January 8, 2015**

1. The Nevada Abandoned Mine Lands Program was initiated by the Nevada Legislature and is administered by the Nevada Division of Minerals under Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 513.
2. It is estimated approximately **200,000** abandoned mine features exist in Nevada as a result of historic mining activity. Approximately **50,000** may present physical safety hazards.
3. The program has two major tasks:
  - a. Abatement of Hazardous Conditions – Under Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 513, the Division conducts a state-wide inventory of abandoned mine hazards, identifying and applying a hazard ranking to each hazardous condition. Land status research is conducted to identify responsible parties who have hazardous mine openings on their property or mining claims. The responsible parties are required by NAC to secure the hazardous conditions. If securing work is not accomplished in the time frame established by regulation, the Division notifies the appropriate County Commission if enforcement action is necessary. If no landowner or claimant exists, the Division, in coordination with federal land management agencies (BLM, US Forest Service) fences hazardous mine openings as soon as possible based on the hazard ranking. Warning signs are placed on the fences.
  - 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, public events and forums, through information mail outs and presented through a variety of handout materials produced and distributed by the Division. The Division’s 11-minute “Stay Out and Stay Alive” video has been provided to all Nevada public and private schools and public libraries.
4. The program is funded by fees paid by the minerals industry and assistance agreements with the Bureau of Land Management and the US Forest Service. Three Division personnel are primarily assigned to the abandoned mine lands program.
5. Since 1987 through **January 8, 2015** the Division has identified and ranked **18,654** hazardous mine openings throughout the state. Landowners, claimants, counties, and the Division have secured **14,946 (80.1%)** of these openings. Priority attention is given to hazards located near populated areas.
6. **There were NO reported abandoned mine injuries or fatalities in 2014.**
7. For more information about Nevada’s abandoned mined lands program, please contact the Division of Minerals.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Incident</b>	<b>County</b>
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	Adult male (62) killed in mine cave-in	Lyon
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
11/2012	Adult male (33) received moderate injuries after falling 35' down a vertical winze	Clark
9/2013	17 year old male received minor injuries in fall down 60-foot deep mine shaft (rider on motorcycle)	Lyon

Abandoned Mine Lands Program began in 1987.

No reported injuries or fatalities in 1994, 2001, 2010 and 2014.