Nevada Reclamation Awards

The Nevada Excellence in Mine Reclamation Award Committee is seeking nominations for outstanding mining or exploration projects in Nevada that exhibit excellent mitigation of the environmental impacts from mineral industry activities.

The basis of the award is reclamation success, but areas of innovation for the protection of air and water quality, offsite mitigation, wildlife habitat enhancement, cultural preservation and cooperative partnerships will also be considered.

Deadline for the 2018 award year is: July 27, 2018

For more information, please contact the Nevada Division of Minerals at:

775-684-7040

OR

Mail your submission to:
Nevada Division of Minerals
400 West King Street, Ste. 106
Carson City, NV 89703

or by email to:
ndom@minerals.nv.gov
**2017 Awards**

**Comstock Mining, Inc.**  
Rebuilding of State Route 342 and Reclamation of Historic Mine Features

Following a period of heavy precipitation in 2015, cracks were detected in SR 342 located adjacent to Comstock’s pit operations near Gold Hill in Storey County. The historic Silver Hill Shaft, buried when the State Highway was constructed, was determined to be the cause of the cracks in the road. Comstock Mining responded quickly in a collaborative effort with the Nevada Department of Transportation and Storey County to engineer and re-build and align the highway. This effort included the removal and remediation of historic mercury-laden tailings and dump material located beneath the highway, and permanent capping of the mine shaft. Comstock paid for the entire project. The NDOT, Storey County and NDEP Bureau of Corrective Actions provided letters of support.

**Award Categories:**  
(1) Concurrent Reclamation  (2) Wildlife Habitat Restoration

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**Kinross Bald Mountain Mine**  
Mine Site Reclamation and Mule Deer Migration Corridor

Kinross performed approximately 1,100 acres of concurrent reclamation from 2014 through 2016 at the Bald Mountain Mine. The primary motivating factor for this work was to reduce disturbance within, and adjacent to, the designated Area 10 mule deer migration corridor at the mine. Kinross collaborated with BLM and NDOW implementing various adaptive management options so that ongoing mule deer movement may occur during the project during mine activities. Ninety percent of the concurrently reclaimed areas have been seeded with approved mixtures and show significant revegetation during the past year. Kinross funds a mule deer monitoring program that includes the collaring and real-time tracking of mule deer throughout the mine area. Annual monitoring data are collected and reviewed by a Wildlife Working Group at the end of each migration season to assess effectiveness of the program. The nomination was submitted by the Nevada Department of Wildlife.

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**Newmont Mining Corporation**  
Conservation Framework Agreement

Newmont’s Conservation Framework Agreement (CFA) is a private-public partnership between the Nevada Department of Wildlife, BLM, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Newmont Mining, Elko Land and Livestock Company and several ranches in northeastern Nevada. The agreement covers an area of 1.5 million acres of habitat in Nevada. Developed through a deliberate, cooperative and collaborative process as a tool for implementation of the Company’s Sagebrush Ecosystem Strategy, the CFA targets various projects to improve habitat on Newmont and other ranch lands. The process uses the Nevada Conservation Credit System to develop credits to meet Newmont’s current and future business plan needs. Actions include prescribed grazing, reduction of cheat-grass, establishment of perennial grasses, re-introduction of Columbian Sharp-tail Grouse and fuel-break management.

**Award Category:**  
Leadership in Conservation Planning

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**Newmont Mining Corporation**  
Chevas and High Desert Exploration Reclamation

Lands in the vicinity of the project have been explored on a continual basis since the discovery of the Carlin gold deposit in the 1960’s. Exploration activities in the Chevas and High Desert areas have been ongoing since 1992. Newmont Exploration employed a strategy to construct temporary access roads, travel routes and drill pads that are concurrently reclaimed after use to minimize the disturbance footprint. Revegetation of reclaimed roads and pads is ongoing and uses seed mixtures intended to improve habitat for mule deer, which frequent the area. Newmont has also worked collaboratively with the BLM, NDOW and NDOM in closing abandoned mine land features in the historic Lynn Creek Archeological District, which is located within the exploration area.