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## **2024 Nevada Excellence in Mine Reclamation Award Winners Named**

**CARSON CITY, Nev.** – The Nevada Excellence in Mine Reclamation Awards for 2024 were announced during a presentation ceremony held September 6th at the Nevada Mining Association’s Safety Awards Dinner in South Lake Tahoe. The awards presented this year were:

- **Coeur Mining Inc, Rochester Mine** in the category of *Wildlife Habitat Restoration* for their Duffy Pond restoration project in Pershing County. Restoration of Duffy Pond was conducted after the area received a significant precipitation event, where 2.66 inches of rain fell within a 24-hour period near the mine in 2021, followed by another significant precipitation event in 2022. These events, along with recent wildfires in the area, led to uncontrolled discharge of sediment and stormwater from the surrounding hills and mine site, causing substantial damage to the nearby spring-fed Duffy Pond, which served as valuable wildlife habitat.

The restoration of the pond was completed in 2023 improving and protecting the wildlife habitat. This reclamation work was not required by any permit or condition of the mine. Coeur’s desire to be a good steward of the land and community partner represents a company going above and beyond their reclamation requirements.

- **Kinross Mining Inc, Bald Mountain Mine** in the category of *Leadership in Concurrent Reclamation* at their Process 1 Heap Leach Facility Reclamation Project in White Pine County. The Process 1 Heap Leach Facility area comprises about 90 acres and was operated from 1983 to 1998. The area was regraded, covered, and revegetated in 2000, with the final removal of tanks, evaporation cells, and buildings in 2007. Successful reclamation designs, maintenance, and monitoring continuously ensures water quality standards are met and show continuous improvement over the life of reclamation.

Almost two decades later, the reclaimed pad is no stranger to wildlife due to prominent brush and grasses thriving in the area. The recontouring and revegetation renders the heap leach pad difficult to identify from the surrounding landscape, providing a natural ecosystem for livestock and wildlife, and providing multiple-use opportunities into the future.

The goal of the annual Nevada Excellence in Mine Reclamation Awards is to encourage operators and explorers to complete reclamation projects which raise industry standards, increase public awareness of the positive aspects of mining, and encourage innovation in reclamation techniques.

This is the 33<sup>rd</sup> year of the Nevada Excellence in Mine Reclamation Awards. The Awards Committee consists of representatives from the Nevada Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Division of Environmental Protection, the Nevada Department of Wildlife, the Bureau of Land Management, the United States Forest Service, and the Nevada Division of Minerals. To receive an award, the Committee must unanimously vote that a submission: exhibit excellent mitigation of the environmental impacts of mineral industry activity, demonstrate work efforts which go above and beyond what is mandated, and represent an exemplary narrative to be shared with others in the industry, as well as with the public.

A video showing the awards can be found on the Division of Minerals website. For more information about submitting or nominating an entity for the award, visit the Nevada Division of Minerals website at:

<http://minerals.nv.gov>.

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