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**ALAN R. COYNER**  
Administrator

## ACTIVITY AND ACHIEVEMENTS REPORT FOR DECEMBER, 2005

### ADMINISTRATION

1. Toured the ORMAT Steamboat plant with Ron Wenker, the new BLM state director.
2. Spoke with Bob Dolan, attorney from Winnemucca, concerning blasting issues near Placer Dome's Pipeline mine.
3. Presented with Jon Price, State Geologist, the Nevada report in the area reports session of the NWMA annual meeting in Spokane, WA.
4. Responded to an inquiry from Marlon Thompson of Winnemucca concerning bonding.
5. Assisted Susie Mason BLM-NSO concerning unpatented mining claims in wilderness areas.
6. Meet with representatives of the USACE RAMS program concerning funding the proposed GIS capability for the NDOM AML database.
7. Alan and Christy attended the quarterly BLM oil and gas lease sale in Reno.
8. Met with Del Fortner and Steve Salzman, BLM-NSO, to finalize the BLM/NDOM Oil, Gas, and Geothermal MOU. Alan and Christy met with Commissioners Fagan and Kozlowski concerning the finalization of the MOU.
9. Met with Harold Jacobsen and Terry Kemp of Cedar-Strat to discuss oil and gas well records confidentiality requirements.
10. Spoke with John Sielmeyer of the Northern Nevada Business Journal concerning mineral exploration trends in Nevada.
11. Met with Liz Ball and Leslie Rumph concerning the Student Services Coordinator position at Mackay.
12. Commissioners Bryan and DeLong, and Alan attended the AIPG Exploration Roundup meeting in Reno.
13. Commissioners Parratt, Bryan, and DeLong, and Alan and Mike attended the GSN monthly meeting in Reno.
14. Submitted an article to Merilee Joyce for the "Washington Watch" newsletter concerning the outlook for mineral exploration in Nevada in 2006.
15. Met with Jon Price, NBMG, concerning the potential for carbon sequestration in Nevada.

### RECLAMATION BOND POOL AND MINING ISSUES

1. Issued notice level bonds for Apollo Gold Exploration, Placer Dome Exploration, White Knight Gold (US) Inc., and Quincy Energy Corp.
2. Received confirmation from the BLM that the authority of the Bond Pool's statewide notice level bond had been increased to \$1 million.
3. Prepared a flyer on notice level bonding for use at the Northwest Mining Association's Convention in Spokane.
4. Spoke with Mike Brady about exploration expenses.
5. Sent mineral production information to David McCarville, an associate with Booz-Allen-

- Hamilton, regarding the Draft Environmental Assessment for the proposed land withdrawal around the Caliente rail corridor.
6. Spoke with George Giannopoulos of Ely about mining claim maps.
  7. Attended the Northwest Mining Association's 111<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in Spokane. Manned agency booth and attended talks.
  8. Spoke with Elliot Crist of Gold Summit Corporation about shapes of mining claims.
  9. Spoke with Jay Gillon (former AML Intern) about summer work. He said Newmont was already recruiting juniors and seniors.
  10. Prepared and sent out a request for proposal to prospective contractors for AML logging work in the Tonopah region. Reviewed bids for the AML contract. Awarded the AML contract to Geotemps, Inc. Prepared the contract for submittal to the Board of Examiners for consideration at their January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Met with Alan, Bill, and Mike to discuss strategies for the AML logging contract expected to begin in February 2006.
  11. Spoke with Terry Neumann at the Carson City BLM about prevailing wage rates.
  12. Called William Cossitt (the bankruptcy judge regarding Pallas Resources) to see if Pallas had gotten another attorney to represent them. They had, however they had not filed proof of insurance for the property, as required.
  13. Worked on CBTAP (Critical Business Technology Application Plan) with Alan and Debbie.
  14. Assisted the Mine Inspector in Winnemucca with the physical locations of some mines.

#### **AML / PUBLIC AWARENESS – NORTH**

1. A Rocks/Minerals/AML presentation was given to 28 2<sup>nd</sup> graders at Nancy Gomes Elementary School in Cold Springs (1 presentation – 28 people).
2. Received letter and photograph of hazard recently secured by Mike Passek (Dig M Exploration Services, Inc.) near Hogum. The State Mine Inspector's office and Ely BLM archeologist, Mark Henderson, were notified of the securing as requested.
3. Worked with Peg O'Malley of Graphix to create a new cartoon to add to the AML brochure. New cartoon features motorcyclist jumping off mine waste dump and into an open shaft. Brochure will address the hazards of off-roading near historic mine sites.
4. Communicated with Patrick Plumb (BLM State Office) and Peggy Pauly regarding educational outreach opportunities in Yerington. Ms. Pauly will refer us to interested teachers at the three Yerington schools and send us a sample of the informational packets she has been presenting to the schools for their use.
5. Communicated with Joe Nicholls and Bev Forstrom (Nevada Pacific Rim and Dee Explorations, Inc.) regarding the 13 unsecured hazards on their patented and unpatented claims near Lida. A letter was sent to Nicholls and Forstrom reiterating how our AML program works and what his responsibilities are to secure these publicly accessible hazards. 52 hazards were discovered on claims he has since let lapse, so these are now orphans we will seek authorization from the BLM to secure.
6. Met with archeologist Susan McCabe (BLM-CC) for DAT training and to discuss ways to simplify approval and notification processes for hazard securing. Minor changes will be made to NDOM's Cultural Avoidance and Authorization to Secure forms.
7. Created five informational posters for display at the NWMA Annual Meeting. Posters addressed NDOM's 2005 summer intern program, backfill projects, and Nevada's oil and geothermal exploration/production activity. Attended the meeting and represented NDOM at the trade show, providing information to some of the nearly 1,100 attendees.
8. Communicated with Susan McCabe (BLM-CC) regarding missing or unmatched notification paperwork.
9. The AML database was migrated from Paradox to Access along with several modifications to facilitate data entry. Several examples of deliverable reports were created to evaluate the processes and results. Minor additional edits will be made to the main data entry page to mimic our field hazard ID form.

10. Spoke with Jennifer Newmark (NV Natural Heritage Program biologist) regarding the soon to be completed NV Bat Conservation Plan. She delivered a copy of the Plan for review and comment.
11. Delivered images created at the 2005 Intercollegiate Mining Competition to Liz Ball (Mackay) for inclusion in a PowerPoint presentation. Delivered images created at the Winnemucca Teachers Workshop to Julianne Kaufman (NvMA) for use on their website.
12. Received a call from Boy Scout Robbie Ayers (Reno) expressing interest in an AML project for his Eagle Scout service award.
13. Responded to inquiry about the Deephole mining district near Gerlach and its contained mineral resources and historic production.
14. Collected and delivered several raffle and auction items to GSN for their annual Christmas Fundraiser. Items included: 10 large metal "Warning – Unsafe Mine" signs, two cancelled stock certificates, and a bucket of natural resource education supplies, workbooks and videos.
15. Reviewed final edits to the new AML brochure. A pdf version will be emailed to State Printing along with an order for approximately 75,000.
16. Provided two powerpoint pages to Chris Ross (BLM-State Office) for use in upcoming AML presentations. The pages discussed NDOM's 2005 AML accomplishments in hazard logging, securing, as well as education and community outreach efforts.
17. Communicated with BLM-State Office, BLM-CC, and BLM-Tonopah regarding potential backfill project in the Manhattan mining district.

#### **AML / PUBLIC AWARENESS – SOUTH**

1. Staff gave a telephone interview to Lyn Collier of the Las Vegas "View" newspaper regarding Nevada's AML program and the contributions of Scouts to the program.
2. Bill Durbin edited and signed a declaration statement of a conversation held with the organizer of a geocaching event in which he rejected the use of an abandoned mine in Clark County for hiding a "cache" or clue. Disregard of the advice contributed to the 2002 Robert Lord injury incident at the Argentina Mine near Goodsprings. The declaration statement was sent to Robert Lord's attorney.
3. 67 "Notice and Approval to Secure Mine Hazard" forms were prepared and sent to Battle Mountain BLM Field Office for orphan hazards in Esmeralda County. 20 hazards are located in the Columbus area and 47 are in the Lida area.
4. The new "Stay Out and Stay Alive" public service announcements were delivered to three Las Vegas television stations: KVBC Channel 3 (NBC), KVVU, Channel 5 (FOX) and KLAS Channel 8 (CBS).
5. Cameron Legere's Eagle Scout service project was completed near Goodsprings, Clark County. Seven hazards were re-secured on US Forest Service land along the southern slope of Mt. Potosi. Four fences were repaired and new signs posted, 1 barricade was repaired and re-signed and two minimal hazards were re-posted with new warning signs.
6. An information package with site locations and maps was prepared for an AML securing project for new Clark County Eagle Scout candidate Tyson Parker (#64). 52 Scout projects have been completed since 1992. A total of 328 hazards have been secured and 18 repairs have been made at previously secured sites. The totals for calendar year 2005 are: A record 11 Scout projects were completed resulting in 50 hazards secured and 8 hazards re-secured. 8 Scouts have projects pending.
7. A meeting was held with staff from the Las Vegas BLM Field Office regarding the status of AML site logging and securing efforts in the Gold Butte area of eastern Clark County ravaged by the "Tramp" and "Fork" wildfires in the summer of 2005. Five hazards have been identified and ranked to-date in the area and the claimants have been notified to secure the hazards. Plans are for a reconnaissance visit to the area in early 2006. 15-20 additional sites (many very remote) remain to be investigated.

8. An Excel spreadsheet containing data for all mine openings backfilled from 1999-2005 on BLM lands was completed and sent to Chris Ross (BLM-NSO). The data will be used by a UNR GIS class to generate maps showing the distribution of the backfill projects across Nevada.
9. NDOM participated in a conference call with staff from the BLM State Office and Las Vegas Field Office, National Park Service, and US Army Corps of Engineers to assess the status of Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPMLA) funding for AML studies in Clark County. \$1.5M was allotted in Round 5 for cultural and biological surveys of orphan AML sites on BLM, NPS, and USFS lands, with an additional \$500K for construction of "wildlife compatible closures". Statements of work are nearing completion and the money should be available very early in 2006. The Division's involvement is to provide maps and site specific information to the selected contractors.
10. Claim research was conducted at the Clark County Surveyor's office and through Clark County Assessor/Recorder on-line services for hazards CL-1616 through 1622 and securing authorization requests for 5 orphan hazards (CL-1616-1620) were prepared and sent to the Las Vegas BLM Field Office.
11. Cultural Resource Avoidance Certification forms and location maps are being prepared for all Clark County BLM orphan hazards secured during calendar year 2005.
12. The BLM State Office was assisted in questions regarding access to current versions of the mining claim forms.
13. The Las Vegas office was notified of a possible mining fraud situation involving recovery of precious metals including platinum group metals (PGMs) using "black box" technology and "proprietary" recovery techniques from lake bed materials worth "billions" apparently on or near Winnemucca Dry Lake in Washoe County. The caller was advised to contact the Secretary of State Securities Division. The SOS cannot investigate until a formal complaint has been lodged.
14. An article concerning progress made by Debbie Selig to update the McCaw School of Mines website was written and submitted to Dorothy Webb for inclusion in the next "Mighty Miner" newsletter.
15. Formal tour request letters were completed and sent to the following companies and organizations offering tours for the April 10 to 12, 2006 Las Vegas Minerals Education Workshop: Frehner/Bardon Materials Sloan Quarry, Red Rock National Conservation Area, Valley of Fire State Park, Chemical Lime Company – Apex Quarry, PABCO Gypsum, Cashman Equipment, McCaw School of Mines. The optional day field trip is planned for IMV Mud Camp Mining (Bill Wahl) in Armagosa Valley.

## **OIL AND GAS**

1. Continued review of all reclamation bonds posted with BLM and NDOM.
2. Requested Evans and Barton complete Kyle Springs well files.
3. Compiled a comparison from several states of regulations on bonding and MOU's.
4. Received completion report from Isern on Gigante 1-4, sundry (re)approved for perforation. This was approved last year and resubmitted to bring file up to date.
5. Alan and Christy met with Steve Salzman, Rich Hoops, and John Menghini (BLM-NSO) to discuss and revise the NDOM/BLM OGG MOU.
6. Continued revision of the oil, gas, and geothermal portion of NDOM's website.
7. Review of IOGCC State statutes for publication.
8. Provided information to NDEP on two P&A'd oil wells in southern NV.
9. Notified by Grant Canyon Oil and Gas of change of ownership on some Makoil wells.
10. Responded to inquiries about Phoenix Associates press release that they have NV prospects in "close proximity" to a well producing 15K bpd.
11. Requested and received missing information from PetroWorld Nevada for the Cobble Questa well at Gabbs. Approved program and issued permit.

12. Notice of change of ownership form Sawyer to Geysler Petroleum of the Santa Maria de Los Angeles well. Requested bond confirmation.
13. Requested bond information on Petroleum Company of Nevada because our records suggest bond is expired. The BLM is searching their records.

## **GEOHERMAL**

1. Coordinated with Converse Consultants on Phase I review of AMP Resources.
2. Sent information to Gary Munk on domestic geothermal well and to Michael Reuth on geothermal drilling
3. Received a BLM Notice of Environmental Review for a geothermal project by Western Geothermal Partners.
4. Received an information request from Oliver Hill on US Geothermal activities in NV.
5. Sent information to Tom O'Connell on purchase of land at Rye Patch for geothermal development.
6. Coordinating with Presco on getting TG well files for Rye Patch completed. Met with Al Weibal as representative of Presco, visited the site of the 2004 temperature gradient drilling at Rye Patch and received the logs.
7. Edited annual report for domestic wells to allow for BTU usage estimate and reviewed the locations of all domestic well permits.
8. Reviewed and coordinated approval of AMP injection well 11-1 with NDEP, sundry approved to move well location.
9. Sent information to Ormat on Desert Peak water permits.
10. Coordinated with buyers and sellers of Virginia Lake Townhouses.
11. Sent information to Mt Grant Hospital, Hawthorne, Geo-Heat Center and GeoPowering the West on direct heating projects. Discussed project grants from DOE GPW program for OIT Geo-Heat Center. Three project proposals prepared for Hawthorne, Elko, and Hazen. Submitted and reviewed the proposals with Roger Hill of DOE Sandia Lab.
12. Coordinated with Ormat, Steamboat on reporting requirements for the new Galena plant and new wells. Approved two sundries for well maintenance. Completed pump maintenance and is moving in a rig for re-drill of production well.
13. Working with Chemetall Foote on drilling mineral exploration holes in a hot water area near Silverpeak.
14. Approved sundry from Caithness at Beowawe to deepen their drilling program.
15. Provided information to a Reno law firm concerning permits at Steamboat in 1990's.
16. Discussed with Nevada Geothermal the progress in the drilling applications with BLM Winnemucca FO for the Blue Mt. project.
17. Approved sundry for the logging of Batz 1 well at Beowawe.
18. Alan and Christy visited the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe drilling project northwest of Pyramid Lake at their invitation. Assessing resources for an ethanol project.
19. Alan and Christy attended Great Basin Geothermal Center's advisory board meeting.
20. Responded to a request for a domestic geothermal well permit at a residence near Damonte Ranch outside of Reno.