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ALAN R. COYNER
Administrator

**ACTIVITY AND ACHIEVEMENTS REPORT
FOR MARCH, 2006**

ADMINISTRATION

1. Assisted Greg Ekins concerning USFS roadless and wilderness area issues near the King Solomon mining district in Nye County.
2. Assisted Doug Bowden of Golden Summit concerning USFS roadless area issues near the Tip Top mine in Esmeralda County.
3. Assisted Ruth Carragher of Golden Summit with information concerning the USFS Roadless Management Plan and recommendations for additional wilderness.
4. Assisted a representative of the IRS with information concerning Mark Lloyd, small miner from Fallon.
5. Assisted a Nevada school teacher with mineral identification issues and sent her a set of rock and mineral sample kits.
6. Chaired the State Environmental Commission meeting in Reno at which the new mercury air emission regulations were adopted.
7. Met with Del Fortner, BLM Deputy State Director, to discuss his departure from the BLM, and transition coordination issues.
8. Met with Steve Salzman, BLM Assistant Deputy State Director, to discuss his departure from the BLM, and transition coordination issues.
9. Met with the auditors from the Legislative Counsel Bureau concerning the findings and recommendations of the Division's audit and submitted the written response as required by NRS.
10. Announcements for the high school field trip to Newmont's Twin Creeks mine were sent to Washoe County School District high school science department chairs.
11. Responded to the Western Governor's Association to not readopt the WGA resolution concerning mining reclamation financial assurance.
12. Met with Connie Parratt, Assistant Development Director, College of Science, concerning the recruitment and retention program at Mackay.
13. Presented a summary of Nevada exploration and production to the Northern Nevada Development Authority, with follow up articles in the RGJ and Appeal.
14. Briefed Commissioner Mudge on the Rip Van Winkle AML site.
15. Briefed Commissioner Parratt on impending USFS Roadless Area management plans and proposed recommendation for additional wilderness areas. Also on the various county public land bills.
16. Prepared guide for the "Great Unconformity" field trip for LV teacher's workshop.

RECLAMATION BOND POOL

1. Issued 4 notice level bonds: MIM (USA), Idaho General Mines, Pan-Nevada Gold Corp, and Agnico-Eagle (USA) Limited via Enviroscientists.

2. Received notice from BLM of partial releases of 2 notice level bonds. Initiated the partial release of their deposits and made adjustments to their premiums.
3. Received notice from BLM of the total release of the Wesley Bennett bond. This bond had been terminated, so no deposit was refunded. There is no remaining obligation.
4. Sent bond pool information to Quincy Energy.
5. Terminated Noble Materials from the Bond Pool. The property has been taken over by Noble Acquisitions, LLC, but they have not posted a bond. The BLM Field Office has reduced the bond amount from \$43,041.71 to \$7,641.00 due to reclamation conducted by Noble. The Bond Pool bond has not been released by the BLM as yet.
6. Spoke with Larry Creek of Specialty Clays about late bond premium payments and possible termination from the Bond Pool.
7. Spoke with Round Mountain Gold about the notice level bond pool.

MINING LAND ISSUES

1. Worked on the Annual Status & Production Reports for 2005. Began requesting mercury production (recovery) amounts from the precious metal producers.
2. Estimated the silver production from the Comstock (both ounces and tons of ore) for Russ Fields, NvMA.
3. Helped the Internal Revenue Service with contact information for a small miner.
4. Sent out pre-employment paperwork to the incoming Summer Interns.
5. Attended the Nevada Miners & Prospectors meeting in Reno.
6. Sent an example request for proposal to Craig Smith regarding reclamation work at the MacArthur Mine.
7. Helped Roger Withington from the State of Alaska with information about taxes and fees paid by the mining industry.
8. Spoke with Bill Inman about the possibility of re-opening the Fencemaker Mine.
9. Spoke with Adella Harding of the Elko Free Press about mineral exploration.

AML / PUBLIC AWARENESS – NORTH

1. Work on the 2005 AML report continues and is near completion.
2. GeoTemps contractors Dustin White and John Morley completed their work contract with NDOM. During their last work period they logged 81 hazards and 200 non-hazards in Nye and Esmeralda Counties. For the entire contract period, approximately 352 new hazards and 834 non-hazards were identified in Nye and Esmeralda Counties.
3. Received request from State Mine Inspectors Office for location of a >50' deep orphan shaft in Washoe County suitable for Washoe County Search and Rescue extraction exercise. Ten preliminary sites identified.
4. Met with Wally Robison, P.E., who is representing the estate of Robert Wunderlich, to discuss numerous unsecured hazards on several properties in Lyon County. Methods and timeframes for securing 10 notified hazards were reviewed and Mr. Robison indicated he would either contract the work or supervise his own work crew to accomplish the task. He purchased 25 large metal signs to post on fences which he expects to have completed in April, weather permitting.
5. Communicated with representative from Vista Gold's corporate office in Denver confirming that they intend to secure all hazards identified by DOM which are on their Nevada properties. Vista recently purchased a large number of patented and unpatented claims from Frank Lewis.
6. Received a call from Kris Urquhart (NDOW) requesting claimant information on two properties in Pershing and Mineral Counties. The properties contain adits with known bat usage and NDOW is interested in erecting bat gates.
7. Communicated with claimant Boyd Knight regarding the securing of hazards in Lincoln County. He will secure the sites as soon as weather allows.

8. Toured Guanomi Mine site at Pyramid Lake with Jon Brown (NvMA), Donna Noel (PLPT) and Glenn Miller (UNR) to discuss plans and approach for moving topsoil onto old tailings site. Area to be covered is approximately 150' x 120'. Approximately 1,000 yds³ of available and suitable topsoil material currently exists as a berm on the downhill side of large trench immediately above mine site. Earthwork scheduled for late April by NvMA and their volunteers.
9. Met with Mitch Benning to discuss and sign off on his Eagle Scout Project proposal.
10. Received Scope of Work from Brian Jordan (ACOE) for GIS work to be provided by TerraSpectra. Reviewed scope and other GIS issues on conference call attended by Alan, Mike, Brian and Elaine Ezra (President - TerraSpectra).
11. All hazard inventory sheets at Carson City office have been copied and are ready to be shipped to Brian Jordan for scanning. Clean non-punched copies of ID sheets required for high-speed document scanner. Copies of topo sheets being made as back-ups, as originals will be shipped to Las Vegas for scanning and rectification by TerraSpectra and their scanning service provider.
12. TerraSpectra performed queries on AML database to determine the number of topographic maps in database and number of hazards on each. Of 449 maps in database, 250 have less than 10 hazards, 23 have more than 100. In the process, they also uncovered several inaccuracies (e.g. misspellings, incorrect entries) which are being corrected.
13. Spoke with Brian Jordan (ACOE) regarding a letter to be sent to Keck Earth Sciences and Mining Research Information Center for their assistance in obtaining certain GIS information. Met with Duncan Aldrich, GIS librarian at the Keck Mining Research Information Center, to discuss NDOM interest in available GIS datasets. He will review the list of requested data with his graduate student, but sees no impediments to acquiring the data. Requested data is expected to be copied to an external hard drive (1TB) by a graduate student within the next few weeks.
14. Researched requested information for Joe Beemer, out-of-state claimant with patented property along I-80 near Painted Rock.
15. Attended Natives Impacted By Mining Conference in Reno. Distributed NDOM and AML informational materials to 37 attendees (one presentation – 37 people).
16. Two 5-gallon buckets of diorite samples were collected at an outcrop south of Wellington for use in rock kits at upcoming Teachers Workshops.
17. 200 specimen bags containing diatomite samples and identification sheets were prepared for use at the upcoming Las Vegas Teachers Workshop.
18. Completed work on activities to be presented at the Teachers Workshop. Beth Price reviewed the activities for applicable Nevada Science Standards. Digital copies of the activities were provided to Rachel Dolbier (Keck Museum) for inclusion on CD to be provided to all teachers attending the workshop.
19. Attended NvMA Education Committee meeting in Reno to finalize plans for Las Vegas Teachers Workshop and begin planning for Carson City Workshop scheduled for August.
20. Received and confirmed a request from Alice Smith Elementary School (Reno) for four Rocks/Minerals/AML presentations, two in late-April and two in mid-May.
21. Set-up and manned a display at Dayton Elementary School “Family Learning Night.” The 300 attendees included students, teachers, and parents came by for an AML presentation and mining information (one presentation – 300 people).
22. Participated in Mining Day at Agnes Risley Elementary School in Sparks; 4 presentations on AML (Doug), 4 presentations on rocks and minerals (Alan), 4 presentations on bird-seed mining (Linda assisted by Chris Coyner), and 4 presentations on making toothpaste (Mike assisted by George). 87 4th graders and 4 teachers rotated through the presentations (16 presentations – 91 people).

AML / PUBLIC AWARENESS – SOUTH

1. Five orphan hazards were secured south of Nelson, Clark County by Eagle Scout Jacob Gibson (#45) and crew. Jacob's project is the 55th completed since 1992. Scouts have secured 344 hazards and repaired 26 previous securings, to date.
2. Coordinated two field trips to Clark County orphan AML sites currently on the list for NEPA evaluation under the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA). Staff from BLM, USFS, NPS, Army Corps of Engineers and contractor archaeologists and biologists participated in the tour of various sites in the Nelson and Goodsprings areas. Archaeological and biological studies will be performed on over 300 sites to determine suitability for permanent closure including bat-compatible closures, foam seals or backfilling. Funding for the studies was obtained under a SNPLMA Round 5 grant initiated by Chris Ross, AML program lead, BLM-NSO.
3. Completed a spreadsheet and provided location maps and copies of hazard inventory sheets to the Ely BLM Field Office for 108 orphan AML hazards in Lincoln County. Funding is sought by Ely BLM in SNPLMA Round 7 for NEPA studies and permanent closure of the hazards.
4. Seven Lincoln County AML hazards were logged in as secured – information and photographs were received from a claimant.
5. Claim research was conducted through the Lincoln County Assessor's office for AML sites in the Atlanta area that have disputed ownership.
6. Stephen Erickson's (#69) Eagle Project reconnaissance trip was completed. His project will involve 4 securings and 2 repairs near Goodsprings. The project has been scheduled for May 13, 2006.
7. Provided copies of the latest mining claim forms and the Nevada Mining Claim Filing Requirements fact sheet to the Las Vegas BLM Field Office for posting and distribution.
8. Continued to assemble materials for the 17th annual Las Vegas Mineral Education Workshop (April 10-12). Classroom materials for the grade level 4-5 activity sessions have been updated with the newly-revised Nevada Science Education Curriculum standards.
9. Prepared limestone samples for LV Mineral Education Workshop teacher rock kits.
10. Attended (with D. Selig) the NvMA Education Committee meeting in Reno.
11. Conducted 5 mineral and commodity/careers and AML presentations for 1st and 4th graders at Pat Diskin Elementary School for a total of 100 students (5 presentations – 100 people).
12. Assisted Dorothy Webb, McCaw School of Mines operations manager, in various activities related to the April 1 Gala fund-raiser event.
13. Attended the annual DRI Medal awards banquet at Caesar's Palace, Las Vegas.

OIL AND GAS

1. Received Winn Exploration drilling application and request for spacing exception. Spoke with Permits West regarding spacing, application incomplete per BLM review, letter sent denying spacing exception. Follow up conference call with Winn Exploration provided working interest agreement for spacing exception for their proposed exploration well. Provided full documentation. Application approved and sent.
2. Received Tierra Nevada application to drill two wells. Spoke with E. Weiss and need organization report and bond. Spoke to B. Ehni about ROW permitting for Tierra Nevada. Coordinating with Tierra Nevada Exploration LP on locations for three oil well applications. Reviewing applications. Notified by BLM of on site review for Golden Eye location to be held April 5.
3. Notified by B. Welsh that Neuhaus will be moving onto the Current Creek well later this month.
4. Faskin granted 6 month extension of confidentiality, letter sent.

5. Prepared and sent out letter to Grant Canyon regarding bonding requirements. Coordinating with Grant Canyon to bring their bond up to State required \$50,000.
6. Received application for 12-43 Makoil well. Reviewing old permit.
7. Geysler Petroleum perforating Santa Maria well.
8. Request for oil and gas lithology logs from H. Eastman.
9. Provided missing documents to BLM for Santa Maria and Cobble Cuesta wells.
10. Requested copy of original permit application for Makoil 12-43 from NBMG. Actual location of well versus permit location needs clarification.
11. Tracked down drilling in Mineral County by Hiddleston Drilling, ID. Mineral exploration hole not oil and gas drilling.
12. Spoke with S. Mark, Colorado School of Mines regarding electronic data availability for oil and gas drilling.
13. Met with T. Gallagher, Division of Water Resources, on oil and gas regulation changes. Discussed how changes currently being made to DWR regulations can be integrated into the oil and gas regulations.

GEOHERMAL

1. Vosika King, Wells NV drilling, sundry to deepen TD approved. Sundry on Vosika King well completion, casing size change, approved.
2. Beowawe requests to delay completion report until further testing, approved.
3. Coordinating with Ormat SBH on plug and abandonment of stratigraphic test hole 34. Ormat SBH bringing in tubing cutting unit for Strat 34.
4. Prepared two permits for approval for Nevada Geothermal Power, Blue Mt project, waiting for status of fees. Subsequently received permitting fees from Nevada Geothermal for production wells at Blue Mt.
5. Sent out letter to Homestretch Geothermal concerning a permanent exemption from reinjection for 500 acre feet per year of geothermal fluid. Subsequently, spoke with K. Oaks of JBR regarding EA for BLM on Homestretch's project and learned of their intent to fill water ski ponds with geothermal water.
6. Coordinating with Caithness on return of \$10,000 bond on well 64A.
7. Received information on GRID casing specifications, processed and approved permit.
8. Met with NDEP and Ormat on P&A of Cox 1 well.
9. Sundry notice on Dixie Valley 27-32 well clean out, approved.
10. Coordinated with NDEP on change of status of Brady injection wells.
11. Coordinated with Esmeralda Energy, NDEP, and BLM on drilling permit for Emigrant project.
12. Reviewed and approved 8 Mechanical Integrity Tests for Brady Power Partners wells. Coordinated with NDEP. Provided well information to Hale Lane on Ormat facilities for local counsel legal review. Received P&A report on 64-32 from SB Ormat.
13. Approved and sent sundry for tracer test of Dixie Valley 38-32.
14. Coordinated with L. Biehn on getting information for well completion report.
15. Spoke with drilling contractor on Minden domestic geothermal well, explained regulations, he explained his complications. Will make best effort to provide completion paperwork. Notified owner.
16. Met with M. Booth on Steamboat land issues.
17. Provided information to R. Henkle on pad reclamation.
18. Met with M. Lortie, WDC, on geothermal drilling activity.
19. Met with P. Clary on private geothermal properties and potential for development.
20. Spoke with J. Johnson, APS energy services, on expanding the Hawthorne Mt Grant Hospital project to the local school district facilities.
21. Sent comments to GEA for congressional budget meetings.
22. Spoke with consultant for GRID project on funding opportunities.

23. Sent out solicitation letters for presentations and papers for GRC annual meeting session.
24. Sent out information to developers who may qualify for GPW / SWG funds.
25. Finalized Indian Workshop grant paperwork.
26. Prepared DOE GeoPowering the West grant application paperwork for State Working Group, 2006-2007.
27. Spoke with Utah state geologist, Bob Blackett on state trade missions for GPW.
28. Made presentation at the Natives Impacted by Mining Conference, Reno.
29. Spoke with DWR on inaccurate information being passed to drillers on geothermal wells. Will meet with DWR and resolve within the next several weeks.
30. Registered for Power-Gen conference, LV on April 11-12.