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Governor

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ALAN R. COYNER
Administrator

ACTIVITY AND ACHIEVEMENTS

December 2010

ADMINISTRATION (ALAN)

1. Attended the geothermal stakeholders meeting at the Nugget in Sparks.
2. Created a PowerPoint presentation with Jon Price, NBMG concerning global supply and demand for certain mineral commodities.
3. Attended the NWMA annual meeting in Spokane, WA and chaired the Area Reports sessions and presented an Update on Exploration and Production for Nevada.
4. Arranged for two of the agencies surplus trucks to be transferred to the Department of Wildlife, saving the expenditure of general fund money for additional vehicles at NDOW.
5. Arranged a tour of a geothermal plant for Arloa Woolford of Women in Mining.
6. Received the BLM Decision Letter concerning the demolition of the American Flats mill.
7. Attended the AIPG annual meeting and the GSN monthly meeting in Reno.
8. Met with Eagle Scout candidate Carson Mullens to review his project.
9. Met with Art Wilson of Art Wilson Gypsum to discuss bonding issues.
10. Reviewed the NBMG Nevada Mineral Industry 2009.
11. Investigated AML conditions at the Homestake Mine near Yerington in response to a report that it was for sale on EBay. Did follow-up with Mike Visher and Tucker White who had listed the property for sale.
12. Responded to the Budget Division concerning performance indicators.
13. Sent corrections to the Audit Division concerning the Priorities of Government Budget.
14. Responded to request for more information from the LCB budget analyst and the Dept. of Administration Budget and Planning Division concerning the agency budget.
15. Continued to respond to the Audit Division and the Budget Office concerning the FY12/FY13 budget.
16. Meet with the Personnel Department concerning the requirements and record keeping for catastrophic leave.
17. All employees took the required furlough day in December resulting in 80 hours of lost pay, 80 hours of work time lost to the Division, and no benefit to the state general fund.

RECLAMATION BOND POOL (DOUG)

1. Issued notice level bonds for Sniper Resources, Challenger Deep, RMP Resources, Cordex Exploration and Basin & Range Resources.
2. Notified BLM and NDEP of Southern Nevada Liteweight's bond increase.
3. Processed a notice level bond reduction for Queensgate.
4. Prepared and sent out invoices for quarterly bond pool participants and Notice level participants on a December schedule.

MINING, LAND AND OTHER ISSUES (DOUG)

1. Travelled to Spokane for the Northwest Mining Association's annual meeting. Attended talks and helped man the State of Nevada booth.

2. Sent exploration survey mailing list to Jon Brown.
3. Responded to the Securities & Exchange Commission about a company's website.
4. Approved three a geothermal sundries.
5. Monitored the IFC meeting on-line. The Division's item was not called.

AML / PUBLIC AWARENESS - NORTH (MIKE)

1. Assisted Arizona contractor doing research for BLM-Ely on the historical background of abandoned mine site, "Cappy's Diggins", in the Mt. Grafton Wilderness Area.
2. Researched and resolved database issues regarding missing UTM's for several unsecured hazards.
3. Supervised and assisted with culvert gating and PUF efforts by contractor KFC (Reno) at an adit near Perry Canyon, Washoe County. This was their first gating effort under the 2009 "Good of the State" contract.
4. Informed by David Vincelette (BLM-Winnemucca) that he is taking over the AML duties as Mark Gingrich is no longer there. He requested a current copy of our AML database so he could update ownership information for several priority sites. A CD was mailed containing the data plus non-hazard information, lookup codes and field data sheets.
5. Hired former summer intern, Geoff Baldwin, as a contractor through Geotemps to continue scanning unsolicited securing documents started by Kyle Cahill.
6. Researched several unsolicited securing documents to identify actual hazard numbers and assigned new ones as needed. Data entry for newly identified hazards.
7. Performed QA/QC on AML database and made corrections where needed.
8. Continued work on and completed 2009 AML Report (all statistical portions). Submitted final draft to Las Vegas office for review.
9. Met with FS and contractor Brian Breiter to discuss AML inventory efforts and access issues in the Bull Run Mountains, Elko County and resolve issue with incorrect coordinates for a select set of mine features on FS maps.
10. Conduct research on several historical unsolicited securings, updated database with new hazard information.
11. Updated GUANO spreadsheet of bat-gate ready AML features.
12. Attended Nevada Bat Working Group meeting and discussed yearly progress and updates for future work plans. Focus on survey of known hazards near V&T railroad and sites in and around Berlin State Park, for prioritization of hard closures.
13. Made CD's containing snapshots of AML hazard and non-hazard database files. Provided several to NDOW.
14. Had several discussions with NDOW and BLM biologists regarding approach for survey of known hazards within the V&T Railroad viewshed.
15. Conducted ownership research for Lyon County hazards.
16. Started work on list of hard closure candidates within Berlin State Park boundary.
17. Conducted AML field work at the Homestake Mine, Lyon County after receiving information of unsecured hazards seen on recent eBay listing. Logged three new hazards, 15 non-hazards, six revisits, made one repair.
18. Received call from realtor Wayne Marken inquiring about history, status, and securing information for two hazards on parcel adjacent to Geiger Grade in Washoe County. Provided map, ID sheets, photos and NBMG water testing results to realtor. A site visit is planned with him once the area is free of snow.

19. Received data CD from Chris Ross (BLM-NSO) detailing all hard closure efforts over the last three years for use in updating our database. Began cross-referencing datasets and updating AML database.
20. Spoke with contractor Pete Herrera regarding revisit program recently initiated in Clark County. Clarified expectations of field work, ownership research and delivery of data.

AML / GIS (RACHEL)

1. Helped solve a land parcel issue asked by a Las Vegas resident who was unsure where her land was located.
2. Completed thank you letters to claimants and updated the database to reflect new securing data.
3. Added AML photos from November to the photo archive and started a staging folder for December. The photos were then backed up along with other data.
4. Compiled the dataset for the Clark County re-visit program and the most recent hazard and non-hazard information in preparation for a Las Vegas office visit. Traveled to Las Vegas to help Deborah Selig prepare for the Clark County Revisit Program. Uploaded the information to the Las Vegas Computers, went over different methods in making maps for the contractors and uploading our data to GPS units for field use, and different means for compiling the GIS data for use in the field. Compiled a new data set for the Clark County revisit program with updated information from the database. Compiled the newest Clark County data for the revisit program in order to start making maps for Pete Herrera. Assisted Debbie in producing the first maps for Pete Herrera. I was able to use remote assistant (tested by both Debbie and myself earlier in the week) to show the steps for making maps and simplifying the process.
5. Resolved issues with hazardous features in Clark County that did not have UTM points. These hazards were found on the corresponding maps and UTM coordinates were updated and added to the database.
6. Uploaded USFS data regarding the Bull Run area and miss plotted hazards to the passport drive for use in an upcoming meeting.
7. Attended a meeting with Mike Visher at the Forest Service office in Sparks to meet with Ken Maas and Nicholas Connolly with the Forest Service, and Brian with EPS to discuss hazards that seemed to be miss-plotted in the Bull Run area north of Elko. Resolved the issues and discusses accessibility to different mine sites for future construction of bat gates and backfills/foam closures.
8. Spoke with Ron Hess at NBMG regarding abandoned mine hazards that were surveyed for fallout shelters during the cold war, and if it was possible to search for these maps. As it turns out, 97 different maps were found displaying detailed maps and surveys of different mine site throughout the state. Nearly all of the maps have information regarding where they are located and other features that were deemed useful (accessibility, presence of water, stability, ventilation, parking areas). These maps will provide another resource when evaluating the extent of abandoned mines.
9. Worked with Debora Selig on logging onto computers in both the Las Vegas office and the Carson City office to provide remote assistance to a user who is having problems or questions with a certain program.
10. Compiled a new Nevada AML map highlighting features that were on the GUANO list, features where bats were observed, and features that had been secured with bat gates. This was put together for discussion at the Nevada Bat Working Group Meeting on December 16th.

11. Attended the Nevada Bat Working Group Meeting with Mike Visser. Discussed the Virginia and Truckee railroad project and methods for determining which hazards may need bat gates. Also discussed obtaining information on hazards secured by bat gates that are not recorded in our database. Worked on completing a list of hazards in the view shed of the V&T railroad that has potential for bat habitat.
12. Sent Katie Miller with NDOW a list of sites we know about that have bat gates. This was completed in hopes of compiling a more complete list of sites that have bat gates and adding this new information to our data base.
13. Researched all of the features in the Nevada Bureau of Mines database that were surveyed for fallout shelters and compiled a list of them for future use and to share with the Nevada Bat Working Group. Looked at the list to mine features that have been surveyed for fallout shelters to determine how many were located in the area around the V&T railroad. As it turns out, there are 4 features in the area that have been surveyed for fallout shelters. This provides us with detailed information about the different adits in question and their extent.
14. Georeferenced several plat maps from the Lyon County Assessors website. This was done to determine which hazards along the V&T railroad are on patented or public land. Phoned Storey County to see if a similar dataset was available for use and have not heard back.
15. Sent an updated spreadsheet containing information on hazards inside the view shed of the V&T Railroad to members of the BLM and NDOW in order to start researching these features for permanent closures.
16. Worked with Geotemps contractor Jeff Baldwin on printing out photos of AML hazards for revisit in the Goodsprings area in order to send to Pete Herrera so that he could begin revisiting these sites.
17. Updated the database with new information and filed updated hazard data from Las Vegas and corrected information regarding miss-plotted hazards and non-hazards.
18. Continued researching hazards on USFS Land that were either secured by the Forest Service, NDOM or a contractor. Compared hazards secured in the database with where they plot in ArcMap in order to resolve some discrepancies with where the hazards plot.
19. Began researching potential locations for summer field work for the Interns. Started with compiling a list of parameters to use when determining the best areas to visit for AML work. This list includes topo quad priority, proximity of NV points to known archeological sites, ghost towns and other points of interest, and proximity of known hazards to points that have not been investigated yet. Currently working on updating the list of topo quad prioritization with new data collected from 2010.
20. Attended the Northwest Mining Association conference in Spokane, Washington.
21. Attended the monthly Education Meeting at the Nevada Mining Association to discuss the upcoming teacher's workshops in Las Vegas, and the summer workshop in Reno.

AML / PUBLIC AWARENESS - SOUTH (BILL)

1. Responded to a shaft call at the Tonopah Historic Mining Park. A 400' deep backfilled air shaft collapsed open at the northwest edge of the Visitor's Center parking lot. The shaft collar location was known and documented and may be left open as an additional point of interest for visitors. A possible scenario has been proposed to install a concrete footing around the collar and cover the opening with steel mesh grating.

2. Conducted site re-visits to hazards east of Tonopah reportedly backfilled by Santa Fe Pacific Minerals in 1995. Four of eight sites were visited and backfill work was found to be complete and stable.
3. Conducted NEPA site visit to the Solar Mine south of Nelson with Chris Ross and Stephanie Livingston (GBI archaeologist). The four AML hazards are proposed for permanent closure requiring a cultural resource survey and evaluation.
4. Conducted site visit with Chris Ross to five AML hazards at the Whale Mine near Sandy Valley. The hazards are proposed for permanent closure. The visit focused on steep side hill access issues and additional photo documentation of cultural features was completed.
5. One AML hazard investigated and ranked in Nye County and one non-hazard logged in Clark County.
6. Met with Pete Herrera to discuss logistics and material storage for the Clark County AML site re-visit/re-secure contract.
7. Investigated, ranked and fenced one hazard in Nye County – “Shaft Call” reported by staff of the Pahrump Field Office. The shaft was next to a maintained dirt road to be used for an up-coming vehicle race.
8. Investigated a report of possible explosives in an adit in Tungsten Canyon in the Bare Mountain Range south of Beatty. Two full bags and one partial bag of prilled nitro-carbo-nitrate were found. The material was reported to Chris Ross who will initiate disposal action through the Las Vegas BLM Field Office.
9. Conducted Clark County AML land status research – Goodsprings and Sandy Valley.
10. Prep AML handout packages for three middle school (7th graders) assembly presentations scheduled for Dec. 14-16 (estimated 1,500 students).
11. Attended NvMA Education Committee meeting in Reno – planning for 2011 Southern Nevada Earth Science Education workshop (Las Vegas) scheduled for April 19-21, 2011 and the Northern Nevada workshop (Reno) scheduled for July 19-21, 2011.
12. Mineral/Commodity and AML presentations:
 - a. 6 presentations to 13 classes of 7th graders at Charles Silvestri Middle School – Las Vegas. (6 presentations to a total of 514 students).
 - b. 5 presentations to 13 classes of 7th graders at Francis Cortney Middle School – Las Vegas. (5 presentations to a total of 455 students).
 - c. 5 presentations to 15 classes of 7th graders at Lied Middle School – Las Vegas. (5 presentations to a total of 475 students).
 - d. Outreach to 1,444 students plus teachers for items a through c.
 - e. Presented “Birdseed Mining” and Chocolate Chip Cookie Mining” to 2 K-1st graders at Innovations International Charter School of Las Vegas After School program (one presentation – 2 people).
 - f. Presented “Metamorphic Sandwiches” to 3 K-1 students at Innovations International Charter School of Nevada’s Afterschool Program (1 presentation to 3 students).
 - g. Made PowerPoint presentation on Nevada mining and AML for 100 members and guests at a monthly meeting of the Las Vegas chapter of the Gold Prospectors Association of America (GPAA) (1 presentation – 100 people).

GEOHERMAL (LOWELL)

1. Reviewed Nevada Geothermal Power’s sundry notice to move the Pumpnickel Valley 45-4 production well to 46-14, and change conductor size from 20” to 30”. Alan approved.

2. Reviewed Nevada Geothermal Power's sundry notice to change drilling program in the Blue Mountain 86-22 injection well, where it was requested to drill the well directionally rather than vertically. The name of the well will change to 86(16-23)-22 with the directional drilling. Alan approved.
3. Reviewed Nevada Geothermal Power's sundry notice to move the undrilled Blue Mountain 47-14 injection well drilling location to 78A-22, as well as a revised drilling program. Alan approved.
4. Reviewed Magma Energy's sundry notice to perform flow tests, run reservoir saturation/water flow log, and perforate potential zones in the Soda Lake 41B-33 production well. Alan approved.
5. Reviewed Magma Energy's sundry notice to clean out, run TPS survey, run injection tests, run 7"liner, perforate potential zones, and deflagrate zones in the Soda Lake 25A-33 production well. Alan approved.
6. Reviewed Terra-Gen's sundry notice to allow MIT testing in the Beowawe Batz 1 injection well. Received Russ Land's approval for proposed procedure. Alan approved.
7. Reviewed Terra-Gen's sundry notice to run TPS surveys in the Dixie Valley 32-18, 38A-32, and 45-5 injection wells and the 24W-5 observation well. Alan approved.
8. Reviewed Enel North America's sundry notice to replace the master valve and 3" wing valves on the Stillwater 24-7 injection well. Alan approved.
9. Reviewed Ormat Nevada's sundry notice to install down hole pump in the Steamboat 74-21 production well. Alan approved.
10. Wells drilling: Gradient Resources Patua 16-29 (7,510', drilling); Gradient Resources Fallon1 13-36 observation well (4,847'; coring); TGP Coyote Canyon 76-14 ST1 observation well (7,887', well continues to be temporarily shut-in); Nevada Geothermal Power Blue Mountain 86(16-23)-22 injection well (2,810', nipping up to 13.375" casing).
11. Reviewed Magma Energy's sundry notice to acidize and descale the 45A-33 production well. Alan approved.
12. Reviewed Ormat Nevada's sundry notice to withdraw the McGinness Hills 21-15 permit, number 903. Alan approved.
13. Reviewed Ormat Nevada's sundries and plan of operations to plug and abandon TG 26-14, TG 43-24, and TG 72-24 at Gabbs Valley. Alan approved.
14. Reviewed Ormat Nevada's sundry notice to re-enter and deepen the Jersey Valley 46-28RD production well. Drilling program also included plugging back and drilling a sidetrack hole if deepening the original hole was not successful. Alan approved.
15. Reviewed Ormat Nevada's sundry notice to perform a thirty day injection test at Jersey Valley. Producing wells include 77A-28 (Permit # 979) and 87-28RD (Permit # 902). Injection wells include 81-28 (Permit # 655), 81A-28 (Permit # 1070), and 14-27 (Permit # 701). Alan approved.
16. Reviewed TGP Development Company's Dixie Meadows 42(12)-9 production well permit application and drilling program. The proposed total depth for the well is 9060 feet. Alan approved.
17. Reviewed Nevada Geothermal Power's sundry notice to extend the drilling permits of the Blue Mountain 12-23 (permit #769) and 85-15 (permit #767) injection wells from an expiration date of March 1, 2011 to March 1, 2012. Alan approved.
18. Wells drilling: Gradient Resources Patua 16-29 (8,820', drilling); Gradient Resources Fallon1 13-36 observation well (5,665'; coring); TGP Coyote Canyon 76-14 ST1 observation well (7,887', well continues to be temporarily shut-in); Nevada Geothermal

- Power Blue Mountain 86(16-23)-22 injection well (4,957', directionally drilling); Ormat Nevada Jersey Valley 46(57)-28 production well (5,067', preparing to re-enter well to deepen.).
19. Reviewed Nevada Geothermal Power's sundry notice to modify depth of intermediate casing. Alan approved.
 20. Reviewed Gradient Resources Patua 44-19 production well permit application and associated drilling program. Proposed total depth is 10,000 feet. Alan approved.
 21. Reviewed Magma Energy's sundry notice to drop reservoir saturation/water flow logging from their approved workover program. Alan approved.
 22. Reviewed Magma Energy's sundry notices to run video logs, at Russ Land's request, in the Soda Lake 45-28, 53-28, 55-33, 64-33, 77-29, 81-33, and 87-29 injection wells. Alan approved.
 23. Reviewed TGP Dixie Valley sundry notice to withdraw Sate Permit #1184, Dixie Meadows 32-9. Well location to be moved to 42(12)-19 at request of BLM, after further investigation of well location by the BLM. Alan approved.
 24. Reviewed TGP Development Company's Dixie Meadows 42(12)-9 production well permit application and drilling program. The proposed total depth for the well is 9060 feet. Alan approved.
 25. Wells drilling: Gradient Resources Patua 16-29 (9,855', ran 9.625" liner, rigging down); Gradient Resources Fallon1 13-36 observation well (6,196'; coring); TGP Coyote Canyon 76-14 ST1 observation well (7,887', well continues to be temporarily shut-in); Nevada Geothermal Power Blue Mountain 86(16-23)-22 injection well (5,695', running 7" liner); Ormat Nevada Jersey Valley 46(57)-28 production well (5,067', reaming to bottom prior to deepening of well).
 26. Met with John Menghini, BLM, and Russ Land, UIC, to discuss ongoing and future geothermal projects in Nevada.
 27. Attended Geothermal Development Association's award ceremony in Reno. The company is receiving an "Export Achievement" award for its success exporting its U.S. goods and services abroad and for its recent project developing a geothermal well field on behalf of the Kenya Electricity Generating Company (KenGen). The award was presented by Bill Cline, director, U.S. Commercial Service Office here in Reno.
 28. Reviewed Gradient Resources Patua 67-29 observation well permit application and associated drilling program. Proposed total depth is 7,000 feet. Doug approved.
 29. Reviewed Ormat Nevada's Dead Horse 85-11 production well permit application and associated drilling program. Proposed total depth is 3,500 feet. Doug approved.
 30. Reviewed Nevada Geothermal Power's sundry notice to change permit status of the Blue Mountain 34-23 production well to an injection well. Reviewed change in drilling program for the injection well. Proposed total depth for the injection well is 3,000 feet. Alan approved.
 31. Contacted Arnold Wolf, Chemetall Foote, via email, concerning his verbal request for information on the geothermal permitting process with NDOM.
 32. Wells drilling: Gradient Resources Patua 16-29 (9,855', ran 9.625" liner, partially rigging down for holiday standby); Gradient Resources Fallon1 13-36 observation well (6,448'; rigged down, moved off hole); TGP Coyote Canyon 76-14 ST1 observation well (7,887', well continues to be temporarily shut-in); Nevada Geothermal Power Blue Mountain 86(16-23)-22 injection well (5,695', rigging down, moving rig to Blue Mountain 34-23 injection well location); Ormat Nevada Jersey Valley 46(57)-28 production well (5,555', reaming hole prior to flow tests).

33. Reviewed Ormat Nevada's sundry notice to deepen the Jersey Valley 46(57)-28 production well from the previously approved 5,500 foot total depth to 6,500 feet. BLM is to review additional request of information from Ormat once received.
34. Reviewed Magma Energy's sundry notice to pull and repair pump in the Soda Lake 45A-33 production well. Pipeline at well head will be inspected during pump repair. Alan approved.
35. Reviewed magma Energy's sundry notice to pull cap tubing from the Soda Lake 45-28, 64-33, 77-29, and 81-33 injection wells. Alan approved.
36. Wells drilling: Gradient Resources Patua 16-29 (9,855', pulled 9.625" liner out of hole, cleaning out hole prior to rig down and rig move); TGP Coyote Canyon 76-14 ST1 observation well (7,887', well continues to be temporarily shut-in); Nevada Geothermal Power Blue Mountain 34-23 injection well (645', drilling out cement plug); Ormat Nevada Jersey Valley 46(57)-28 production well (5,676', circulating, waiting on approval to drill to 6,500 feet).

OIL AND GAS (LOWELL)

1. No activity.