# Navajo Abandoned Uranium Mine

## **Site Screen Report**

This form is for use at the site of abandoned uranium mines (AUM) located on Navajo Nation lands. Applicable sites include all mine and mine features that have or have not undergone reclamation by the Navajo Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program, including features, adits, pits and waste piles. Applicable sites also include all AUM sites listed in the USEPA CERCLIS database, all sites listed in the 2008 AUM GIS Report issued by USACOE and USEPA, all AUM sites on allotment lands associated with the Navajo Nation, and any and all AUM sites not listed in any database located on Navajo lands. Reconnaissance of any sites located on lands adjacent to Navajo lands that may be impacting Navajo lands will need to be coordinated with the authorities appropriate to those lands.

The purpose of the form is to ascertain the status and location of the identified AUM site, and record all immediate site information associated with the mine site. Decisions and recommendations on what additional steps are needed will be provided on a separate document.

### Johnny McCoy 1 AUM Site

Navajo AUM Northern Region

#### **Prepared by:**

#### Weston Solutions, Inc.

#### Contract: W91238-06-F-0083

#### 12767.063.496.1111

#### August 2010

#### Part I Site Identification, Location and Status

#### Site Names and ID numbers as applicable

Mine ID:	188
----------	-----

Map ID: N10

CERCLIS: NNN000908988

Navajo Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program: NA-0509

Local name / Aliases: Johnny McCoy #1

Chapter and local area: Sweetwater Chapter

County: Apache State: Arizona

Lat/Long: 36.858086207 N / -109.435618479 W

Nearby road and highway: Highway 160 Local Post Office: Sweetwater

Surface Land Status: check one or more and provide ownership and contact information below

Tribal Trust Land	$\bowtie$	Public lands	
Private		<b>Tribal Fee Land</b>	
Bureau of Land Mgmt		Allotment	
State		Fee land	

#### **Subsurface Mineral Rights:**

No information on subsurface mineral rights ownership was found in the EPA/AUM Database.

#### **Claim and operator information:**

The mine site surface land status is classified as Tribal Trust Land. Historical documents showed the operator of the mine as H&H Minerals in 1955. No other historical ownership / lease information was identified in the EPA/AUM database.

Number of residential structures within 200 feet of mine: None

#### Estimated volume of mine waste onsite: None

#### Part II Summary of radiological readings

#### Highest gamma radiation measurement:

114,582 counts per minute (cpm)

#### Describe any other radiological measurements:

A total of 3,142 gamma radiation measurements were collected from the mine site, ranging from 5,710 cpm to 114,582 cpm. Measurements collected in the vicinity of the trench area were found at levels up to approximately 50,000 cpm. The measurements are represented in Figures 1 and 2.

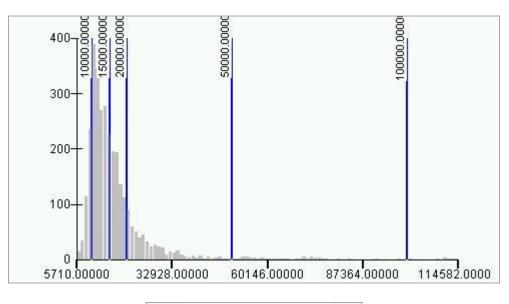
#### **Background Locations**

Average background = 7,749 cpm

#1 7,749 cpm

#### **Distribution Chart and Statistics:**

The following chart and statistics were generated by ESRI ArcGIS 9.3.1, and show the general distribution of the site gamma radiation measurements. The horizontal X axis represents the gamma radiation reading levels in cpm (lowest levels to the left). The vertical Y axis represents the frequency of each gamma radiation level.



Count:	3142
Minimum:	5710.00000
Maximum:	114582.00000
Sum:	52978053.00000
Mean:	16861.25175
Median:	14043.00000
Standard Deviation:	10862.48186

#### Part III Status of Reclamation and Mine Waste

The following information was obtained from the Navajo Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program (NAMLRP) Point Features Database:

NAMLRP Status of the mine site: Reclaimed : Yes Waste Pile onsite : No

NAMLRP Project Number: NA-0509

NAMLRP Mine features: 1 Rim Strip / Pit, 1 Vertical

The following information was obtained from field observations collected during the 2010 site screening:

Provide description and status of all mine sites and features at site. Include all waste piles, adits, pits and other features, and indicate whether they are open, closed, covered, capped, buried or unreclaimed. Indicate approximate size, shape and extent, including description of any reclamation caps. Note condition of all caps.

**Observed reclamation work and status:** 

Adits None

Waste Piles None

**Pits** Former trench area in S area of site (covered), 30'x30'

#### Shafts

Former shaft area (covered), 25'x25', shaft was estimated to be 10' deep by AML

#### **Other Debris and Mine Features**

None

#### Part IV

**Site observations and Environs** 

**Observed Structures: list number of and describe human habitation status of structures at the following distances from mine:** 

0 to 200 feet: None

200 feet to 0.25 mile: None

Observed Public or commercial structure: list and describe all schools, clinics, Chapter Houses, places of business and any other structure used by members of the community at the following distances:

0 to 200 feet: None

200 feet to 0.25 mile: None

Levels measured around the perimeter(s) of the identified structure(s):

None

Observed water sources: list the number and type of wells and surface water sources that are potentially used for human consumption at the following distances from the mine:

0 to 0.25 miles: None

0.25 miles to 4 miles: None

Sensitive environments: note and describe all sensitive environments located within visible range of the mine site, including: wetlands, endangered species, habitats and approximate locations of sites that may be under protection of the government of the Navajo Nation.

None

# Known Site History: include information from interviews with Chapter officials and residents. Note information on mine ownership, type of mining operation, period of operation, known amount of production, and any other information as provided.

Johnny McCoy 1 mine consists of an area of 14,498.76 m<sup>2</sup>. The mine was identified as being operational in 1955. Historical documents showed the operator of the mine as H&H Minerals in 1955. While operational, the mine had a total reported production volume of 34 tons. No other historical information or any additional ownership / lease information was identified in the EPA/AUM database.

#### Part V Response Action Summary

Site Name(s): Johnny McCoy 1 Chapter: Sweetwater

#### **Decision Criteria**

Is there an unreclaimed waste pile at the site? No

At what distance from the waste pile is the nearest residential structure located? None

At what distances from the waste pile are there potential drinking water sources? None

Is there a reclamation cap or sealed adit in place at the site? Yes

Is the cap/seal functionally intact? Yes

Is the cap/seal sufficiently degraded to create a concern about releases? No

At what distance from the cap/seal is the nearest domestic structure located? None

At what distance from the cap/seal is the nearest domestic drinking water source? None

#### Summary of emergency response factors

None

#### Summary hazard ranking system factors

None

#### **Summary of reclamation factors**

Site reclaimed by AML in 1997, covered trench and shaft, and removed waste

#### Part VI Photos



Photo 1. Johnny McCoy 1 site



Photo 2. Johnny McCoy 1 site



Photo 3. Johnny McCoy 1 site, former trench area



Photo 4. Johnny McCoy 1 site, former shaft area



Photo 5. Johnny McCoy 1 site

#### Part VII Contacts Reports and Information

Name: <u>Stanley Edison (928) 871-6861</u>

Eugene Esplain (928) 871-7331

Title or official role (if any) <u>Navajo EPA Superfund Program</u>

Address PO Box 2946, Window Rock, AZ 86515

Information provided <u>Lead Regulatory Agency</u>

Name: <u>Melvin Yazzie mhyazzie@frontiernet.net</u>

Title or official role (if any) Navajo AML – Senior Reclamation Specialist

Address <u>Navajo AML – Shiprock Office</u>

Information provided <u>Reclamation history</u>

Name: <u>Sara Lee</u>

Title or official role (if any) <u>Community Service Coordinator – Sweetwater Chapter</u>

Address Sweetwater Chapter House

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Title or official role (if any)

Telephone number\_\_\_\_\_

Information provided\_\_\_\_\_

#### Figure 1 - Gamma Radiation Measurements, Above Two Times Background Johnny McCoy 1 (188) Sweetwater Chapter, Navajo Nation



**Gamma Radiation Measurements** 

- < 2X Backgound</p>
- > 2X Background

Gamma survey conducted 06/2010 Measured as counts per minute (cpm)

Average background = 7,749 cpm



- General Direction Down-Slope
- Mine Claim Boundaries Observed Reclamation Cap



# Figure 2 - Gamma Radiation Measurements Johnny McCoy 1 (188) Sweetwater Chapter, Navajo Nation Johnny McCoy 1 (188)

#### Legend

**Gamma Radiation Measurements** 

- 0 10,000
- 10,000 15,000
- 15,000 20,000
- 20,000 50,000
- 50,000 100,000
- > 100,000



- General Direction Down-Slope
- Mine Claim Boundaries
  Observed Reclamation Cap
- es 🔊 n Cap 🗖 🗍

Gamma survey conducted 06/2010 Measured as counts per minute (cpm)



Average background 7,749 cpm