

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 and pits. 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 lands not listed in any database located on Navajo lands. Reconnaissance of any sites located on lands adjacent to Navajo lands but that are or 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, to record all immediate site information associated with the mine site and to document the recommendation and/or decision on what additional steps, if any, are needed at the site.

Silver Bit No. 15 AUM Site

Navajo AUM Eastern Region

Prepared by:

Weston Solutions, Inc.

Contract: W91238-06-F-0083

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May 2009

Part I Site Identification, Location and Status

Site Names and ID numbers as applicable

Mine ID: 324

AUM Atlas: E44

CERCLIS: NNN 000 908 750

NAMLRP: NOT ASSIGNED

New Mexico Mining and Mineral Division ID: NM0169

New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources: NMMK0255

Local name / Aliases: Silver Bit 1-18, Pentada, Pentada Prospect

Chapter and local area: Baca/Haystack Chapter

Lat/Long: 35.4583651024 N / -108.097225865 W

Nearby road and highway: NM-371, Interstate 40 **Local Post Office:** Thoreau, NM

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

- Tribal Trust Land**
- Tribal Fee Land**
- Allotment**
- Fee land**
- Public lands**
- Private**
- Bureau of Land Mgmt**
- State**

Ownership and contact information:

No ownership was identified. The mine site property is classified as Bureau of Land Management land.

Part II Site Observations

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, period of operation, and type of mining operation.

The Silver Bit No. 15 mine consists of an area of 263.44 square meters. Any historical information pertaining to mining operations and historical ownership of the mine site appeared to be unclear.

Part III Type, number and reclamation status of mine features

Provide description and reclamation 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 reclamation caps.

Reclamation status of the mine site is currently unknown. No waste piles, adits, pits, or other features were observed during the site visit.

Part IV Summary of radiological readings

Background Locations

#1 10.120 counts per minute (cpm)

Mine site: Silver Bit No. 15
- See Figures 1 and 2

Nearby Structure Perimeter – None

Describe any other radiological measurements:

A total of 1,279 gamma radiation measurements were collected from the mine site, ranging from 7,923 cpm to 16,384 cpm. The measurements are represented in Figures 1 and 2.

Part V Site sketch of all mine features and readings, including locations of all structures, sources of drinking water and any other important features and radiological readings.

Presented in Figures 1 and 2

Part VI Response Action Summary

Site Name(s): Silver Bit No. 15 **Chapter:** Baca/Haystack

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? N/A

At what distances from the waste pile are there potential drinking water sources? N/A

Is there a reclamation cap or sealed adit in place at the site? No

Is the cap/seal functionally intact? N/A

Is the cap/seal sufficiently degraded to create a concern about releases? N/A

At what distance from the cap/seal is the nearest domestic structure located? N/A

At what distance from the cap/seal is the nearest domestic drinking water source? N/A

Summary of emergency response factors

None

Summary hazard ranking system factors

None

Summary of reclamation factors

Reclamation status of the mine site is currently unknown. No waste piles, adits, pits, or other features were observed during the site visit.

Part VII Photos

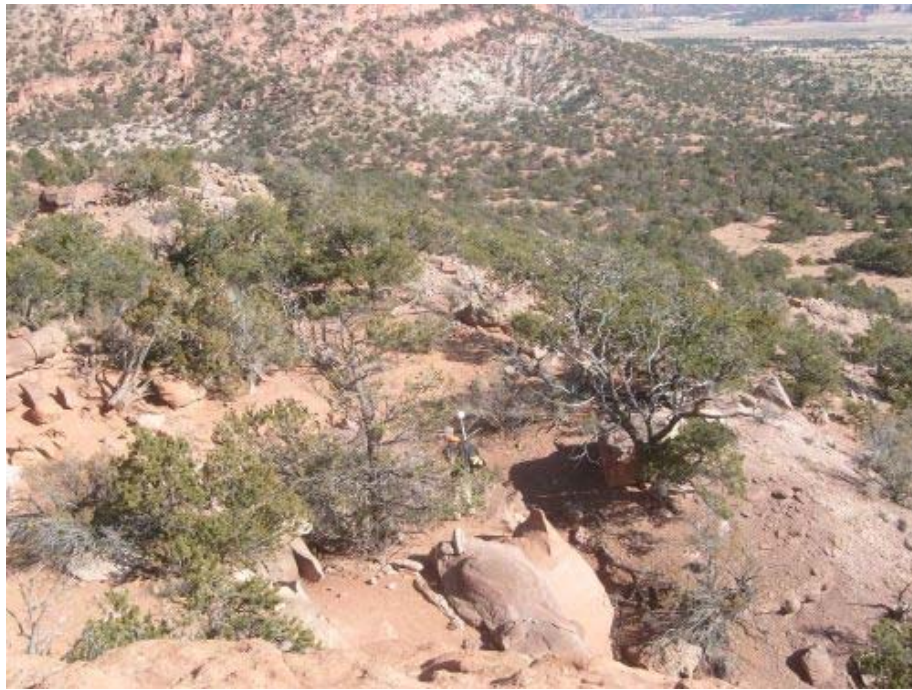


Photo 1. Silver Bit 15 mine site, looking north/northeast towards Silver Bit 18 mine

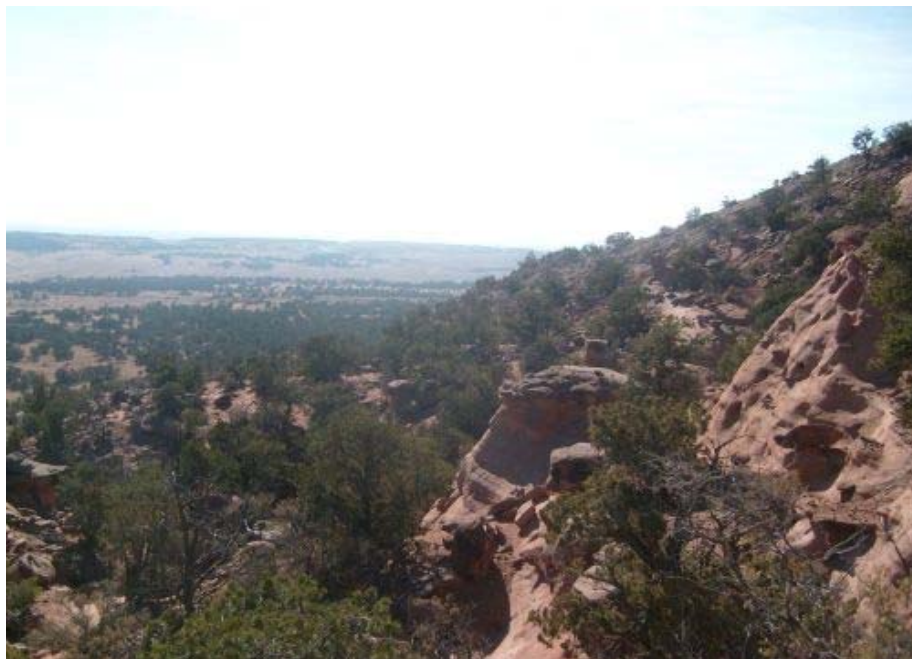


Photo 2. Silver Bit 15 mine site, towards the south/southwest

Part VIII Contacts Reports and Information

Name Buddy Elkins

Title or official role (if any) Owner of adjacent property

Telephone number _____

Information provided _____

Name Stanley Edison

Title or official role (if any) Navajo EPA Superfund Program

Address PO Box 2946, Window Rock, AZ 86515

Information provided General Background and Contact/Access Information

Name _____

Title or official role (if any) _____

Telephone number _____

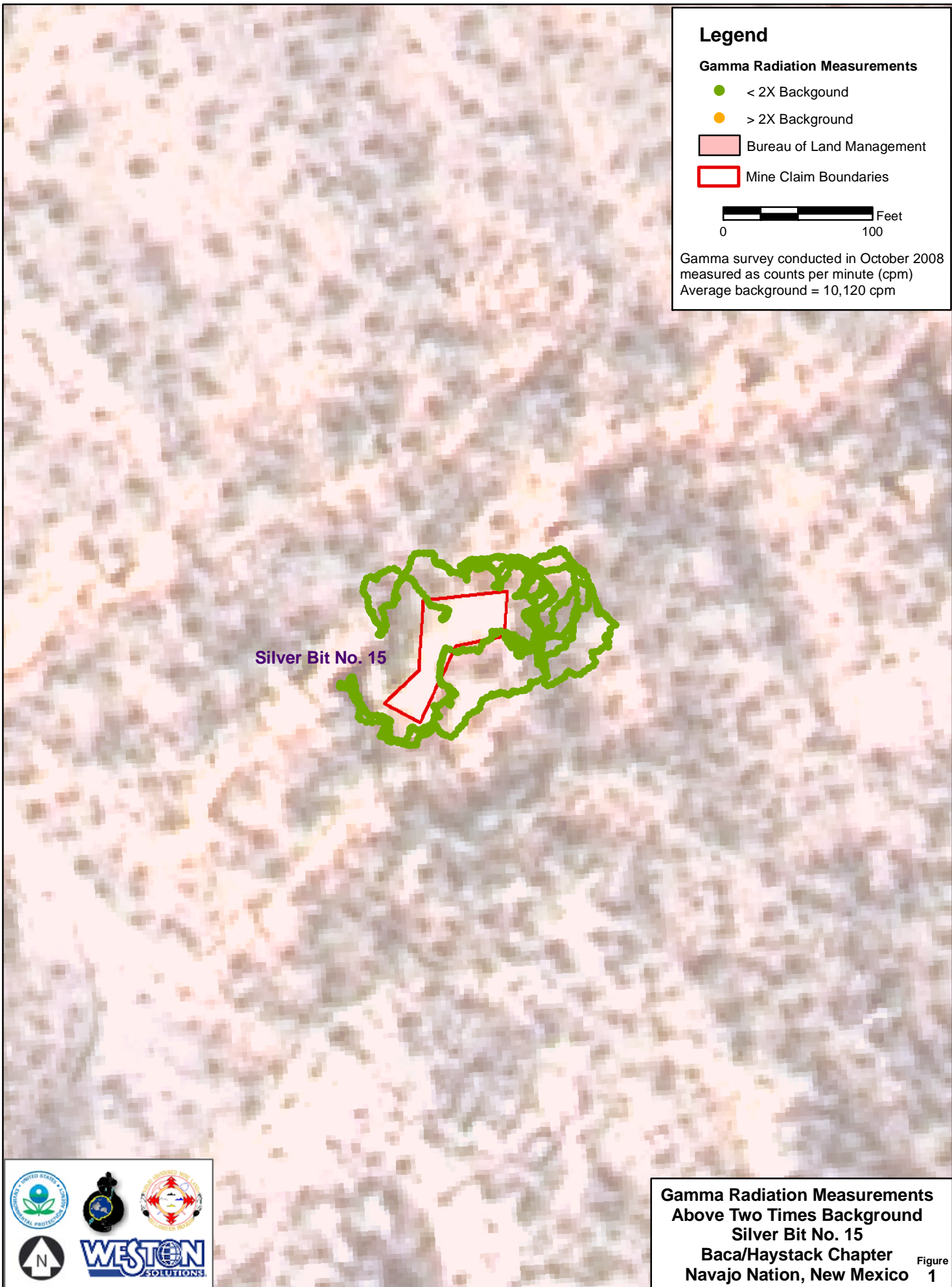
Information provided _____

Name _____

Title or official role (if any) _____

Telephone number _____

Information provided _____



Legend

Gamma Radiation Measurements

- < 2X Background
- > 2X Background
- Bureau of Land Management
- Mine Claim Boundaries

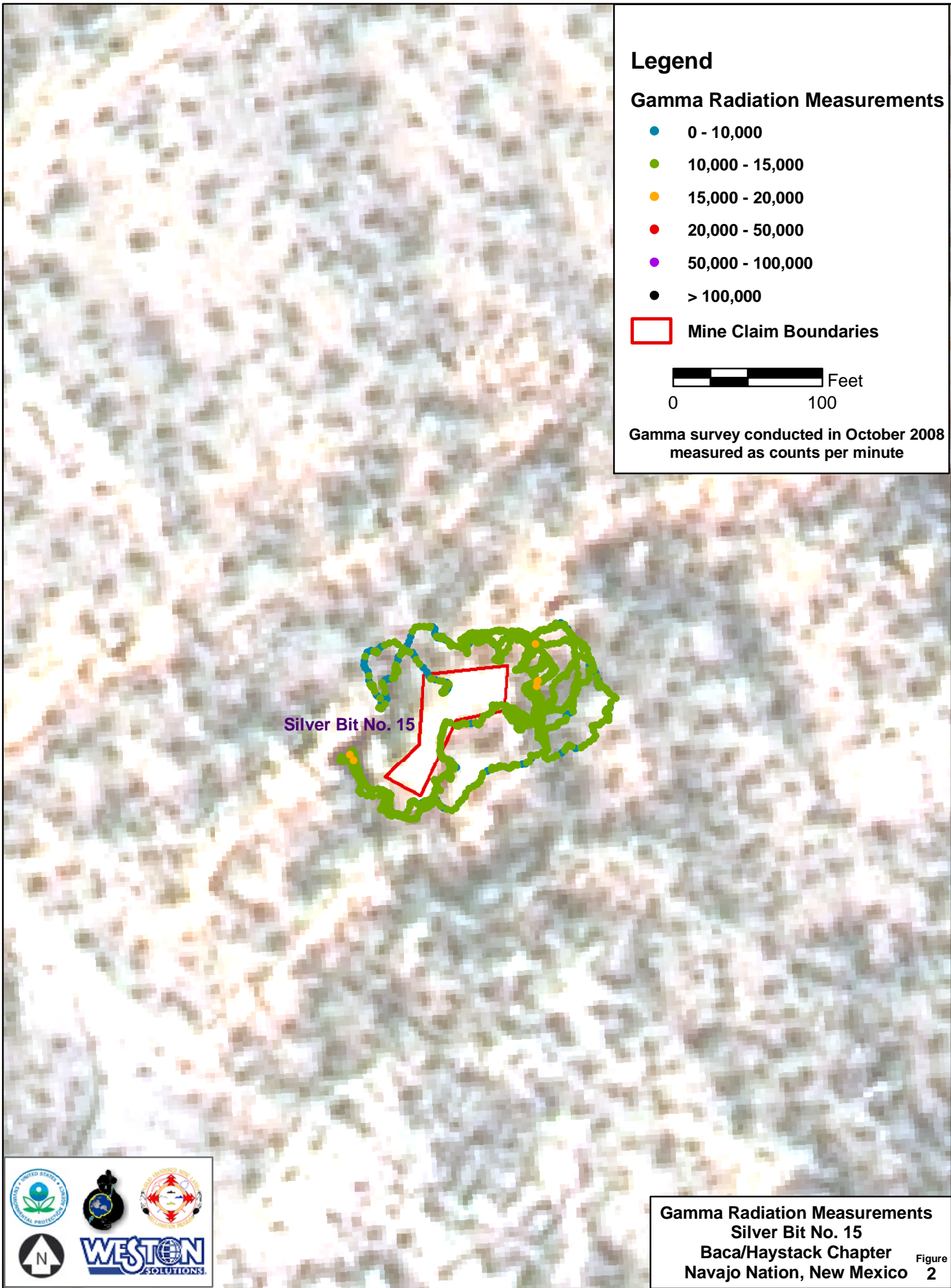
0 100 Feet

Gamma survey conducted in October 2008
 measured as counts per minute (cpm)
 Average background = 10,120 cpm

Silver Bit No. 15

**Gamma Radiation Measurements
 Above Two Times Background
 Silver Bit No. 15
 Baca/Haystack Chapter
 Navajo Nation, New Mexico** Figure 1





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

 Mine Claim Boundaries

 Feet
0 100

Gamma survey conducted in October 2008
measured as counts per minute

Silver Bit No. 15



**Gamma Radiation Measurements
Silver Bit No. 15
Baca/Haystack Chapter
Navajo Nation, New Mexico** Figure 2