

What Has Been Done?

- The Navajo Nation Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program performed activities to address physical hazards at most of the mine sites in the 1990s.
- The Phase 1 Trustee completed all field work for the RSEs at the 16 “priority” mines. This included biological and cultural surveys, radiation scanning, aerial photography, and soil and water sampling.
- The Phase 1 Trustee reduced physical hazards on some sites and analyzed the data collected during field work. USEPA and NNEPA reviewed all the data and the Trustee finalized the RSE reports.
- The Phase 1 Trustee, USEPA, and NNEPA met with community members to explain the work and hear concerns.
- In 2019, Trustee Watchman-Moore began surface investigation at 13 mines in the Western AUM Region and she was selected as the Trustee to continue the cleanup process at the mines assessed by Trustee Hoskie.



What is Happening Now?

- Trustee Watchman-Moore's team is analyzing data from the surface investigations at 13 AUMs in the Western AUM Region. She is preparing a work plan for performing sub-surface investigations.

The Trustee has also begun work on the water study at Claim 28, including biological and cultural surveys, geologic mapping, and geophysical surveys.

What Happens Next?

- Trustee Watchman-Moore will prepare plans to assess an additional 17 AUMs in the Black Mesa Mining District of the Central AUM region and the Tse Tah area of the Northern AUM Region. Her team will also prepare plans for water and sediment sampling at the Claim 28 water study in the Central AUM Region.
- Trustee Watchman-Moore will perform a risk assessment of the abandoned uranium mines assessed by Trustee Hoskie. If the risk assessment shows that a mine poses a risk to human health and the environment, an additional study to look at options for cleaning up the mine, called Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA), will be carried out.

Assessing soil samples at an abandoned uranium mine (NA-0904) by the Phase 1 Trust team of experts.



Trust Mines Background and Site Updates

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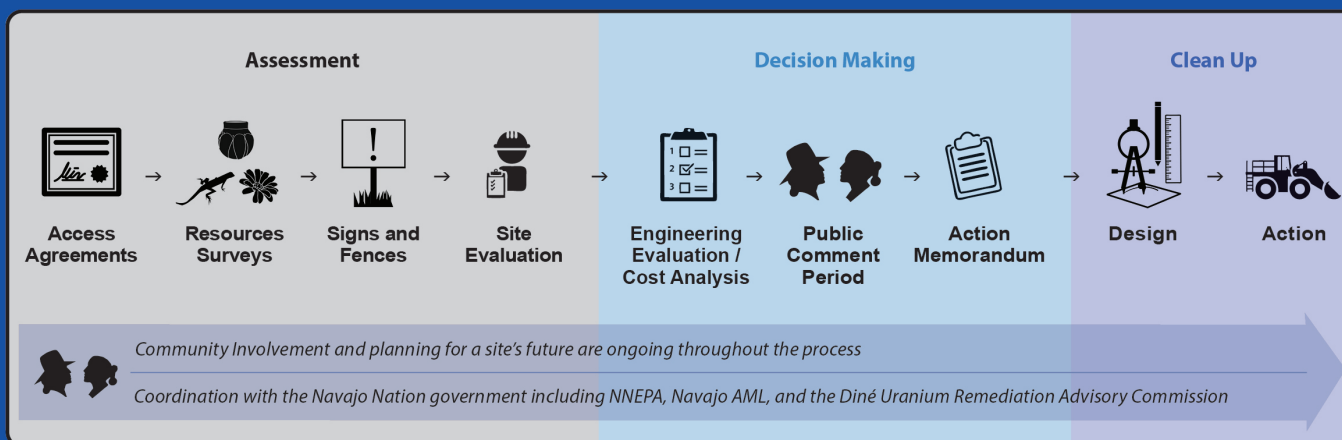
The Navajo Nation negotiated with the United States to address the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission's role in developing historical uranium mining on Navajo lands. As a result, the United States and the Navajo Nation entered into two legal agreements (the Phase 1 Settlement in 2015 and the Phase 2 Settlement in 2016) that provide funds to assess and clean up 16 "priority" mines¹, assess an additional 30 mines, and conduct two water studies on the Navajo Nation.

The settlement work is being done in two phases (i.e., Phase 1 and Phase 2). The Navajo Nation has selected Navajo trustees to manage the trust funds and do the work under the oversight of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency (NNEPA).



Phase 2 RSE Trustee's technical experts conducting gamma radiation scans to assess mine sites.

Superfund Process on the Navajo Nation



Settlement Agreements

The **Phase 1 Settlement** covers detailed assessments, called Removal Site Evaluations (RSEs), at 16 “priority” mines. Phase 1 Settlement funds make up what is called the Phase 1 Trust.

The **Phase 2 Settlement** covers the detailed assessments of 30 additional mines, two water studies, and the cleanup, as needed, at the 16 “priority” mines in the Phase 1 Settlement.

Trust Mines and Trustees

Phase 1 Trust In the fall of 2018, the Phase 1 Trustee, Sadie Hoskie, shared with the communities the final RSE reports that show the extent of potential mine waste contamination at 16 “priority” mine sites.

Phase 2 RSE Trust In 2019, the Phase 2 RSE Trustee, Derrith Watchman-Moore, conducted investigations at 13 mines in the Western AUM region and developed a plan to conduct a water study at the Claim 28 mine in the Central AUM region. Trustee Watchman-Moore will assess an additional 13 mine claims in the Black Mesa Mining District (containing 18 mine sites), and 4 mines in the Tse Tah area of the Northern AUM Region. She will conduct the second water study in the Tse Tah area.

Phase 2 PO Trust In 2019, Derrith Watchman-Moore was selected as the Trustee to conduct the cleanup, as-needed, at the mines assessed by Trustee Hoskie and included in the Phase 2 Priority Orphan Trust Agreement. After a legal trust agreement is executed, Trustee Watchman-Moore will begin work.

For More Information

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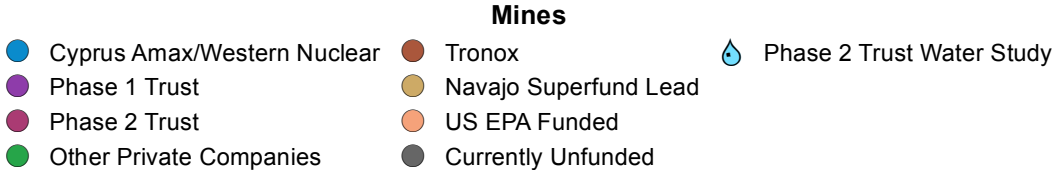
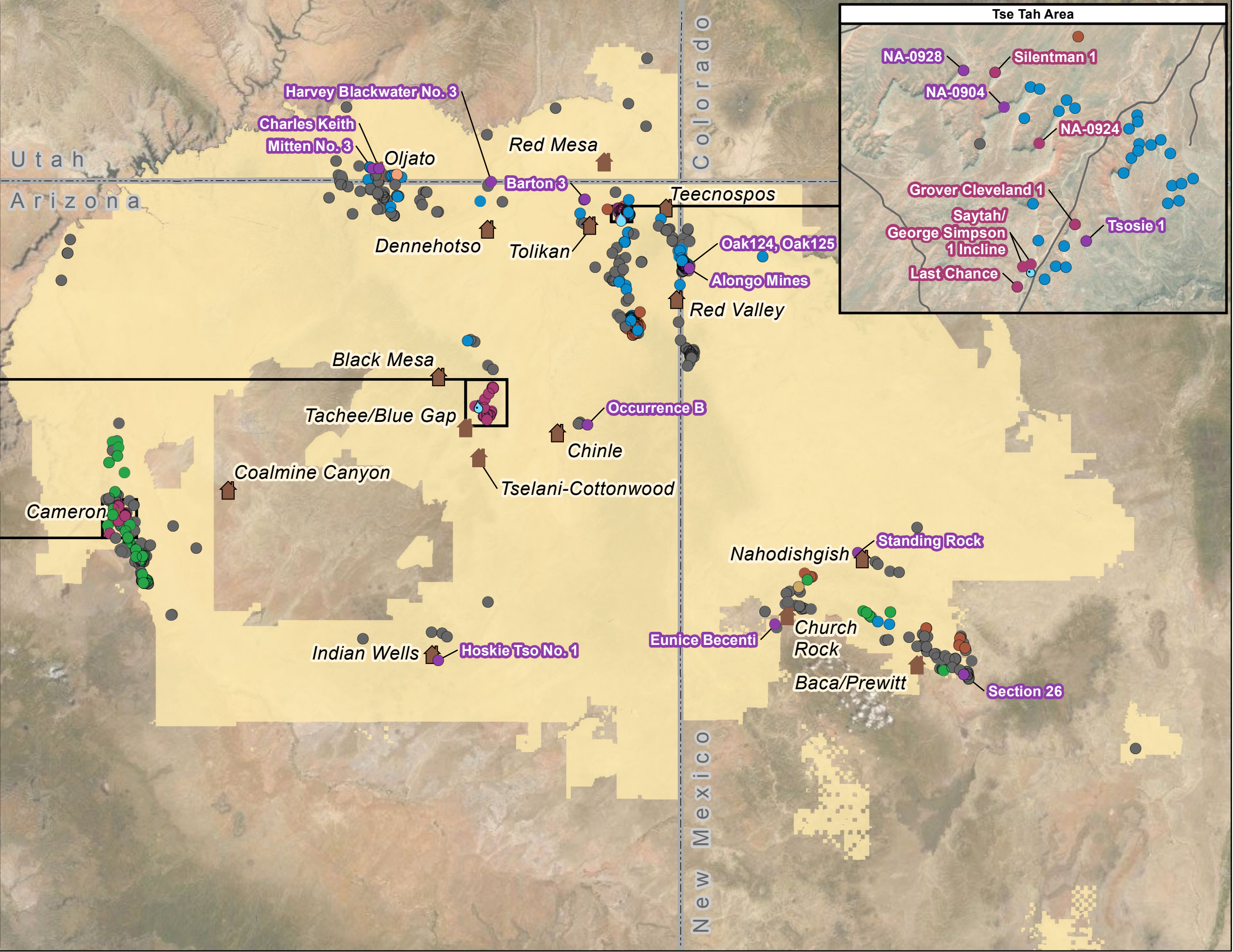
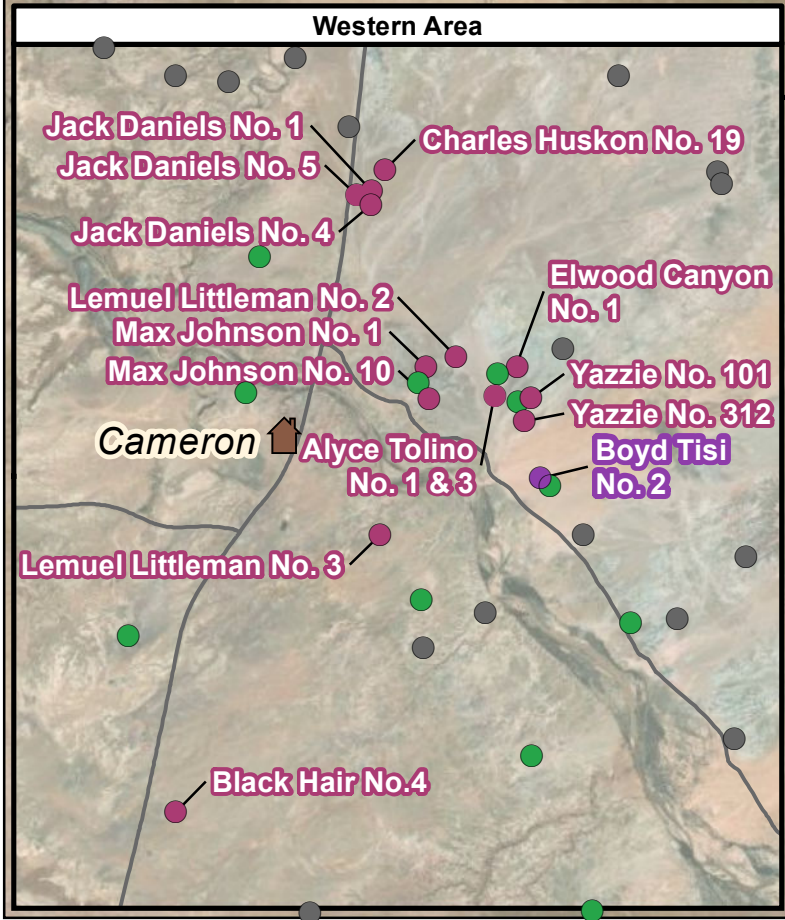
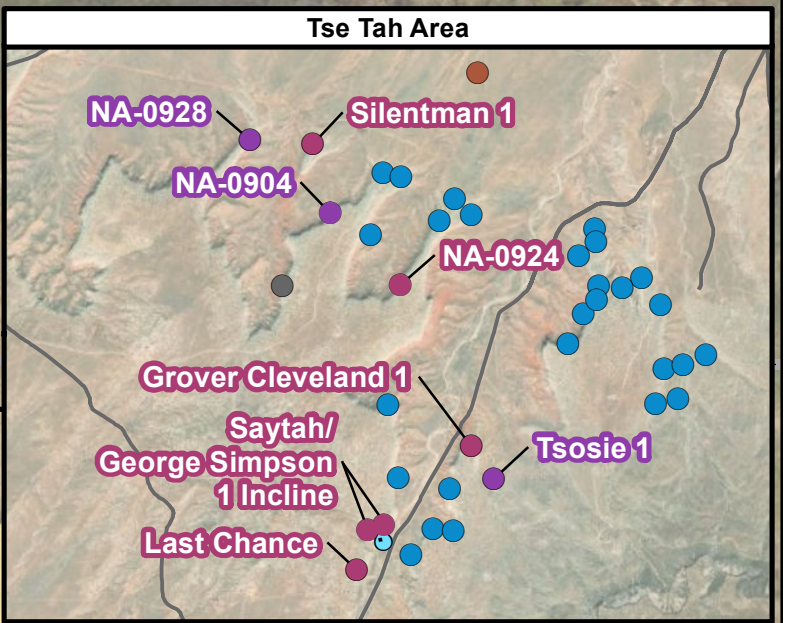
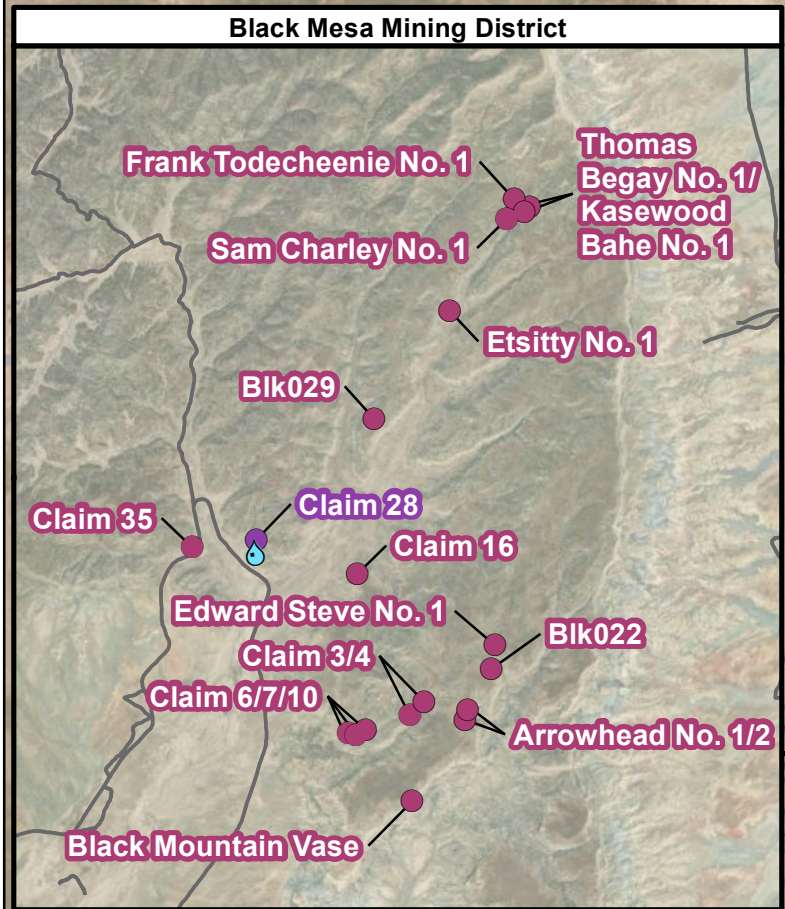
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USEPA Trust Mines website: www.epa.gov/navajo-nation-uranium-cleanup/trust-mines

Phase 2 Trust website: <https://navajoaumtrust2.org/>

¹USEPA and NNEPA prioritized 46 mines (called priority mines) out of the 523 on the Navajo Nation based on gamma radiation levels and proximity to homes, or potential for water contamination identified in the preliminary assessments. The Trust Settlements are responsible for 16 of these 46 priority mines.



Abandoned Uranium Mines and Current Settlements
Navajo Nation Phase 1 and Phase 2 Trust Sites

