



OIL, GAS & MINING

Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Location and Background

The West Dip Project is located in Tooele and Utah Counties, Utah; roughly described as the southwest Oquirrh Mountain. The area consists of a number of underground metal ore (predominantly silver) mines and underground and surface clay mines.

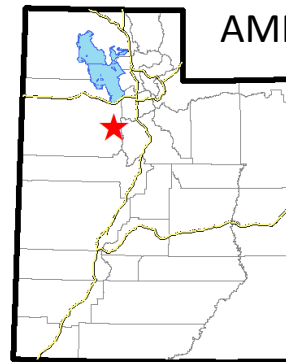
Mining in the area dates back to the 1860's with prospecting by troops under the command of Patrick Connor. Mining activity ebbed and flowed with fluctuations in the price of silver and technological advances; there were booms in the 1870's and 1890's. Most mines closed by 1913, though there has been sporadic activity to the present. During the more prosperous times the mines in the area supported several mills and communities, including Mercur, West Dip, and Sunshine. In the intervening years, the mines deteriorated or were scavenged, and little of the mine surface facilities, mills, or the old townsites remained.

Below: Pouring concrete to plug shaft 3060410VO005



The AMRP in the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, Utah Department of Natural Resources was created in 1983 to address physical safety hazards associated with abandoned mines as authorized by the Surface Mining Reclamation and Control Act (SMCRA) of 1977. The Program is funded by The Utah Coal Producers who pay an abandoned mine reclamation fee to the Office of Surface Mining (OSM) on each ton of coal mined in Utah.

WEST DIP PROJECT Tooele County, Utah



AMR/045/905

The abandoned mine sites in the West Dip Project Area contained numerous hazards. An inventory conducted by BLM identified 150 mine features, including shafts, adits, inclines, subsidence openings, and pits. Access to underground workings was totally unobstructed at most openings.

The area's proximity to the Wasatch Front metropolitan area and easy highway access make it a popular recreation destination, particularly for off-highway vehicle (OHV) and all-terrain vehicle (ATV) users.

In addition to OHV/ATV riding, the area is used for camping, target and varmint shooting, hunting, exploring, etc. The project area has a history of mine-related problems, including an incident in which two men drove a jeep into shaft and sustained serious injuries requiring hospitalization.

Land Owner: Private
General Contractor: VCM Construction
AMRP Project Manager: Chris Rohrer
Funding: Donation and OSM



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West Dip Project, 1998 -- Project Summary

The West Dip and Fivemile Pass Projects are contiguous and were bid together as a single construction contract. The contract was awarded to VCM Construction and began on 11/2/1998 and ended on 4/1/1999. The figures below reflect contract costs for both West Dip and Fivemile Pass.

Change Orders (9)

- Change Order #1 Changed closure methods and quantity: \$8,388
- Change Order #2 Changed closure methods & typo in CO #1: \$929
- Change Order #3 Changed closure method and increased bond: \$928
- Change Order #4 Changed closure methods: \$48,031
- Change Order #5 Changed closure methods: \$31,731
- Change Order #6 Changed closure methods: \$9,891
- Change Order #7 Changed closure methods: \$6,429
- Change Order #8 Changed closure methods: \$36,033
- Change Order #9 Removed 12 closures & changed 2 closure methods (\$36,033)

WEST DIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 84 Portals Closed: \$88,421.24**
- 56 Shafts Closed: \$89,709.76**

WEST DIP AND FIVEMILE PASS

- Original Contract Amount: \$224,787**
- Final Contract Amount: \$358,209**
(\$180,078 West Dip Only)

Public Involvement and Partnerships

The bulk of the project inventory was done by BLM crews, while engineering and closure design were done in-house by AMRP. Funding for the project came from a donation from American Barrick and legislative appropriation, in addition to the OSM Grant in 1997.

A public open house to present the project and solicit input was held on September 15, 1998. Over twenty surface owners, mineral rights owners, public officials, and other concerned people attended. The open house was publicized by direct mailings to landowners and key officials and a press release distributed statewide to print and broadcast media outlets. The Board of the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining toured the project area on July 29, 1998.



Above: Twin CMP Bat Gates at sites 3060411HO009 &. 3060411IO001



Above: Hand backfilling site 3060320VO005

West Dip Project:
84 Portals closed
56 Shafts closed
Completed: Spring 1999
Construction Cost: \$ 178,131.00
Funds: OSM, State, Barrick