

A Partnership Initiative for Eradicating Unsafe Abandoned Mine Land Features



# Protecting Public Health and Safety into the Future: A 10-Year Strategy



The *Stay Out-Stay Alive* campaign, launched in 1999 by MSHA

# Perspectives

BLM

OIG

Clean Water “Emphasis”  
Partnerships & Fund Leveraging  
Small to Mid-Size Sites  
Limit Inventory Spending  
Most Priority Sites Identified  
Focus on Permanent Remediation  
Establish Eligibility Cut-Off  
Funds Targeted to Water Quality

Physical Safety/Hazmat Emphasis  
Standalone Projects  
“Big Ticket” Hazmat Sites  
Fund Inventory Validation  
Capture Missed Sites  
Undertake More Mitigation Measures  
(Signs/Fencing)  
Eliminate Eligibility Cut-Off  
Funds Not Targeted to Water Quality



New Direction

OIG Finding/Observation	Recommendation
<p>Field Office Management has discouraged the identification and mitigation of AML sites.</p>	<p>Issue a clear policy statement regarding AML that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Supports the AML Program</li> <li>-Forbid retaliation against employees for identifying or reporting AML sites</li> <li>-Requires Field Office Management and staff to comply with all AML policies and procedures.</li> </ul>
<p>AML staffing and training practices hinder program success.</p>	<p>Employ experienced, trained, full-time staff dedicated to the AML program where appropriate.</p>
<p>Program budget receives little visibility and funding is adequate.</p>	<p>Establish a specific line item in the budget for the AML program and request funding to accomplish project goals identified in the AML strategic plan.</p>
<p>AML inventory is not complete, accurate, or consistent.</p>	<p>Validate existing inventory data and develop procedures for ongoing data collection to ensure that data in the inventory is complete, accurate, and consistent.</p>

OIG Finding/Observation	Recommendation
<p>Simple precautions can easily be taken at the most dangerous sites, including posting warning signs and building fences. At environmentally contaminated sites, staff can reduce air and water-borne contamination through dust control with sprinklers and temporary covers.</p>	<p>Implement immediate temporary or permanent measures to mitigate known dangerous sites, including those in Appendix A of the report.</p>
<p>Working in concert, BLM and NPS would make greater strides toward a solution for AML's than doing so independently.</p>	<p>Explore and exploit opportunities for sharing resources, expertise, and best management practices between agencies to strengthen their AML programs.</p>

## Corrective Actions Requiring Additional Capabilities

Recommendation	Action(s) to be taken	Date completed
Request funding to accomplish project goals identified in the AML strategic plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Develop FAST project areas</li> <li>-Validate inventory w/in area</li> <li>-Develop project plans &amp; cost estimates</li> <li>-Prepare and Finalize environmental requirements</li> </ul>	June 1, 2009
Validate existing inventory and develop procedures for ongoing data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-IM 2008-189 Abandoned Mine and Site Cleanup Module Database</li> <li>-Work with CA AML Program</li> </ul>	Ongoing
Implement immediate temporary or permanent measures to mitigate known dangerous sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Initiate mitigation actions in the field</li> <li>-Complete appropriate temporary mitigation actions in the field</li> </ul>	<p>December 31, 2009</p> <p>September 30, 2012</p>
Identify and resolve trespassing on AML sites, assess and mitigate hazards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Mitigate identified hazards working with our partners</li> <li>-Initiate trespass resolution</li> </ul>	<p>September 30, 2009</p> <p>September 30, 2010</p>

## CA AML Statistics

The estimated number of abandoned mines in the state is **47,084**.

Of these, **5,200**, or 11%, are estimated to present environmental hazards. Also, **39,400**, or 84%, are estimated to present physical safety hazards.

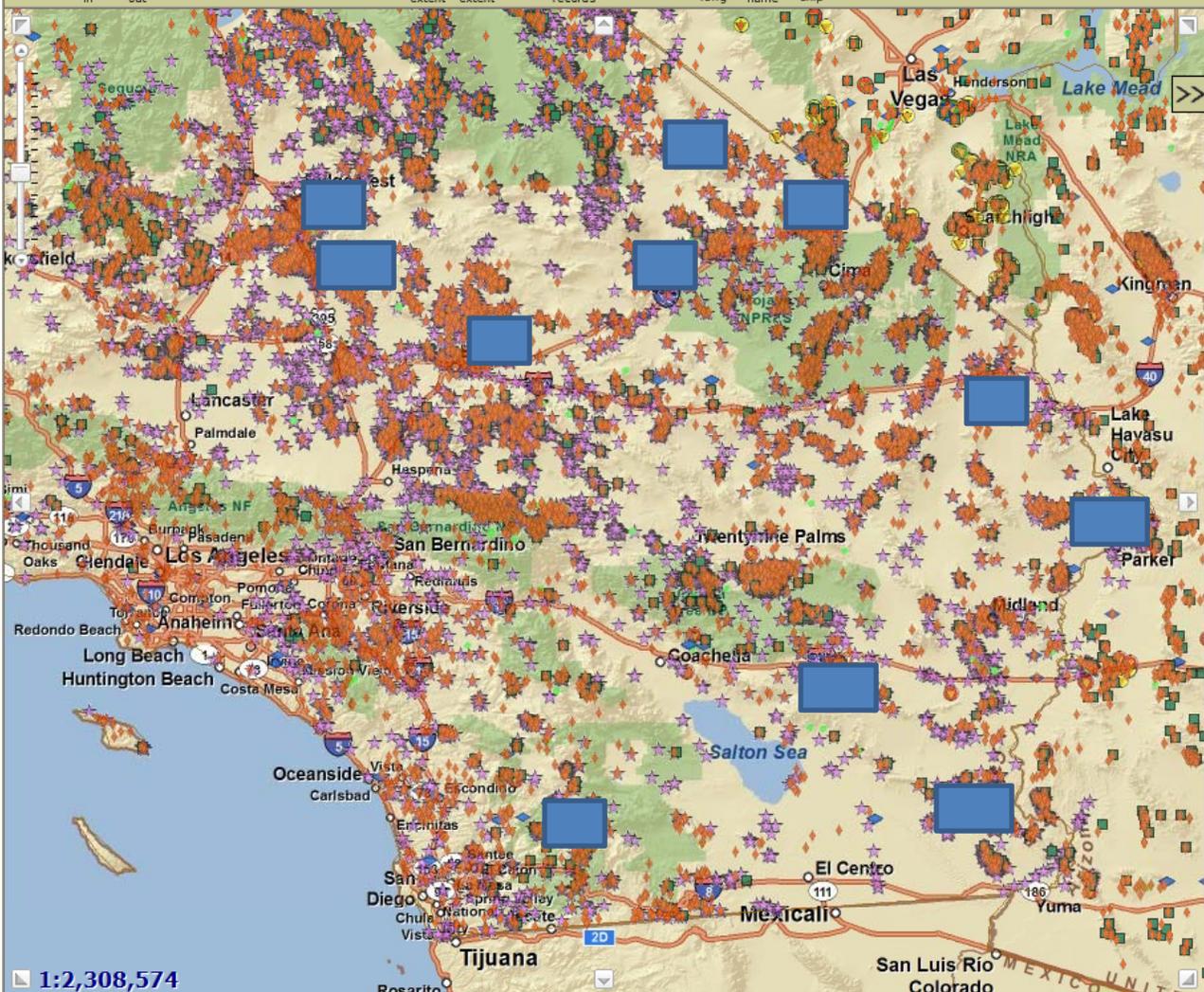
There are approximately **164,795** mining features in the state. Approximately **62,000**, or 38%, of these features are hazardous openings.

**67%** of the abandoned mine sites in California are on Federal lands.

**31%** are on private lands.

**2%** are on state and local lands.

# www.geocommunicator.gov



Select Map: Site Mapper

Layers Legend Quick Start

**National Mine Land Inventory**

Information displayed is a compilation of abandoned mine data provided by several Public Land Management Agencies. The USDO I does not control the relevance, timeliness, or accuracy of information provided by other agencies, and therefore, provides no warranty, expressed or implied, as to the accuracy, reliability or completeness of furnished data. For additional information regarding abandoned mine activities please contact the Land Management Agency responsible for the public lands where the mine is located. Please report any errors by clicking on 'contact us' on this page.

**STAY OUT! STAY ALIVE!**

- BLM - Coal
- BLM - Non Coal
  - Needs Analysis
  - Planned / In Progress
  - No Action / Completed
- CA - TOMS
- EPA - CERCLIS
- EPA - Uranium
- MSHA - Coal
- MSHA - Non Coal
- OSM/AMLIS - Coal
- OSM/AMLIS - Non Coal
- USFS - AML
- USGS/GNIS
- USGS - MILS/MRDS Coal
- USGS - MILS/MRDS Non Coal

Environmental

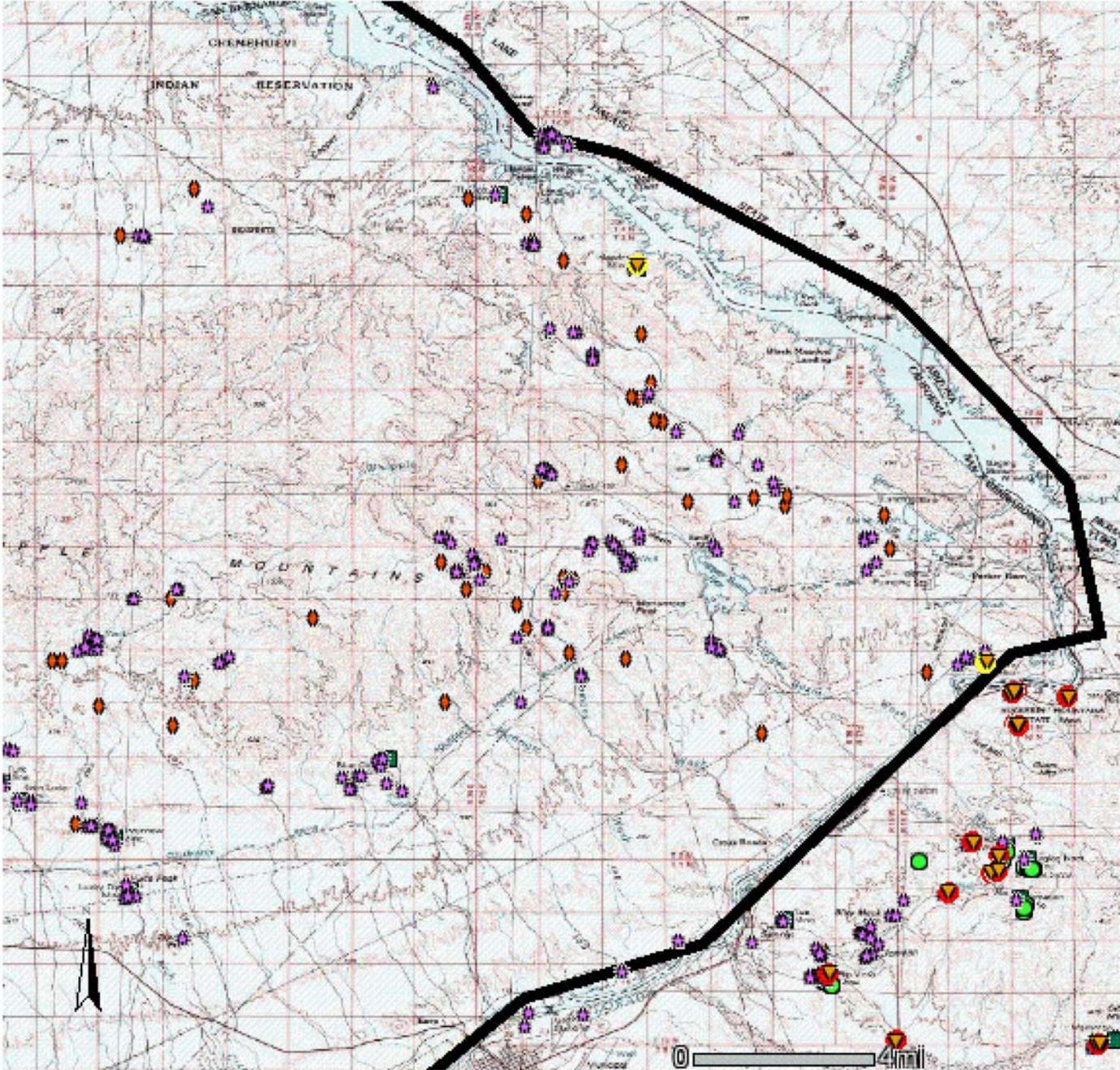
1:2,308,574

[DATA DISCLAIMER](#)

Data last published on: 10/16/2008

[PRIVACY](#)

# CA CDD Whipple Mountains FAST! Project Area



## **AML Closure Process**

### **1. Site Discovery**

- Take a Picture and get the location!

### **2. Site visit/site verification**

- title search, current or past owners identified
- initiate Biological, Cultural, and NEPA processes

### **3. Claimant contact**

### **4. Project Planning and Coordination**

- Cooperative funding agreements
- Cost recovery (PRP(s))
- develop a project schedule

### **5. Finalized Procurement Actions**

### **6. Project Implementation**

### **7. Project Completion**

- AML DATA Base Updated
- Take a Picture w/ date stamp!

Print Form

# Abandoned/Inactive Mine Closure Form

Reset Form

Agency/Office:

Recorder Name:

Date:

Name of Mine:

UTM:

T., R., Sec., Qtr.:



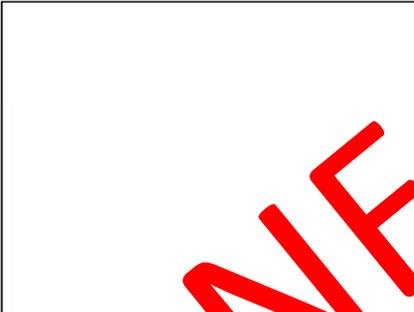
Picture 1a



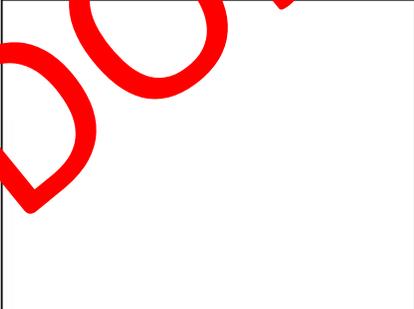
Picture 1b

Before and After photo of shaft closure with a foam plug and backfill on 9-30-08.

Notes



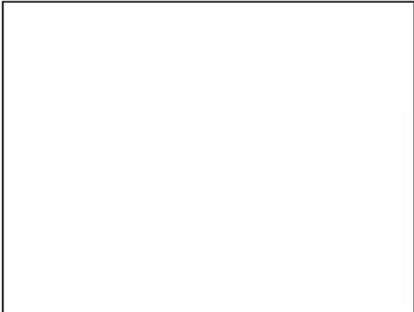
Picture 2a



Picture 2b

Notes

Notes



Picture 3a



Picture 3b

Notes

Notes

Type of Opening

Number (s)

Type of Opening

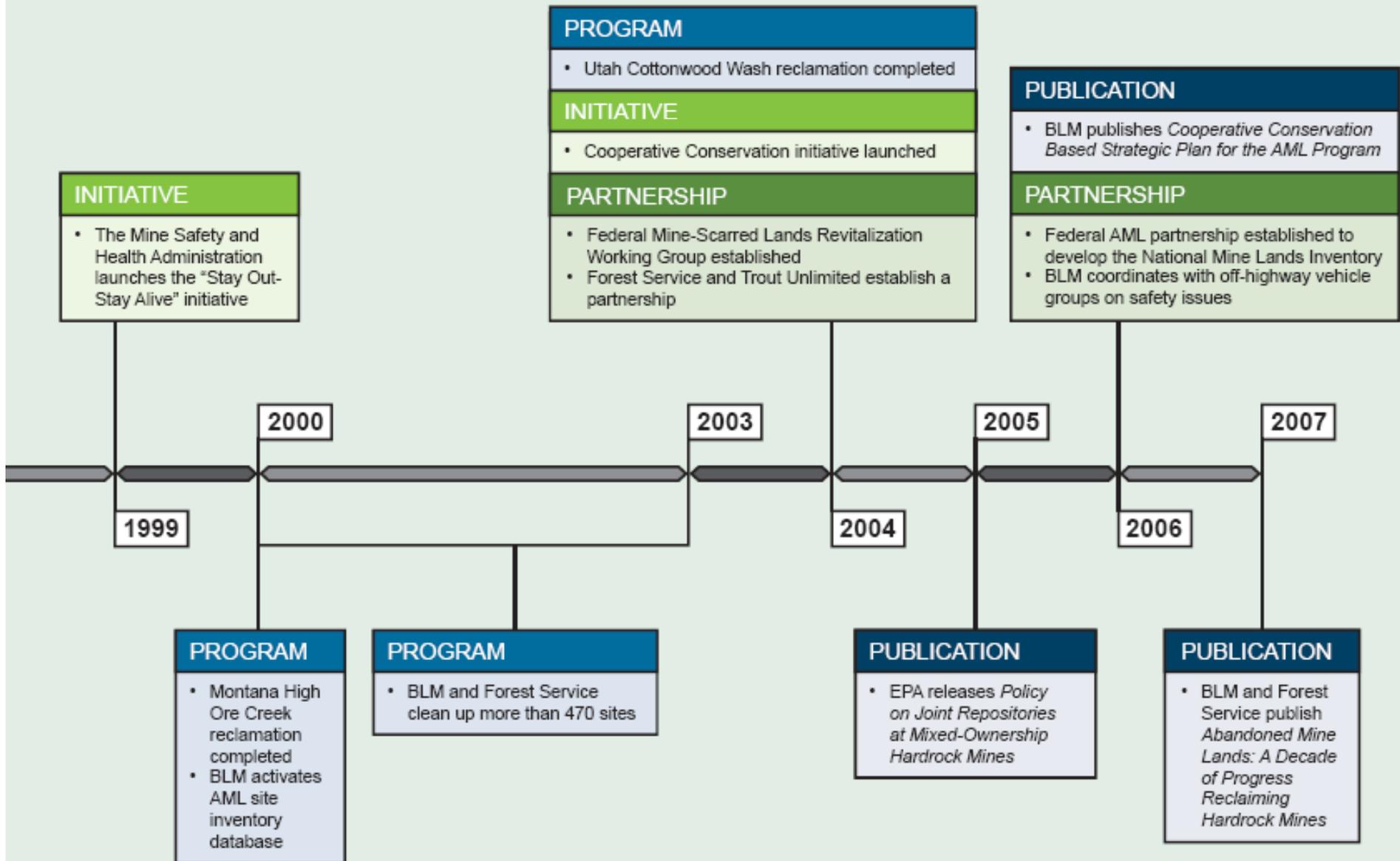
Number (s)

Type of Opening

Number (s)

**DONE**

# Where do we go from here?



# FAST!

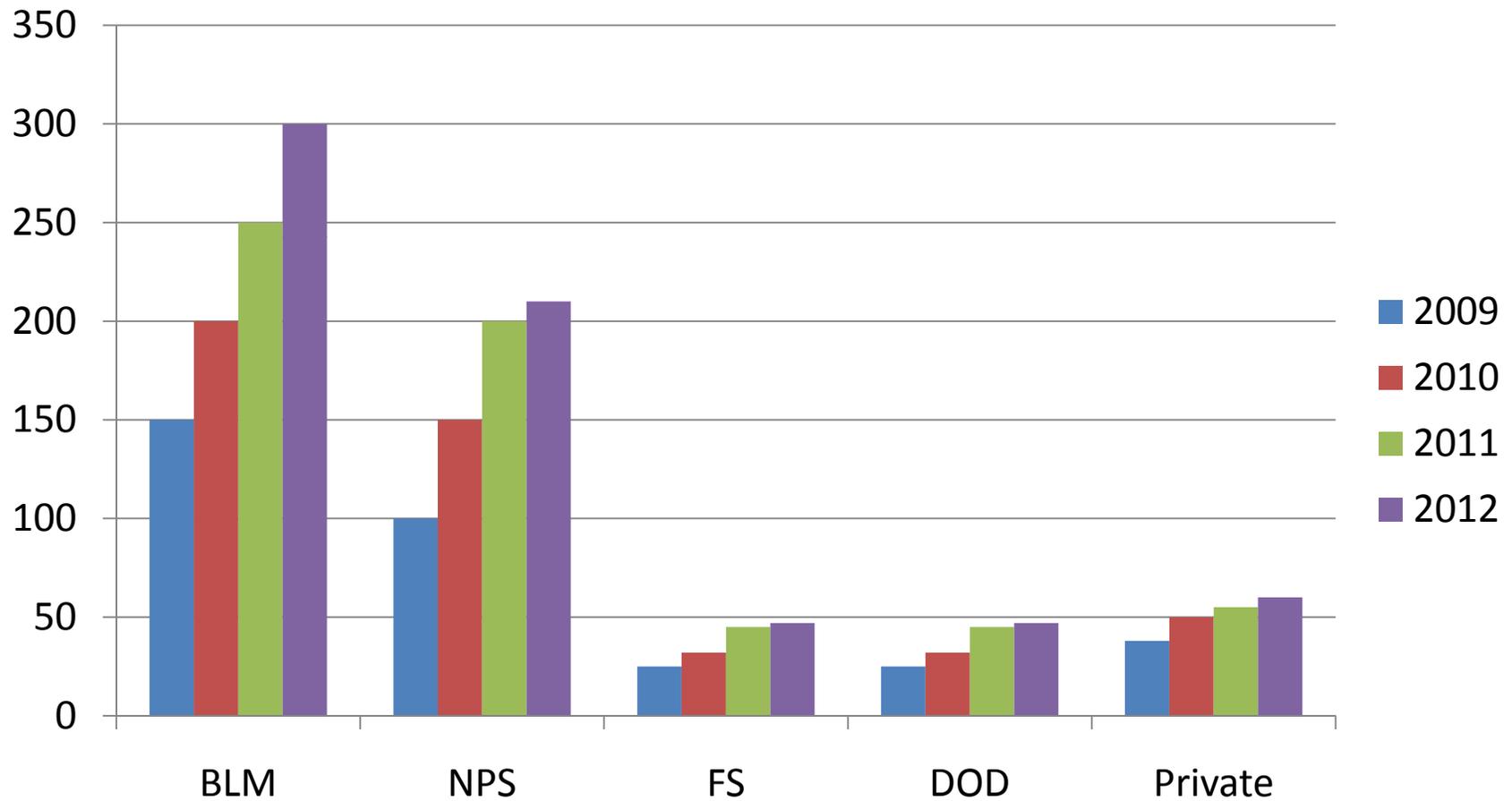


## Abandoned Mine Lands: A Decade of Progress in Southern California Reclamation of Hardrock Mines 2008 – 2018



# Measuring Success

## Physical Safety Hazards Mitigated



# AML Score Board

Physical  
Safety  
Hazards  
Planned

Physical  
Safety  
Hazards  
Mitigated

Priority  
Areas  
Mitigated

— — — —

— — — —

— — —

**10 Years**

Physical  
Safety  
Hazards  
Planned

Physical  
Safety  
Hazards  
Mitigated

Priority  
Areas  
Mitigated

-----

-----

-----

