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BLM Battle Mountain District Office
RMP Planning Fact Sheet
Mineral Resources

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The BLM Battle Mountain District Office (BMDO) is revising the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the BMDO planning area. The BMDO RMP will provide detailed information about the current state of resources on public lands within the planning area, and set forth a plan of action for managing those resources for the next twenty or so years under the BLM's dual mandate of *multiple use* and *sustainable yield*.

Land of Valuable Resources

Nevada Pit Lake

BLM-administered lands are available for the exploration and development of mineral resources because of the BLM's dual mandate of multiple use and sustainable yield. The Mining Law of 1872 provides the legal framework for individuals and companies to acquire mineral rights to a variety of hard rock minerals, including gold. Mining claimants are required to get BLM authorization before conducting any significant surface-disturbing activities. Miners are required to obtain various approvals and permits from federal, state and local governments. Financial guarantee bonds are also required of miners to insure reclamation will be completed to all agency standards.

Nevada Open Pit Mine

Major Mineral Resources in the Planning Area

Gold, silver, copper, molybdenum, barite, vanadium and lithium are all found in the BMDO planning area. Many mineral deposit types occur in the BMDO such as disseminated gold, copper porphyry, skarn, placer gold and vein deposits.

Mines operating in the Battle Mountain District produced 1,254,708 ounces of gold; 2,176,221 ounces of silver; 23,733,389 pounds of copper and 305,120 tons of barite in 2009.

BLM 7.1—Mineral Resources

Other Mineral Resources

- The Battle Mountain District also contains significant resources of: Diatomite, Specialty Clays, Pumice, Decorative Stone, Aggregates, Sand and Gravel.
- The Battle Mountain District also contains Nevada's major producing oil fields. Oil production in 2009 was approximately 455,000 barrels.
- These resources can be obtained through the BLM-administered leasing and sales program.

Reclaimed Heap Leach Pad

The BLM wants your input...

- **How should mineral development be managed to minimize resource conflicts?**
- **Are there public lands that should be withdrawn from mineral entry because of conflicts with other public land uses?**
- **Should special conditions of approval be placed on mineral development? If so, what are they and where should they be applied?**
- **What are the potential social and economic effects associated with mineral development? How would planning decisions affect communities in the Battle Mountain District?**
- **How can the BLM improve the management of mineral resources?**

Other Mineral Facts

- The BMDO planning area contains over 60,000 mining claims.
- There are 149 authorized and pending Notices and 89 authorized and pending Plans of Operations for exploration and mining activities in the BMDO planning area.

Mail comments to:
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Battle Mountain District Office
50 Bastian Road
Battle Mountain, NV 89820

BMDO Planning Webpage:
www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/battle_mountain_field/blm_information/rmp.com

Email comments to:
BattleMountainRMP@blm.gov