

**Alaska State Office**  
**Abandoned Mine Land Workplan**  
**Period: FY2007 – FY2013**

**Summary**

BLM Alaska currently has a limited inventory of abandoned hardrock mines on public lands that require remediation. The current inventory includes only mines that require no remediation, that are already remediated, or that are in the process of remediation. To date, 14 water quality projects/sites, 9 physical safety hazard sites, and 7 water quality/physical safety hazard sites have been remediated. To be clear, this should not be construed to mean that there are no abandoned mines that need to be remediated. It simply means that we do not have a complete inventory.

The chart below shows the status of the AML Program in Alaska from FY1999 through FY2007.

HUC and Watershed	Primary Issues *	Name of Project	FY Start	FY End
HUC 19020102 Middle Copper River	BH, HP, JK, MG	Simpson & Brennan	1999	2003
	BH, JK, MG	Fourth of July Creek	2002	2003
	BH	Boulder Creek	2002	N/A
HUC 19020501 Upper Susitna River	BH, HP, JK, MG	Maclaren River	1999	2007
HUC 19040104 Fortymile River	BH, JK, MG	AK Yukon Fortymile River	2002	2006
	HP, MG	Glenn Couch Staging Area	2003	2003
	HP	Wade Creek/Taylor Hwy.	2003	2003
	HP	Wade Creek Dredge	2006	2006
HUC 19040402 Birch-Beaver Creeks	BH, JK, MG	98 Mile Steese/Birch Creek	1999	2006
	JK, MG	Quartz Creek Trail	2002	2007
	BH, JK	Harrison Creek Restoration	2002	2007
	BH	Steese Area Assessment:	2002	2003
	JK	1. Great Unknown Creek	2004	2005
	JK	2. Great Unknown Creek	2004	2005
	JK	3. Ptarmigan Gulch	2004	2004
	JK	4. Squaw Creek	2004	2004
	JK	Interagency Birch Creek	2003	2007
HUC 19040404 Ramparts	BH, JK	Hunter Creek	2003	2007
	HP, MG	Hoosier Creek	1999	2003
HUC 19040506 Chena River	BH, JK	HIYU Minesite	1999	2003
HUC 19040509 Tolovana River	BH, HP, JK, MG	Hope Creek	2002	2004
HUC 19040602 South Fork Koyukuk River	BH, HP, JK, MG	Gold Bench	1999	2002
	BH, HP, JK, MG	Iron Side Bar	1999	2002
HUC 19050103 Norton Bay	BH, HP, JK, MG	Tubutilik River	1999	2003

\* BH=Inventory/Assessment, HP=Physical Hazard, JK=Environmental Hazard, MG=Monitoring

## **AML Watershed Projects**

There are an unknown number of abandoned mines on public lands in Alaska that have possible impacts on water quality in priority water sheds. These impacts usually include drums containing used petroleum and unknown substances, erosion, turbidity, leaking tanks, vehicles, and/or batteries. The highest priority watersheds impacted by abandoned mines are most likely the Birch-Beaver Creek, Fortymile River, and the Kuskokwim River. Work is underway in 2 of these watersheds.

## **AML Physical Safety Sites**

There are also an unknown number of high-risk mine openings on BLM managed lands in Alaska, and it is suspected that many of these sites may be within the jurisdiction of the Fairbanks District Office. The most significant type of mine hazard is old junk left behind that attracts attention of hikers and hunters.

## **AML Inventory Projects**

In FY2006, a new inventory strategy will be designed which will include the possible negotiation of a second assistance agreement with the Yukon River Inter Tribal Watershed Council. The council has shown an interest in studying the Kuskowkwim River watershed as they did in the Alaska Yukon Fortymile River Transbounday area. Additional inventory activities should resume in the Birch-Beaver Creek and Fortymile River watersheds.

**Table 1. Workload Targets**

<b>Workload Targets</b>								
<b>PE</b>	<b>FY07</b>	<b>FY08</b>	<b>FY09</b>	<b>FY10</b>	<b>FY11</b>	<b>FY12</b>	<b>FY13</b>	<b>Total</b>
BH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
JK	12	0	0	20	5	0	5	32
NP	5	0	1	0	1	0	1	8
NQ	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2

\* BH=Inventory/Assessment, HP=Physical Hazard, JK=Environmental Hazard, MG=Monitoring, NP=Evaluate Cost Avoidance/Cost Recovery, NQ=Process Hazmat Cost Avoidance/Cost Recovery Cases

For specific details on planned, ongoing and completed projects, go to the BLM Alaska AML web site at <http://www.ak.blm.gov/ak940/aml/amlindex.html>

## **Key AML Contacts**

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# Alaska AMLs and Priority Watersheds FY1999-FY2007

