

**OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

ANNUAL EVALUATION REPORT
Evaluation Year 2002
(October 1, 2001 through September 30, 2002)

on the

**NAVAJO
ABANDONED MINE LANDS
RECLAMATION PROGRAM**



INTRODUCTION

This annual evaluation report is produced by the Office of Surface Mining (OSM) in fulfillment of its Statutory responsibility [under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, (SMCRA)] to annually assess the accomplishments of the Navajo Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program (Navajo AML Program). The Navajo AML Program is under the Navajo Nation's Division of Natural Resources.

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) has responsibility under SMCRA for approving State and Tribal Programs, to carry out the goals of Title IV of SMCRA. The primary goal of Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Programs, is to mitigate the effects of past mining, by reclaiming abandoned mines. The primary emphasis is placed on correcting the most serious problems endangering public health, safety, general welfare, and property.

On behalf of the Secretary of Interior, OSM administers the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund by awarding grants to States and Indian Nations, to cover their administration and reclamation costs of their Programs. The OSM Western Regional Coordinating Center's (WRCC) Albuquerque Field Office (AFO) provides assistance to the Navajo AML Program and through its oversight process, annually monitors the progress and quality of the AML Program. The oversight evaluation period begins October 1 and ends on September 31 of each year.

In conducting this annual review, AFO followed OSM Directive AML-22, which contains general procedures for evaluating Abandoned Mined Land Reclamation Programs. This requires OSM and the Navajo AML Program to annually develop an oversight work-plan with specific topics (principles of excellence) for evaluation during the evaluation period. The work-plan identified specific performance measures to assess Program success or failure for each principle of excellence. The objective of the oversight process is to assess each Program's performance and accomplishments and to report the progress to OSM-Headquarters. In addition, recommendations for improvement can be relayed to the Program Director if needed.

PART I. GENERAL INFORMATION

2002 Oversight Team:

The 2002 oversight review team consists of representatives from the Navajo AML Program, and OSM-AFO. Team representatives for the EY-2002 evaluation period are: Madeline Roanhorse, Director, Navajo AML Program; Theo Shorty, Assistant Director, Navajo AML Program; Ray Tsingine, Program Manager, Tuba City AML Program; Rose M. Grey, Program Manager, Shiprock AML Program; Melvin H Yazzie, Reclamation Specialist, Willis Gainer, Director, OSM-AFO; Vernon Maldonado, AML Program Specialist, OSM-AFO; and, Dan Martinez, Grants Specialist, OSM-AFO. Team members were involved in numerous meetings, office visits and field inspections during the course of the oversight period.

Program History:

On May 16, 1988, OSM approved the Navajo AML Program. This approval provided authority for the Navajo Nation to use AML funds to reclaim abandoned mines on the Navajo Nation.

Navajo AML did not apply for an emergency AML Program, so OSM retained the authority for reclamation of “emergency” AML projects.

On May 4, 1994, the Secretary of Interior concurred with the Navajo AML Program’s certification that all known eligible priority-1 and priority-2 abandoned coal mines were reclaimed. Having certified that all such abandoned coal mines were reclaimed, the Navajo AML Program decided to focus its reclamation efforts exclusively on the reclamation of abandoned non-coal mines. Since May 1994, Navajo AML used its AML funds almost exclusively for reclamation of eligible abandoned non-coal mines. This work is nearly completed. The Navajo AML Program anticipates having all known and eligible abandoned mines reclaimed by the end of 2004 if not earlier.

In 2000, the Navajo AML Program amended its AML Plan to incorporate the provisions of SMCRA, Section 411(e) and (f) which provide the authority for using AML funds to construct public facilities as a means of mitigating current and past mining related impacts to such impacted communities. Thus, the Navajo AML Program can now also use its AML funds for the construction of Public Facility Projects (PFP’s). Navajo AML funded its first PFP in EY-2002.

Program Staffing:

The Navajo AML Program has a staff of 34 full-time equivalent positions (FTE’s), five of these positions share time with the Navajo Nation’s Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action (UMTRA) Program. The actual number of AML funded FTE’s is 31.8 FTE’s. This number represents an increase of two positions reported last year and some of these positions were re-classified this year. Approximately five (5) of these positions are currently vacant. Program staffing may change as the AML Program shifts its emphasis from reclamation of abandoned mines to construction of public facility projects. Work will be of a different nature and some positions may be phased-out or reclassified. The Navajo Nation Departments have recently undergone a full personnel evaluation and, as a result, some job classifications and titles have changed.

Grants and Financial Information:

As of June 30, 2002, OSM records show that the undistributed balance in the Navajo Nation share of the AML fund is \$27,158,665. Navajo AML has been able to efficiently use funds which were distributed by OSM. Navajo AML has done a good job of planning and budgeting over the years. Grant requests are realistic and accurate. Grant close outs are also accurate and timely. Occasionally OSM receives a request to extend a construction grant due to circumstances beyond Navajo AML’s control (such as the weather and NEPA restrictions). These time extensions were all minor and are not considered to be a problem.

Navajo AML requested 10% set-aside funding numerous times over the years. This year was the first time that Navajo AML requested a drawdown in its general set-aside fund. These funds go into two different accounts. The first account can be used for any purpose, the second account is reserved for use in reclaiming priority-1 coal problems only. Navajo used funds from the first account. Because OSM treats funds in this account like Navajo Nation General funds, OSM did not need to be notified. Nevertheless, Navajo AML wanted OSM concurrence to be safe. OSM concurred with the drawdown request in the amount of \$1,291,229.

The Navajo AML Program intends to use the funds to renovate a historic building in Window Rock, Arizona. The renovated building will be used as new office space for the AML Program. This application of the Program's set-aside funds will not only result in the preservation of an important building to the Navajo Nation culture, but will dramatically reduce the AML Program's current cost of office rental space. The new Window Rock location will allow the Program to stay close to the Navajo Nation's central government offices and be accessible to the public. This location should facilitate Navajo AML's ability to make progress on its rapidly growing workload for PFP's.

Navajo AML is seeking guidance from OSM regarding how to drawdown its second pot of set-aside funds. This is an unusual circumstance in that the money is restricted to use for priority 1 and 2 coal reclamation, however, Navajo AML has certified completion of all of its remaining coal inventory. OSM is looking into ways of releasing these funds to the Program and will need to determine if there are any restrictions on their use. The available funds exceed current estimates of coal maintenance project needs.

The following AML grants were either active or closed out during the evaluation period:

Grant Number	End of Grant Period	Amount
GR707810	03/31/00	\$3,098,816.*
GR807810	03/31/02	\$9,262,186.
GR107810	12/31/03	\$4,270,653.
GR207810	12/31/04	\$8,249,799.

* Indicates final grant amount (grant has been closed out).

Program Maintenance:

There are no oversight issues with regard to maintenance of the Navajo AML Plan. Program maintenance was not selected as an area of review during this evaluation period. Timeliness of Program maintenance has never been an issue. To date, the Navajo AML Program has submitted to OSM two substantive amendments to their AML Plan. The latest amendment to the AML Plan provided the necessary authority to allow the AML Program to commence public facility projects.

PART II. NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

OSM would like to highlight the following items that Navajo AML has excelled in:

Public Outreach:

All high priority-1 and priority-2 reclamation of abandoned uranium (non-coal) mines has been completed by the Navajo AML Program and all that remains is priority-3 work. This is an incredible accomplishment, and concurrent with OSM's 25th Anniversary, the OSM-AFO recognized the Navajo AML Program this year with an award for completing that work and its other accomplishments since the Program has been in existence. The remaining priority-3 work is expected to be fully completed by 2004. Therefore, during EY-2001 and EY-2002, the Navajo

AML Program has been gradually phasing into Public Facility Projects (PFP's). There is a tremendous need for public facility work on the Navajo Nation as demonstrated by the response to the Program in proposed projects for funding this year. The demand for PFP's has necessitated substantive involvement in public outreach by the Program. The Navajo AML Program began by holding public meetings and meeting with all of its Chapter locations to explain its Program responsibilities and the eligibility requirements for PFP's. In addition, the Navajo AML Program worked with its oversight committee, the Natural Resources Committee (of the Navajo Nation Council) to put in place the PFP policy and criteria to assist Chapters impacted by mining. Finally, the AML Program worked with the individual Chapters to develop and to provide technical assistance for their project proposals.

In the end, the AML Program received 110 project proposals. A five member Project Review Committee was established, from respective Navajo Nation departments, to review each of the proposals, in accordance with the project proposal procedures developed by the Navajo AML Program, and selected approximately twenty projects for funding. Some of the project proposals had the necessary National Environmental Policy Act documentation completed and others required assistance from Navajo AML in getting the Environmental Assessment or Categorical Exclusion ready for submission to OSM. As of the end of the evaluation period, OSM received 15 packages for approval. OSM was able to issue a Findings of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and an Authorization to Proceed on 14 of the 15 project packages. One of the packages required additional NEPA documentation. Five of the 20 projects are being prepared for submission to OSM.

Project submissions can be grouped into four main categories including: 1) Buildings for Chapter Houses, Community Centers, Multi-Purpose Buildings and Head Start facilities; 2) Infrastructure projects such as water lines, sewer lines and electrical lines; 3) Infrastructure projects for roads or exit ramps and sewer/waste disposal sites; and, 4) commercial/business development projects such as an Arts and Crafts Center.

AML Reclamation Project Development and Construction:

In addition to preparing for implementing Public Facility Projects, Navajo AML accomplished a substantial amount of project development and project construction during EY-2002. Navajo AML used contractors to complete all of the scheduled construction work. Navajo AML provided the project specifications, held pre-bid tours, awarded the contracts, and then monitored the construction work. Contractors proved to be reliable by completing construction work on schedule and by adhering to project specifications.

Reclamation activities were scattered over a large part of the Navajo Nation, often in difficult to access terrain and in harsh climate. Navajo AML continues to work diligently to finish all of its remaining non-coal reclamation work. Navajo AML anticipates completing all remaining known and accessible non-coal reclamation by the end of EY-2004. Table-1 below shows projects that were active during the evaluation period:

Table 1
AML Grants
Active During EY-2002

Grant Number	Grant term	New Projects	Status
GR807810*	04/01/98 to 03/31/02	Beclabito-3	Complete
		Tse Tah-3	Complete
		Cameron-4	Complete
		Mon. Valley-4	Complete
		Oakspring-4	Complete
		Cove-3	Complete
GR107810*	01/01/01 to 12/31/03	Bidahochi	Ongoing
		Coppermine-2	Ongoing
		Black Mesa-3	Ongoing
		Cameron-6	Ongoing
		Sweetwater-2	Ongoing
		Maintenance	Ongoing
GR207810*	01/01/02 to 12/31/04	Sanostee-1	Ongoing
		Cove-4	Ongoing
		Beclabito-4	Ongoing
		Public Facility Projects	Ongoing

* These grants are not closed out so the final costs for these projects have not been entered in AMLIS.

Computer Network:

Navajo AML worked with OSM-HQ to get the AML Program in all three office locations on the OSM network. This required the installation of a 56K line from the Navajo Nation's Regulatory (Title V) Office in Window Rock, Arizona to the AML Office also in Window Rock. The Tuba City, Arizona and Shiprock, New Mexico Offices were previously connected via existing phone lines. The main router was installed in the Regulatory Program's Office in Window Rock. This effort will allow the AML Program control of its network routers and thereby relieve some existing problems that have resulted in a lot of down time. In addition, being on the OSM network will allow Navajo AML to have access to OSM network software applications such as those offered through TIPS. In addition, the AML Program's computer specialist will be able to resolve a lot of computer issues from a remote location rather than having to travel for every problem. The AML Program has upgraded 75% of its computer workstations to the Windows 2000 operating system. These are important accomplishments for the AML Program. These computer & network changes will greatly facilitate operations and also facilitate interaction and information exchange between the Navajo AML Program and OSM.

Tuba City Office Installation:

During EY-2002, the Tuba City Office purchased a new modular office building. An open house was held on June 4, 2002. The new building was purchased due to the deteriorated and unsafe condition of the existing building. Cost analysis by the Tuba City Office, determined that it was more cost effective to purchase a new modular office building than to remodel and fix problems associated with the existing building. The Tuba City Office is fully functional. The office was moved to a temporary location during installation so the office did not experience any significant down time.

PART III. RESULTS OF ENHANCEMENT AND PERFORMANCE REVIEWS

The team selected three principles of excellence for inclusion in the annual workplan. These three principles defined the scope of oversight for the 12-month evaluation period for EY-2002.

The three principles of excellence that were selected for the EY-2002 workplan are:

Principle of Excellence 1: OSM will evaluate the Navajo AML Program's planning and implementation for public facility projects under Section 411 (e) and (f) of SMCRA.

Review Findings:

Navajo AML spent a lot of time and energy the last two years amending their AML Plan to add the authority to undertake PFP's. The AML Program also worked with the Natural Resources Committee to develop procedures / guidelines for implementing PFP's (see Principle 2 below). Although this is the first year that Navajo AML has worked on public facility projects, the Program did an excellent job. The Navajo AML Program excelled in this arena by working with the public (Chapter communities) through outreach, selecting projects in accordance with its AML Plan and procedural policies, getting project packages together with all the necessary

environmental compliance documents and clearances and working with other Federal, State, and Tribal agencies to locate funding sources to make several PFP's possible.

As a result of their efforts, the AML Program selected 20 PFP's for funding. During the evaluation period, the Program submitted 15 of the 20 PFP's to OSM for authorizations to proceed. OSM only found deficiencies in one of the 15 packages. The other 14 packages were approved for funding and granted authorizations to proceed. The Program is working to address deficiencies noted for the remaining project.

OSM has not received any negative feedback from communities regarding how projects were selected or regarding the selection procedures adopted by the Program. Furthermore, the Navajo AML Program was able to do all this with few changes in staffing while continuing with its regular work in reclamation of the remaining Priority-3 abandoned uranium sites.

The amount of coordination and consultation that was required of the Navajo AML Program was extreme. Each of the proposed PFP's had several sources of funding. Lead agencies for the projects usually followed the major funding source but not always. High level of coordination was required by each funding source not to mention the usual coordination required to obtain community support and environmental compliance. In several instances, the timing of project approvals was critical due to the time limits on the other funding sources. Two staff members from the Window Rock office were assigned to coordinate the PFP's and get the project packages together with assistance from the field office locations in Tuba City, Arizona and Shiprock, NM. In the end, several projects were approved for funding and issued authorizations to proceed without any loss of funding from the identified sources. Furthermore, Navajo AML has adopted and implemented policies and procedures that provide an incentive for the selection of projects that propose joint funding (leveraged funding). This is intended to make the AML Program more cost effective and it has definitely worked.

The Navajo AML Program is commended for doing an excellent job in getting PFP's on line and ready for construction. Construction will begin on several projects during EY-2003. In addition, the Program is commended for doing an excellent job of prioritizing and selecting PFP's for funding.

Principle of Excellence 2: Programs should have systems in place to ensure accountability and responsibility for spending AML funds and a process to assure that such systems are working. (Directive AML-22, Principle 4).

Review Findings:

Navajo AML must comply with OSM's Federal Assistance Manual, Federal Regulations and Navajo Nation policies and procedures for property purchased with grant funds. AFO reviewed and identified OSM Grant-purchased Government property , that exceeds \$5,000.00 at Navajo AML Offices in Tuba City and Window Rock, AZ., and Shiprock, NM. The AFO Grants Specialist conducted two visits to Navajo Contract Accounting and accompanied the AML Program Specialist on two site inspections.

The review showed that Navajo AML is in full compliance with the OSM Federal Assistance Manual, other Federal regulations and existing Navajo Nation policies and procedures regarding Government property. All property that exceeded \$5,000.00 was properly accounted for. OSM gave some recommendations for disposition of equipment no longer being used by the Program.

Principle of Excellence 3: AML Program Accomplishments During the Evaluation Period. (Directive AML-22, Principle 5).

Review Findings:

The OSM-AFO annually reports on the status and accomplishments of each State and Tribal AML Program within its jurisdiction. The AER should provide an overall perspective of each AML Program's activities and accomplishments. This is the first year that the Navajo AML Program has managed PFP's. Therefore, this report addresses the Navajo AML Program's accomplishments for both AML reclamation and public facility projects.

a. AML Reclamation Accomplishments

There are no performance standards for AML reclamation set forth in SMCRA. Each AML Program sets its own standards for reclamation as a matter of policy. The Navajo AML Program has set high standards for itself in the past. Four reclamation projects were completed during EY-2002 including, Cameron-4, Tse Tah-3, Oak Springs-4 and Cove-3.

OSM inspected several of these projects for quality of reclamation work and adequacy of safeguards being implemented: OSM evaluated reclamation success in terms of hazard elimination, landscape stability and vegetation success. These topics seem to accurately reflect the long-term effectiveness of reclamation work and they stress on-the-ground results.

All reclamation work that OSM inspected was accomplished in a manner that minimizes the need for maintenance, promotes landscape stability, enhances re-establishment of natural vegetation, enhances wildlife (where it is consistent with adjacent land uses), and most importantly, adequately safeguards the physical & radioactive hazards. Past oversight evaluations concluded, that reclamation work accomplished under this programs was of excellent quality and hazards were effectively abated or safeguarded. The results of this year's oversight inspections were consistent with previous findings. The Navajo AML Program was previously recognized for their high quality reclamation work. This year's inspections demonstrated that high quality reclamation work is still being achieved by the Program. Although the recent reclamation work was mainly on priority-3 hazards, reclamation work remained at the same high level of quality that was exhibited for priority-1 and priority-2 reclamation work done in the past. In fact, this year the Navajo AML Program nominated its Cove-3 AML project for an OSM award.

All of the reclamation sites inspected were reclaimed with attention to the contract specifications. The oversight inspections were done concurrent with Navajo AML's final inspection tours. In all cases the contractor complied with contract specifications. In a couple of instances, Navajo AML required additional cleanup of the site or slight/minor touch-up work. The Navajo AML Program consistently achieved complete hazard remediation (safeguarding of the hazard)

through its contract monitoring of the construction work. In addition, adequate drainage of the sites was achieved and reclamation work was done in a manner that blended in with the surrounding terrain.

Due to the arid desert climate, little money is invested in seeding. Instead, the sites are scarified to allow for natural invasion of plant seeds. This continues to be a cost effective approach for the Program.

On one oversight inspection, OSM observed that school busses and local traffic were using the same road entry and exit that the AML contractor was using to haul materials. As a safety precaution, OSM requested that the AML Program have the contractor post a person on the exit and entry to the road during rush hours to ensure safe traffic flow especially with the school busses. AML complied with this request.

OSM inspected post construction work the week of February 12, 2002. During the inspection, special attention was given to whether biological and archaeological restrictions regarding NEPA were met. Navajo AML staff were able to show that all sites with restrictions were either flagged off or avoided during the reclamation process. Archaeological sites were clearly marked off when necessary to avoid disturbance. Access to the sites was limited to existing roads except where there were restrictions for heavy equipment. Navajo AML is careful to ensure that all NEPA stipulations and consultation requirements are adhered to by closely monitoring the contractor(s) during construction. Field crews are aware of all biological and archaeological restrictions for their assigned projects.

OSM attended a pre-proposal (Navajo AML uses requests for proposals or RFP;s) meeting and site tour for contractors the week of July 1, 2002. This allowed OSM to inspect the site prior to construction. The pre-proposal tour was sponsored by the Navajo AML Program, to look at unreclaimed mine sites which are to be let out for Requests for Proposals. This tour took several days to complete. Because the Navajo AML Program is nearing completion of its inventory of abandoned uranium mines, the remaining sites are priority-3 sites, they are separated by long distances (perhaps 100 miles overall), they involved widely scattered mines, and they are difficult to access due to sandy, wet, or steep conditions with few if any maintained roads leading to the sites. These conditions make for extremely difficult work and require a lot of coordination with the contractors.

Three contracting companies attended the tour and two of the three submitted RFP's for the project. Navajo AML Program was able to entice several contractors to bid on the project. Just to accomplish the tour took three full days of driving. Navajo AML is commended for its excellent pre-proposal tours and its ability to find / locate some very remote and difficult to identify abandoned mine sites. Contractors are given detailed instructions on the project details and the expectations of the project engineer during these pre-bid tours. In addition, the AML staff is available to answer contractor questions on the site or the design specifications. Contractor attendance of the entire pre-proposal site tour is mandatory for a contractor to be considered. The Program found that fewer contractor issues develop during the construction phase, when attendance of pre-proposal tours is mandatory.

Seven reclamation projects are scheduled for EY-2003, Beclabito-3, Bidahochi-1, Monument Valley-4, Coppermine-2, Black Mesa-3, Cameron-6, and Sweetwater-2.

b. Public Facility Accomplishments

During EY-2002, the Navajo AML Reclamation Program implemented the Public Facility Projects (PFPs). The Program was very successful in its efforts regarding PFP's and made substantial accomplishments. At the end of this evaluation period, none of the projects entered into construction. All work accomplishments were with regard to public outreach, project selection, project development and NEPA compliance. Next year, construction will begin on most or all of the 20 PFP's.

This year the AML Program: 1) requested PFP proposals from impacted chapters (communities); 2) received over 100 proposals; 3) ranked all the project submissions in accordance with the PFP Proposal Procedures/Criteria; and, 4) obtained Tribal concurrence for the selection and funding of the 20 highest ranking projects. The AML Program also obtained NEPA compliance information for most of these 20 projects and submitted complete packages to OSM for authorization to proceed. A few remaining proposals/packages are still with Navajo AML undergoing project development work related to NEPA compliance and will be submitted soon to OSM for authorization to proceed. Navajo AML was able to complete all of this work without any impact to its ongoing workload with regard to Uranium reclamation. OSM is very happy with the substantial amount of work completed by the Program and the excellent quality of the packages submitted to OSM. In addition, this work was done consistent with the Navajo Nation's approved AML Plan, policies, procedures and guidelines.

The following timeline shows the process for how the PFP work was accomplished:

- September 12, 2001 – Resources Committee of the Navajo Nation Council approved the Navajo Reclamation Plan Amendments to include the Public Facility Projects (PFP).
- September 28, 2001 – Resource Committee approved the PFP Proposal Procedures/Criteria.
- Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for PFP's were published during the months of October through March, 2002, in five (5) local newspapers.
- March 1, 2002 - NAMLRP received 110 PFP Proposals and determined that 40 of them were complete and referred all 40 of them to the Project Review Committee (PRC) for review and ranking.
- March 11-14, 2002 – PRC reviewed the 40 projects.
- April 2, 2002 - PRC ranked the 40 PFP proposals.
- April 4, 2002 – Navajo AML conducted a work session on selection and review criteria in the AML Plan for the benefit of the Resources Committee of the Navajo Nation Council and the PRC.
- April 26, 2002 – The Resources Committee accepted and approved the PRC's ranking of the 40 projects and approved the 20 top ranking PFP's for funding.
- The President of the Navajo Nation determined the 20 PFP's selected for funding meet urgent community needs of the Navajo Nation and requested that OSM issue FONSI's and authorizations to proceed.

- Approximately 15 of the 20 PFP proposals were submitted to OSM for review and approval.
- OSM issued 14 FONSI's and Authorizations to Proceed during the evaluation period. OSM requested additional NEPA documentation for one (1) remaining project.

Public Outreach:

During the evaluation period, Navajo AML accomplished the following public outreach / orientation activity:

- Conducted 150 presentations/orientations on PFP's to Navajo Nation Chapters and other entities.
- Made 1,962 verbal and written contacts with impacted communities.
- Navajo AML conducted numerous PFP related follow-up visits with the Chapters and other entities, involved with the 20 PFP's selected for funding, in order to complete project development work.
- Disseminated 4,046 PFP brochures and 2,748 copies of the PFP Proposal Procedures/ Criteria and disseminated 4000 pieces of promotional items at the 55th Annual Navajo Nation Fair in 2001.
- Manned a display booth on AML/PFP at the Olympic Torch relay event in Monument Valley, UT, on February 4, 2002.
- Sponsored a Grant Writing Workshop benefiting 12 Chapters.
- Provided technical assistance to impact chapters and agencies as needed.

PART IV. ACCOMPLISHMENT AND INVENTORY REPORTS (AMLIS)

Navajo AML is commended for the quality and extent of its overall reclamation work completed to date, both coal and non-coal. Navajo AML is currently reclaiming abandoned non-coal (uranium) mines. These mines have posed a serious health threat to the Navajo community. Navajo AML has been recognized in the past through OSM's award programs for excellence in reclamation by having received both National and Regional awards. This year the OSM field office also recognized the AML Program for its many successes during the Program's existence. Reclamation work is both timely and cost effective. Navajo AML estimates that all non-coal mine reclamation work will be completed by the end of EY-2004. Substantial progress was made this year toward achieving this goal. [For additional information on this topic, please refer to Principle 3 above.]

Navajo AML did an excellent job of preparing or gathering Environmental Assessments and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Packages for OSM approval. Especially for Public Facility Projects. As mentioned above 15 PFP's were submitted for funding this year. Eight of these project packages contained Environmental Assessments (EA) and seven contained Categorical Exclusions (CX).

OSM and Navajo AML met on several occasions, such as quarterly meetings, meetings on program amendments, a meeting with the Natural Resources Committee, a meeting in Flagstaff, Arizona for Public Facility Projects and the third annual Partnership meeting for New Mexico, Hopi, Navajo and OSM.

In addition, US Environmental Protection Agency of San Francisco, California invited Navajo Environmental Protection Agency, Navajo AML, and Albuquerque Field Office to a meeting in Farmington, New Mexico. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss potential coordination & sharing of information on uranium mining and reclamation on the Navajo Nation. Individuals from the Navajo community provided presentations regarding how uranium mining negatively affected their lives.

The Navajo AML Program staff that led both pre-bid site tours and OSM inspection tours were very knowledgeable of the project specifications, site locations and project biological / cultural restrictions! Reclamation work at all sites inspected appeared to be very successful and projects were designed to enhance long-term stability of the reclamation work. Mine hazards and radiation hazard were effectively eliminated in all cases. Final grading blended in well with surrounding areas and portal closures were hidden or disguised so as to prevent vandalism or reopening of the hazards. On older reclamation, vegetation did well in both seeded areas and areas left open to natural invasion of plants.

Navajo AML has also made progress in its use of GPS and GIS equipment. Radiological surveys conducted in the past several years exclusively used standard surveying methods. In addition, Navajo AML requested that OSM provide technical assistance by sponsoring a training class on the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act that is tailored to public facility projects. OSM provided the course during the week of July 29, 2002 in Gallup, New Mexico. Sixteen personnel from Navajo AML attended the training course and two guests from Navajo agencies.

Table-1 and Table-2 below identify program accomplishments in terms of hazard remediation during EY-2002 and year to date accomplishments of the program respectively. Data in the tables comes from the AMLIS database and from the AML Program. The only non-coal information included in AMLIS is any expended or obligated costs associated with reclamation of such sites.

Once PFP's are constructed, project completions will be entered into the AMLIS database as 411(f) projects. Also, once the grant is closed out, final cost figures will be available and will be entered into AMLIS.

Table 2
Navajo AML Reclamation Program
EY-2002 Accomplishments *

Problem Type and Description	Completed EY-2002	Costs**
Benchs	7.05 acres	\$ 216,724.00
Clogged Stream Lands	0.0 acres	\$ 0.00
Dangerous Highwalls	16,473 linear feet	\$ 992,094.00
Dangerous Impoundments	0 (count)	\$ 0.00
Dangerous Piles & Embankments	108.46 acres	\$ 1,692,450.00
Dangerous Slides	0 acres	\$ 0.00
EF-Equipment/Facilities	0 (count)	\$ 0.00
Gobs	0 acres	\$ 0.00
Highwalls	0 feet	\$ 0.00
Hazardous Equipment & Facilities	0 (count)	\$ 0.00
Haul Roads	25.4 acres	\$ 518,066.00
Industrial/Residential Waste	0.1 acres	\$ 26,950.00
Mine Openings (prospects)	14 (count)	\$ 87,650.00
Other	0	\$ 0.00
Portals	178 (count)	\$ 989,785.00
Pits	1.4 acres	\$ 47,171.00
Polluted Water: Agric. & Indust.	0 (count)	\$ 0.00
Subsidence	2.67 acres	\$ 123,100.00
Spoil Areas	0 acres	\$ 0.00
Surface Burning	0 acres	\$ 0.00
Slump	0 acres	\$ 0.00
Underground Mine Fires	0 acres	\$ 0.00
Vertical Openings	10 (count)	\$ 64,260.00
Water Problems	0 (count)	\$ 0.00
NAVAJO TOTAL COSTS		\$ 4,758,250.00

- *This table is based on a Problem Type Unit and Cost Detail Report from the Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System as of 09/31/02. The coal inventory is completed. Neither AMLIS nor this table contains an inventory of un-reclaimed non-coal. Non-coal hazards are not tracked by the AMLIS inventory, until they are funded or fully reclaimed.
- **Costs associated with AMLIS keywords/ hazards are not entered until the grant is closed out.

Table 3
Navajo Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program
Cumulative AML Reclamation Accomplishments YTD

Problem Type and Description	Completed YTD	Costs
Benchs	37.6 acres	\$ 275,688.00
Clogged Stream Lands	0.8 acres	\$ 0.00
Dangerous Impoundments	4 (count)	\$ 101,559.00
Dangerous Highwalls	89,068 linear feet	\$ 5,009,836.00
Dangerous Piles & Embankments	536.8 acres	\$ 7,463,666.00
Dangerous Slides	7 acres	\$ 220,394.00
Equipment/Facilities	2 (count)	\$ 12,405.00
Gobs	149.9 acres	\$ 748,012.00
Highwalls	280 feet	\$ 24,375.00
Hazardous Equipment & Facilities	5 (count)	\$ 29,087.00
Haul Roads	106.8 acres	\$ 931,827.00
Industrial/Residential Waste ???	6.5 acres	\$ 108,662.00
Mine Openings (prospects)	63 (count)	\$ 245,423.00
Other	360.1	\$ 2,155,359.00
Portals	769 (count)	\$ 3,175,122.00
Pits	121.2 acres	\$ 888,572.00
Polluted Water: Agric. & Indust.	19.0 (count)	\$ 185,901.00
Subsidence	12.14 acres	\$ 428,496.00
Spoil Areas	264.6 acres	\$ 432,334.00
Surface Burning	3.0 acres	\$ 10,000.00
Slump	0.0 acres	\$ 0.00
Underground Mine Fires	.0 acres	\$ 0.00
Vertical Openings	381 (count)	\$ 381,734.00
Water Problems	1 (count)	\$ 4,337.00
NAVAJO TOTAL COSTS		\$ 22,832,789.00

Table 4
Navajo Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program
Cumulative Public Facility Accomplishments YTD

Chapter / Entity	Project	AML \$	Leverage \$	Total
Aneth Chap.	Rockwell Flats Water Line Ext. Proj.	300,000.00	565,290.00	865,290.00
Beclabito Chap.	Head Start Facility	200,000.00	476,000.00	676,000.00
Black Mesa Chap.	Black Mesa Power Line Ext.	297,031.48	699,453.00	996,484.48
Blue Gap/Tachee Chap.	Senior Citizen Center	300,000.00	453,000.00	753,000.00
Coalmine Canyon Chap.	Multi-Purpose Facility	300,000.00	1,251,680.00	1,551,680.00
Coalmine Canyon Chap.	Coalmine Mesa Water Line Ext. Proj.	37,384.00	732,200.00	769,584.00
Coppermine Chap.	Coppermine West Power Line Proj.	60,139.73	1,164,083.70	1,224,223.43
Cove Chap.	Senior Citizen Center	300,000.00	252,150.00	552,150.00
Dennehotso Chap.	Cane Valle Water Systems Proj.	124,000.00	1,291,000.00	1,415,000.00
Ft. Defiance Chap.	Blue Canyon Power Line Ext.(P2)	192,238.55	95,540.00	287,778.55
Lake Valley Chap.	Senior Citizen Center	300,000.00	300,000.00	600,000.00
Manuelito Chap.	Manuelito South Water Sys. Proj.	299,992.00	2,859,978.00	3,159,970.00
Monument Valley A&C Council	MV A&C Mall Proj.	300,000.00	3,760,500.00	4,060,500.00
Navajo Parks & Recr. Dept.	Upper Antelope Canyon Rd.	129,000.00	54,692.00	183,692.00
Oljato Chap. Senior Ctr.	Senior Center Improvement	295,000.00	80,000.00	375,000.00
Rock Springs	Multi-Purpose Facility	300,000.00	166,750.00	466,750.00
Rough Rock Chap.	Senior Citizen Center	300,000.00	453,000.00	753,000.00
San Juan Chap.	Multi-Purpose Facility	300,000.00	1,199,950.00	1,499,950.00
To'Hajiilee Chap.	To'Hajiilee Behavioral Health Facility	300,000.00	137,052.00	437,052.00
Twin Lakes Chap.	Senior Citizen Center	202,000.00	618,000.00	820,000.00
TOTALS		\$4,836,785.76	\$16,610,318.70	\$21,447,104.46