



Phase 1 Remedial Investigation Work to Begin August 31, 2015 Kerr-McGee Caselton Mine Area, Pioche, Nevada

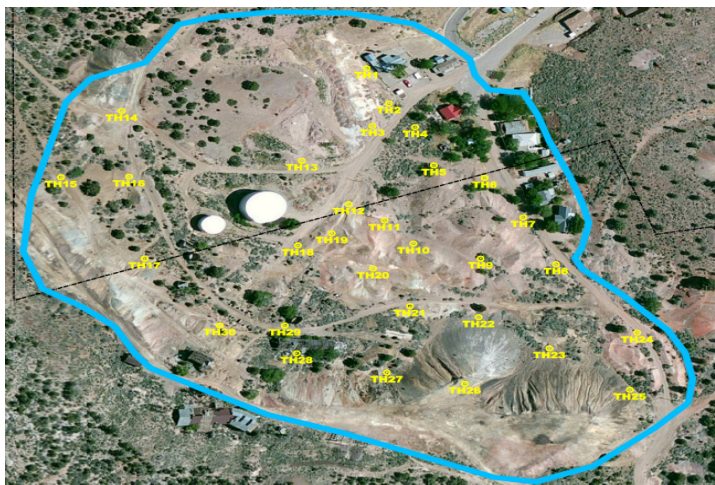
The Multistate Environmental Response Trust ("Multistate Trust") prepared this Fact Sheet in cooperation with the Lead Agency, the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection ("NDEP") to update the community on the status of cleanup activities at the Caselton Mine Area (the "Site").

Caselton Mine Area Site Investigation

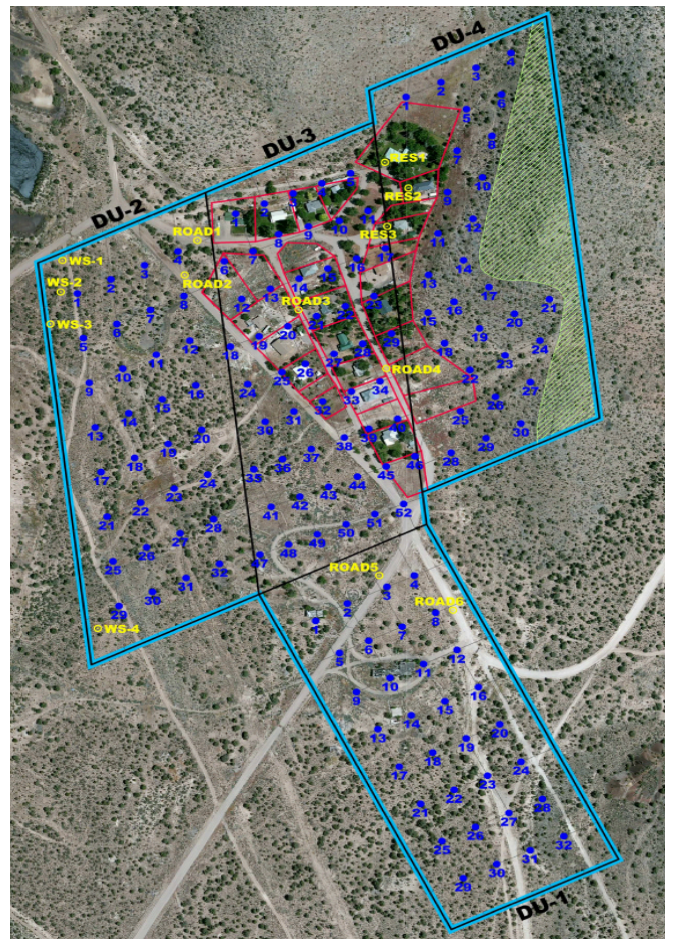
- The Multistate Trust and NDEP have begun conducting environmental actions at the Caselton Mine Area.
- The Site consists of five operable units (OUs) to prioritize environmental actions: OU-1 (Treasure Hill), OU-2 (Caselton Heights Residential Yard Soils), OU-3 (Caselton Mine Site), OU-4 (Caselton Mill Site and Adjacent Tailings) and OU-5 (U.S. Bureau of Land Management [BLM] Off-Site Tailings).
- Brown and Caldwell on behalf of the Multistate Trust and NDEP has prepared a Remedial Investigation Work Plan for OU-1 and OU-2 ("RI Work Plan"). This RI Work Plan outlines the investigation activities that will include surveying to help delineate property boundaries and surface soil sampling to assess risk to human health and the environment and to determine the next steps for the path forward.
- Field activities will be performed by Brown and Caldwell.
- Field activities, including surveying and soil sampling, will begin on August 31, 2015 and are anticipated to be completed by September 4, 2015.
- Soil samples will be collected from Treasure Hill (Multistate Trust-owned land only [i.e., no residential yards will be sampled]) and the residential yards located in Caselton Heights.
- Matthew Donaldson/NDEP will be onsite to answer questions.

Quick Site Facts

- Site is located near the Town of Pioche, in Lincoln County, Nevada.
- Treasure Hill is located to the south of the Town of Pioche.
- Caselton Heights is a small unincorporated residential community located on the southwest side of the Pioche Hills. It consists of 18 occupied residences and was originally constructed as an area for mine and mill worker housing.
- A series of tailings ponds associated with the Caselton Mill are located southeast of the mill near Meadow Valley Wash.



OU-1 (Treasure Hill): Proposed Soil Sampling Locations



OU-2 (Caselton Heights) Proposed Soil Sampling Locations

Site History

The Caselton Mine Area has a long history of mining operations for the production of metals, including silver, gold, lead, zinc, and copper. Ore was first discovered in 1863 and active mining began in earnest by 1868. By 1873, Pioche was the largest silver producer west of the Rocky Mountains. Early on, milling occurred in Pioche, but in around 1871 a shortage of water forced the mills to be relocated to Bullionville, Nevada (near Panaca, Nevada). CMR owned/operated the Site since at least 1924. Combined Metals Reduction Company (“CMR”) transported ore to a mill in Bauer, Utah until 1941, when CMR built the Caselton Mill at the Site. With sulfide reserves in the Caselton mines largely depleted by 1953, CMR began using the mill for the processing of manganese ore. Pioche Manganese Company reportedly owned the Caselton Mill during this time period. In 1957, metal prices dropped and milling operations ceased. In 1964, the Comet Coalition Mining Company’s Pan American Mine was revitalized through a joint venture between CMR and the Grand Deposit Mining Company. Low-grade lead-zinc ore from Pan American mine was hauled to the Caselton Mill for 14 years. At some point the Bunker Hill Company was operating the mill and then ceased operations in 1978. In 1976, Mountain Mines, Inc. acquired the Caselton Tailings after the bankruptcy of CMR. Mountain Mines, Inc. claims to have produced precious metals from the tailings with a small chemical processing facility located in the vicinity of the tailings. In 1976, Kerr-McGee Corporation purchased the patented and unpatented claims. Further, according to the September 27, 1976 Trustee’s Deed, the Trustee conveyed to Kerr-McGee all of CMR’s right, title and interest for “all veins, lodes, ledges, mineral deposits, privileges and all fixtures and items of personal property located thereon...excluding and reserving the right in the debtor, its tenants, successors and assigns to the use of the surface of that portion of the conveyed lands, claims and mills sites as are presently used, occupied, leased and/or required for the operation of the Caselton Mill. Kerr-McGee did not conduct any milling operations or active mining at the Site. Instead, it only conducted ore exploration activities. In 2005, Kerr-McGee transferred its environmental liabilities to Tronox. Thereafter, Kerr-McGee sold its valuable oil and gas assets to Anadarko Petroleum Corporation (“Anadarko”). Unable to finance its massive environmental liabilities, Tronox filed for bankruptcy in 2009. In November 2014, the United States reached a \$5.15 billion settlement agreement with Anadarko and funds were distributed to the bankruptcy trusts, including the Multistate Trust, in 2015, in accordance with site-specific allocations agreed to during bankruptcy negotiations. The Multistate Trust received \$6 million which over the next few years will be used to perform environmental actions in the Caselton Mine Area. The Multistate Trust can only use dedicated Caselton Mine Area funds for environmental actions approved by NDEP.

The Multistate Trust

The Multistate Trust is an independent, court-appointed fiduciary whose primary purpose is the protection of human health and the environment. The Multistate Trust was created as part of the 2011 Tronox bankruptcy settlement involving the United States, 24 State governments and Tronox. Greenfield Environmental Multistate Trust, LLC, is the named Trustee, with responsibility for: owning and managing more than 400 former Kerr-McGee sites in 24 states, including the Caselton Mine Area; cleaning up the sites using available funds from the settlement; and facilitating safe redevelopment and long-term stewardship of the sites. The Multistate Trust reports directly to its two Site beneficiaries—the United States and the State of Nevada, represented by USEPA and the NDEP (as the Lead Agency), respectively.

Please Contact the NDEP or the Multistate Trust with Questions About the Caselton Mine Area:

NDEP: Jeryl Gardner at (775) 687-9484 or jgardner@ndep.nv.gov
NDEP: Matthew Donaldson at (775) 687-9480 or mdonaldson@ndep.nv.gov
Multistate Trust: Tasha Lewis at (602) 312-6993 or tl@g-etg.com
Bob Rollins at (775) 962-1095 or brollins@lcsso-nv.org