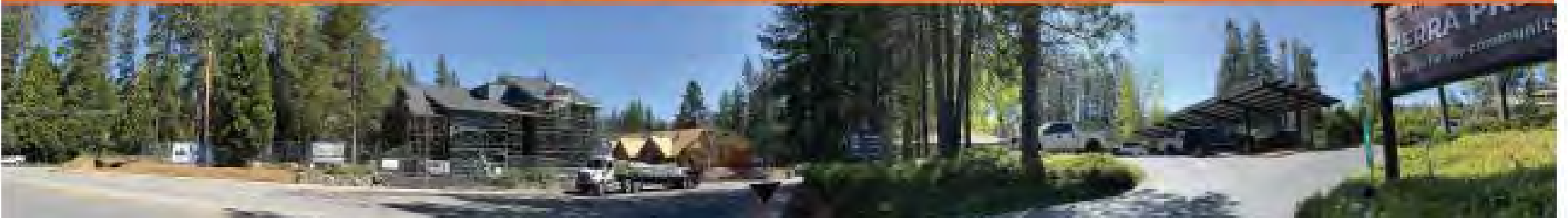




Brownfields Revitalization

Support for counties and cities in the Sierra Nevada to identify, assess, and revitalize abandoned mine lands.

Cities, Counties and other landowners have found reusing Brownfield sites beneficial



Carrie Monohan PhD, Program Director, The Sierra Fund
carrie.monohan@sierrafund.org

“The Sierra Fund found us when my staff and I were at a crossroads in the remedial process and were concerned about continued funding. The Sierra Fund staff provided us with encouragement and grant information. I found them passionate and experienced, especially when helping small communities. I greatly appreciated their mental and technical support.”

Yvonne Kimball
City Manager,
City of Jackson

- *The Sierra Fund is offering support to agencies and organizations interested in accessing financial and technical resources to remediate Brownfields in their Sierra communities.*
- When remediated, these sites are valuable assets to communities. Left unremediated, they can pose serious liabilities for landowners and public health and safety threats

“ The Sierra Fund brings technical expertise, public participation and funding resources together to assess and remediate mine impacted land in the Sierra. ”

Jason Muir
Principal Engineer, NV3 -
Technical Engineering Firm

- **The 2022 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law included an unprecedented \$1.5 billion investment in the Environmental Protection Agencies (EPA) Brownfields program.**



The Sierra Nevada is riddled with abandoned mines and mine impacted lands that if assessed and cleaned up can be developed and reused. These abandoned mine lands can present hazards from arsenic, lead, and mercury. The Sierra Fund is offering support to agencies and organizations interested in accessing financial and technical resources to remediate Brownfields in their Sierra communities.

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Types of EPA Brownfield Grant Funding

EPA Brownfield Grant Funding Summary

EPA's Brownfields Program provides direct funding for brownfields assessment, cleanup, revolving loans, environmental job training, technical assistance, training, and research. To facilitate the leveraging of public resources, EPA's Brownfields Program collaborates with other EPA programs, other federal partners, and state agencies to identify and make available resources that can be used for brownfield activities.

- [Assessment Grants](#) provide funding for brownfield inventories, planning, environmental assessments, and community outreach.
- [Revolving Loan Fund \(RLF\) Grants](#) provide funding to capitalize loans that are used to clean up brownfield sites.
- [Cleanup Grants](#) provide funding to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites owned by the applicant.
- [Multipurpose \(MP\) Grants](#) provide funding to conduct a range of eligible assessment and cleanup activities at one or more brownfield sites in a target area.
- [Job Training \(JT\) Grants](#) provide environmental training for residents impacted by brownfield sites in their communities.
- [State and Tribal Response Program Grants](#) provide non-competitive funding to establish or enhance State and Tribal Brownfields response programs.

Related Links

- [Brownfields Grant Solicitations](#)
- [Other EPA Grants](#)

Links to California Code of Regulations (CCR) on our webpages may not be working due to a change with the Westlaw website. In the interim, please refer to our [Official California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4.5](#) webpage.



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Site Mitigation & Restoration Program

We protect and maintain California's land and places by setting strict standards for land restoration and cleanup

Equitable Community Revitalization Grant

What is the Equitable Community Revitalization Grant (ECRG)?

In 2021, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed legislation referred to as the [Cleanup In Vulnerable Communities Initiative \(CVCI\)](#), allocating \$500 million to expedite the cleanup and beneficial reuse of contaminated properties, with priority given to properties in historically vulnerable and disadvantaged communities. The Department of Toxic Substances Control's Office of Brownfields Equitable Community Revitalization Grant (ECRG) will provide more than \$250 million in grants to incentivize cleanup and investment in disadvantaged areas of California.

OFFICE OF BROWNFIELDS
Department of Toxic Substances Control - Cleanup In Vulnerable Communities Initiative

Brownfields Links

- [Brownfields Home](#)
- [Agreements](#)
- [Scoping Meeting](#)
- [Evaluation](#)
- [Remedy Selection](#)





OUR WORK'S NOT DONE
ABANDONED MINE LANDS

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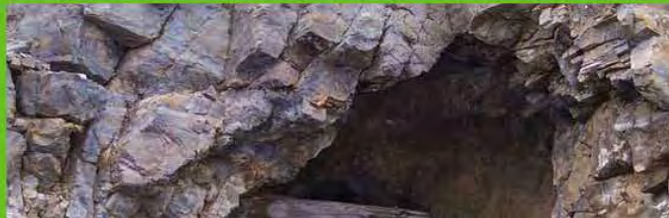
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**Working Together to
Protect Our Future**



State and Tribe Abandoned Mine Land Programs

Since 1977, states have been successful reclaiming and remediating historic abandoned mine lands throughout the country. Even with



Mining in California

California Department of Conservation Division of Mine Reclamation

"Balancing today's needs with tomorrow's challenges and fostering intelligent, sustainable, and efficient use of California's energy, land, and mineral resources." - Mission Statement

The **California Department of Conservation** stewards California's natural and working lands, both on the surface and below, through four pillars:



Protecting Public Safety and Wildlife on Public Lands

Today, California contains an estimated **40,000 abandoned mines** and **more than 200,000 abandoned mine openings**.

These mines are on lands owned by federal (64%), state (3%), and local (1%) entities or private landowners (32%). AMLU helps find these abandoned mines and determines if they are a physical or an environmental hazard.

This map shows land ownership for mines from USGS and the associated land manager. The accuracy of these symbols varies and should not be used for analysis.

Topographic Mine Symbols

Land Manager

Show All

Federal

State

Local

Land Trust

Private/Other

Stop Exploring



California's cities and counties are responsible for mines within their boundaries.

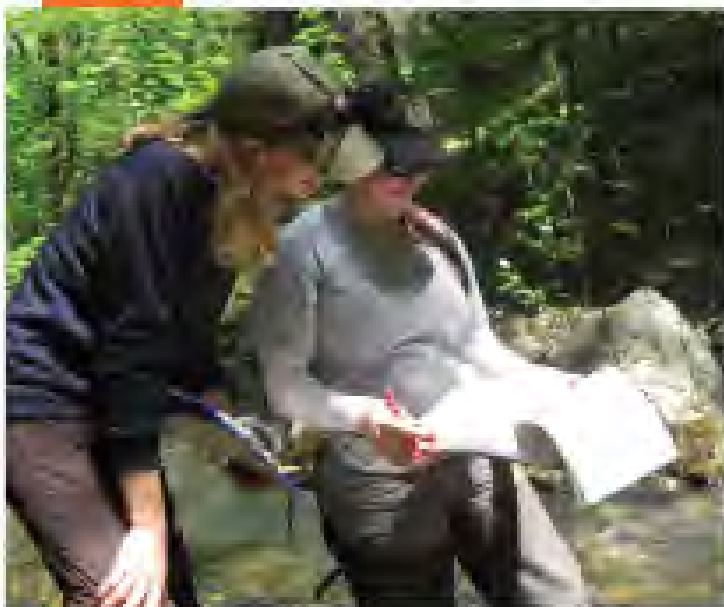
Known as lead agencies, these cities and counties are responsible for issuing permits and for annual inspections of their mines. As part of regulating mines, lead agencies also approve environmental reports, reclamation plans (detailing how the mined lands will be restored for future uses), and financial assurances (funding set aside by mine operators to complete the reclamation plan).

This map shows active mines, what they produce, and their lead agencies.



When remediated, brownfield sites are valuable assets to Sierra communities:

- Experience has shown these cleaned up and redeveloped sites have multiple benefits:
- **Protect public health**
 - Remediating these sites reduces exposure to hazardous materials, which turns a public hazard into a safe site for reuse.
- **Facilitate job growth.** During the assessment and cleanup process and when a business uses the revitalized property, jobs are created.
- **Turn prior unusable land into public assets!** Redeveloped brownfield sites have become public assets. These cleaned up sites have become:
 - Housing or business sites
 - Parking
 - Recreational sites for hiking, picnicking, birdwatching and other recreation
 - Forestry land
 - Ranching areas
- **Improve and protect the environment.** Critical habitats and landscapes can be conserved when AMLs are remediated. The same toxics that provide a public safety hazard are a hazard to local wildlife and plants. Removing these hazards creates a healthier and more resilient ecosystem.
- **Increase the local tax base by allowing the land to be used again and expanding local business opportunities.**
- **Restore Cultural Sites:** Some brownfield sites in the Sierra Nevada were culturally important places for local tribes to gather and harvest native material and/or held cultural significance. Revitalizing these sites allows tribes to access these lands integral to their cultural practices.



Contact us:

Email Carrie Monohan Ph.D., Program Director at the Sierra Fund for an initial consultation to learn more and explore what resources might be a good match to fill your needs.

carrie.monohan@sierrafund.org

And/or visit our website for additional information on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and EPA Technical Assistance and other resources: sierrafund.org/brownfields-support

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