

ANNUAL SUMMARY EVALUATION
of the
ALASKA ABANDONED MINE LANDS RECLAMATION PROGRAM
for
EVALUATION YEAR 2007
(July 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007)



August 2, 2007



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ACRONYMS

AAMLRP	Alaska Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program
AKSAS	Alaska Statewide Accounting System
AML	abandoned mine land
AMLIS	Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System
AMR	abandoned mine reclamation
DFD	Denver Field Division (of the Office of Surface Mining)
DNR	Alaska Department of Natural Resources
NAAMLPP	National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs
OIG	Office of the Inspector General (of the U.S. Dept. of the Interior)
OSM	Office of Surface Mining (of the U.S. Dept. of the Interior)
SMCRA	Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, as amended

Cover photo: Center Pit near Healy, Alaska

I. Introduction

Title IV of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA or “the Act”) established the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund. The Fund’s primary purpose is to pay for mitigation of past mining effects. The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) administers the Fund on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior. OSM awards grants to States and Tribes from the Fund to pay their administration costs and reclaim abandoned mines. SMCRA puts the highest priority on correcting the most serious abandoned mine land (AML) problems that endanger public health, safety, general welfare, and property. OSM and State and Tribal AML programs work together to achieve the goals of the national program. OSM also works cooperatively with the States and Tribes to monitor their AML programs.

On December 20, 2006, the President signed the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-432). That legislation included the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Amendments of 2006 (the 2006 Act). The 2006 Act amended title IV of SMCRA to make significant changes in the abandoned mine reclamation fee and the AML program. OSM presently is developing regulations to implement the 2006 Act.

Directive AML-22 generally describes how OSM evaluates State and Tribal AML reclamation programs in “enhancement and performance reviews.” Following that Directive, a team of State and Federal personnel has been evaluating the Alaska Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program (AAMLRP) since January 1996. The team includes representatives of AAMLRP and OSM’s Denver Field Division (DFD). Team members during the 2007 evaluation period included Joe Wehrman, Manager, AAMLRP, and Ron Sassaman, Environmental Protection Specialist, OSM-DFD.

This report summarizes our review and evaluation of the Alaska Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program for the 2007 evaluation year, which included the period of July 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007.

II. General Information on the Alaska Program

On December 23, 1983, the Secretary of the Interior approved Alaska’s AML reclamation plan (“State reclamation plan”) under Title IV of SMCRA. That approval allows Alaska to reclaim abandoned mines in the State in non-emergency AML projects. Effective November 16, 1992, the Secretary approved Alaska’s AML emergency response reclamation program. AAMLRP is part of the Division of Mining, Land and Water Management in the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). It administers Alaska’s AML program under its approved plan. The Denver Field Division of OSM’s Western Region works with AAMLRP to fund and approve AML projects in Alaska and to evaluate AML reclamation and other aspects of the Program.

Section 405(f) of SMCRA authorizes State and Tribal AML programs to apply to OSM each year for a grant to support their programs and reclaim specific projects. OSM awards grants to AAMLRP to fund the Program’s administration costs for the period of

July 1st of one year through June 30th of the following year. The same grants award construction funding that is available to the Program during the same period for each of three years after the initial grant award date.

Alaska's 2006 AML grant funding totaled \$1,525,000, including \$25,000 for emergency reclamation. The grant supported 3.875 full-time equivalents. It also funds two abandoned coal mine reclamation projects (including one ongoing coal waste fire project), completion of one noncoal project, and planning for possible additional work at another coal project. AAMLRP devoted most of its funding in the 2007 evaluation year to extinguishing a coal waste fire in the Jonesville Fire Phase 2 project.

OSM awarded AAMLRP a total of \$1,525,000 for the 2007 grant, which included minimum program funding and \$25,000 for emergency projects. That grant funds 3.75 full-time equivalents and program administration costs. It funded three coal projects and planning for two additional coal projects. The noncoal reclamation request did not mention specific projects. However, the application said the Program is likely to undertake projects addressed in previous Governors' requests under section 409(c) of SMCRA that pre-date the latest February 2007 request. It also said AAMLRP is likely to address noncoal projects on National Park lands that are included in the 409(c) letter dating from February 2007.

AAMLRP addressed one emergency situation under its approved emergency program in the 2007 evaluation year. The Eska Creek Subsidence Pit 1a emergency involved a subsidence opening that occurred suddenly in the immediate area of the Eska Creek Phase 1 coal reclamation project. Prospective contractors discovered the opening during a pre-bid site meeting for the Eska Creek Phase 1 project. The subsidence likely occurred as the result of water piping through backfill material in an abandoned mine shaft, causing the backfill to fail. The opening was located adjacent to a popular two-track ATV trail and was about 12 to 18 feet in diameter at the surface and at least 40 feet deep. OSM declared an emergency on May 11, 2007, based on the State's request. AAMLRP awarded a construction contract that included the Eska Creek Phase 1 non-emergency project and the Eska Creek Subsidence Pit 1a emergency. Emergency abatement work was completed by the week of July 9, 2007.

Alaska does not have an OSM-approved subsidence insurance protection program.

III. Noteworthy Accomplishments

AAMLRP partnered with two Federal agencies during the 2007 evaluation year. It partnered with the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) National Park Service (NPS) to plan a closure for the Jumbo Mine subsidence opening in a popular hiking area of the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve. It also partnered with the Fish and Wildlife Service to obtain bundles of willow cuttings for reestablishing moose habitat at the reclaimed Jonesville Fire Phase 2 project area near Sutton. Our evaluation of the 2(f) performance measure reviewed AAMLRP's partnerships from the beginning of

calendar year 2005 through May 25, 2007. The results of that evaluation are summarized in section IV.B of this report.

The Program established a rapport with the Sutton Community Council by holding monthly briefings on the Jonesville Fire Phase 2, Eska Creek Phase 1, and Eska Creek Subsidence Pit 1a emergency projects. The community council strongly supports AAMLRP as a result of those public awareness efforts.

The Program Manager represents the State and AAMLRP in mining and AML matters. He is the Alaska Governor's unofficial representative, and only Alaska representative, to the Interstate Mining Compact Commission. He coordinates responses to questionnaires, requests for comments and position papers about all aspects and types of mineral development. In addition, he chairs one committee of the National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs (NAAML) and is a key member of two other committees.

AAMLRP organized the biennial 2007 Northern Latitudes Mine Reclamation Workshop when a Federal partner abandoned the joint effort. The Program planned and held the international workshop in less than a month with assistance from Canadian governmental and private industry partners. This workshop is among the activities we reviewed as part of our evaluation of the 2(f) performance measure that is summarized in section IV.B of this report.

IV. Results of Enhancement and Performance Review

We updated the "Alaska AML Evaluation Team Performance Agreement" to describe the principles of excellence and performance measures that we planned to review in the 2007 evaluation year. The updates were based on discussion we had in a meeting at AAMLRP's office on May 15, 2006.

Principles of excellence and performance measures emphasize on-the-ground or end-results as much as possible. Each general principle of excellence has one or more specific performance measure(s). Performance measures describe: Why we selected that topic; what the review population and sample sizes will be; how we will do the review and report the results; and our schedule for completing the review. The principles of excellence and specific performance measures we chose for our 2007 evaluation of the Alaska Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program are:

Principle of Excellence 2: The State AML program procedures are efficient and effective.

- *Performance Measure (e):* Does the information the State entered into AMLIS beginning July 1, 2004, agree with information in its files?
- *Performance Measure (f):* Does the State partner with other organizations to increase its program's effectiveness?

Results of our 2007 evaluation are described below in Parts IV.A and B. The 2(e) evaluation is based on reviews of AAMLRP's project closeout reports and the projects' respective PADs at OSM's Denver office. The 2(f) evaluation is based on project closeout reports, grant performance reports, and supplemental information AAMLRP submitted specifically for the evaluation. We described our evaluation results in much greater detail in an enhancement and performance review report for each performance measure. Those reports are on file in OSM's Denver Field Division and are the factual basis of this report's summary of our evaluations of performance measures 2(e) and 2(f).

A. Summary Evaluation of Performance Measure 2(e)

In September 2004, the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of the Inspector General (OIG), issued report number 2003-I-0074 based on its review of AMLIS data for four eastern States' abandoned mine land (AML) programs. That report criticized the accuracy of the AMLIS data, concluding that AMLIS data did not match data in the respective States' files. In part, the OIG recommended establishing "a quality control system that ensures that States, Tribes, and OSM, as applicable, review and certify the accuracy of data entered into AMLIS."

OSM responded to the OIG's recommendation with two requirements for program evaluations. The first required OSM field offices to "assure that each State and Indian Tribe AML program has procedures in place to ensure and certify the accuracy of data entered into AMLIS" as part of the FY2004 oversight (subsequently changed to the 2005 evaluation year). Our 2005 review of the 2(d) performance measure fulfilled the first requirement. That evaluation found that AAMLRP has a system to ensure the data it enters into AMLIS match data in its files. AAMLRP uses data from the Alaska Statewide Accounting System (AKSAS) and its project managers to complete its project closeout reports and update AMLIS. For the purpose of this evaluation, we consider the project closeout reports to be AAMLRP's "system" for ensuring that completion data Alaska enters into AMLIS match data in its files.

Project closeout reports contain the information Alaska uses to update AMLIS for completed reclamation. Reports include: Identifying information, including the Alaska program code, AMLIS Problem Area Description (PAD) number, the source grant(s), Alaska Parks Contract number, and an interagency cooperative agreement number; the dates on which AAMLRP entered and verified AMLIS data and the names of persons who did so; a project overview; a list of construction / mitigation contract information; a description of how costs were allocated; and a cost allocation spreadsheet. The cost allocation spreadsheet includes two tables. One presents detailed physical, closure, and cost data by individual AMLIS keyword feature. The second summarizes the total numbers of features addressed and their costs by AMLIS keyword. Total cost figures of the two tables should be equal.

The second requirement involves comparing data in AMLIS to corresponding data in the State's files to see if they match. We developed the 2(e) performance measure to determine if AAMLRP's use of its system ensures that data in AMLIS PADs match data in its respective closeout reports. Our 2007 evaluation was the second annual evaluation of that performance measure.

This evaluation considered only project completion data. We structured it that way because data for unfunded and active projects often change and final project costs and accomplishments usually do not. Moreover, completion data are based on actual final costs and accomplishments, whereas unfunded and funded AMLIS cost data usually are based on preliminary estimates and grant or initial contract awards, respectively.

We concluded that the cost and accomplishments data AAMLRP entered into AMLIS matched information in its system, with a little interpretation. Overall, the closeout report data were very informative. We also concluded that data in the closeout report's spreadsheet tables needed to be labeled to more clearly indicate what the figures actually show. Though AMLIS did not include a priority documentation form for the review sample, which dates from almost seven years ago, PADs the Program created since 2005 include priority documentation forms. An apparent glitch in how AMLIS processes corrections and changes to completion history data might explain a discrepancy we found between data in the AMLIS completion history field and the problem summary. It also might explain some incorrect numbers we found in performance measures data.

We recommended AAMLRP revise the "feature specifics" and AMLIS Summary Information tables of its closeout report spreadsheet slightly. We also recommended the Program correct certain numbers in the performance measures data. In response to our recommendations, AAMLRP revised the feature specifics table and the AMLIS summary information table of the sample's spreadsheet. The tables also more clearly identify total project costs, and total project costs shown in both tables agree. AAMLRP similarly revised the master form it will use for future project closeout reports. Finally, the Program attempted to revise reclaimed features numbers in the performance measures database linked to AMLIS but was unable to due to a database problem that prevents changes to existing data.

B. Summary Evaluation of Performance Measure 2(f)

Our first annual evaluation of this performance measure determined if AAMLRP partners with other organizations to increase its program's effectiveness. AML programs increasingly look to sources of funding other than SMCRA's Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund. Receiving funds from other sources enables abandoned mine land programs to increase the number and types of hazards they abate by making more money available overall or through cost sharing. It also enables them to address hazards on lands owned or managed by various agencies and organizations in cooperative projects that comprehensively address AML problems in designated watersheds and/or mining districts. Conversely, Federal and State land management

agencies look to AAMLRP for funding assistance to stretch their limited budgets. In such cases, AAMLRP helps them abate abandoned mine-related hazards to public health, safety, and the environment on public lands they manage.

We focused on the different partnerships AAMLRP entered into and the projects it completed under them to emphasize its efforts to maximize on-the-ground reclamation since January 2005. We emphasized AAMLRP's partnering accomplishments, not the amounts of funding it contributed or received.

We concluded that AAMLRP effectively partnered with other entities whenever possible. This partnering was mutually beneficial. It helped public land management agencies and other organizations address hazards to public health and safety and the environment on lands they own and manage. At the same time, partnering helped AAMLRP leverage its SMCRA funding to address abandoned mine hazards throughout the State.

Partnerships AAMLRP participated in with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service and the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service since the beginning of 2005 abated hazards attendant to four high priority noncoal vertical openings and 15 noncoal portals and planned abatement of another vertical opening. These projects involved public land in the Tongass and Chugach National Forests and the Kennecott mining complex – National Historic Landmark of the Wrangell – St. Elias National Park and Preserve. The State's contributions included managerial oversight, administrative support, labor, materials and supplies, and logistical support including helicopter and ground transport. Federal agency contributions included staff time for interagency consultation and documenting National Environmental Policy Act compliance, labor, boat transport, closure materials, on-site archaeological monitoring, and, in one case, portal closure training using polyurethane foam. Almost all aspects of these partnerships proved mutually beneficial. Partnering agencies completed reclamation of all the hazards included in these joint projects except for one subsidence opening. A recent rock slide closed that subsidence opening, at least temporarily.

AAMLRP began one multi-phased project before 2005 in partnership with Usibelli Coal Mine, Inc. The Program completed phase 2 of that coal project by September 2005. Phase 2 included demolishing about six hazardous structures and removing soils and other debris contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls. Usibelli provided a State-permitted disposal facility for non-hazardous solid waste for this project. That resulted in significant savings in AAMLRP's haulage and disposal costs.

A partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) Reclamation of Abandoned Mine Sites program involved a demonstration project in September 2006. AAMLRP helped the Corps construct two gold mine closures with pre-fabricated steel gates in the Hatcher Pass area outside Anchorage. The State provided contract planning and on-site monitoring expertise and COE wrote and awarded the contract and paid for the State's time.

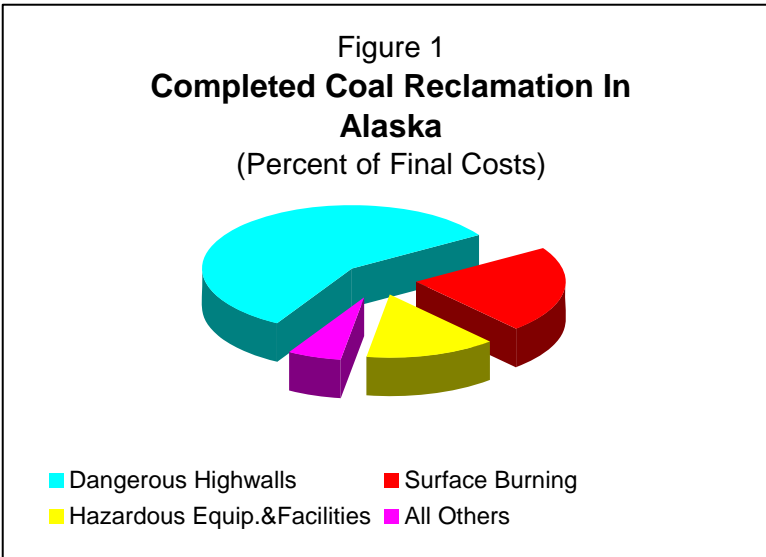
In May 2007, AAMLRP organized and hosted the Northern Latitudes Mining Reclamation Workshop in partnership with the Yukon Geological Survey, the Northwest Territory’s Water Resources Division, and private industry. This international conference brought together about 200 representatives of the mining industry, Canada’s First Nations, Alaska Natives, Canadian and U.S. Governments, and the public to share information about reclamation, remediation, and land management in northern or comparable environments.

AAMLRP has lead responsibility for maintaining and scheduling an interagency training room in the State office. This facility has twelve fully integrated workstations and a built-in computer projector. A variety of government and private sector groups use it frequently. Private sector users provide free training for State employees in lieu of user fees. AAMLRP and Alaska’s coal regulatory program benefit from the training opportunities this arrangement provides.

V. Accomplishments and Inventory Reports

Title IV of SMCRA stresses reclamation of abandoned coal mine-related problems because active mining operations pay a fee on each ton of coal produced to generate the AMR Fund. The Alaska Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program continues to reclaim abandoned coal mines because it has not certified under section 411 of SMCRA that all its known coal problems have been addressed. At the same time, Alaska also requests funding to abate priority 1 noncoal mine hazards under section 409(c) of SMCRA.

Reclamation of Alaska’s abandoned coal mine problems cost over \$11.2 million since the Secretary approved the State’s program in late 1983. To date, Alaska’s coal projects abated hazards associated with 10,220 linear feet of dangerous highwalls, 1,468 structures and pieces of equipment, 47 acres of spoil areas and almost 21 acres of surface burning. Just over 94 percent of the \$11.2 million used for coal reclamation paid for AAMLRP’s abatement of dangerous highwalls (57.7%), surface burning (22.2%), and hazardous equipment and facilities (14.2%). Figure 1 (right) illustrates AAMLRP’s completed reclamation of



priority 1, 2, and 3 coal problems as percentages of final costs. Appendix 1 shows completed units and final costs of Alaska’s coal reclamation in greater detail, including the ten types of coal problems included as “all others” in Figure 1 above.

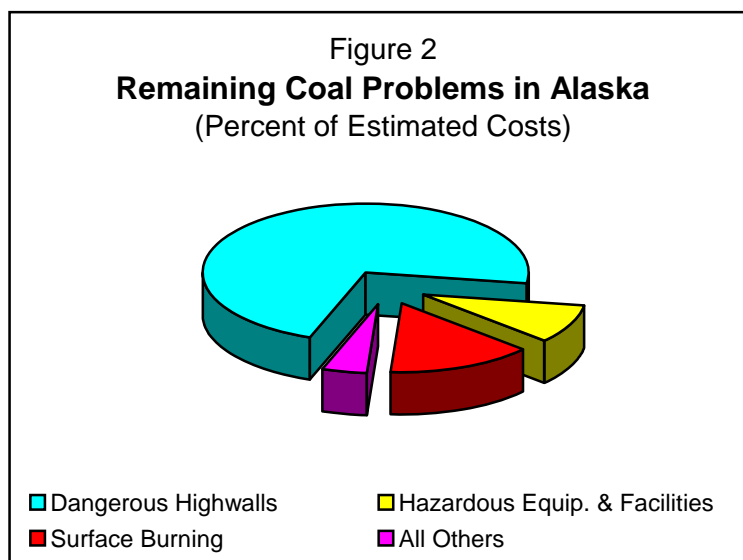
AAMLRP worked on three coal projects during the 2007 evaluation period and solicited bids on a fourth project. All work except revegetation was complete on the Jonesville Fire Phase 2 project near Sutton by the end of June 2007. This project addressed about 20 acres of surface burning. Work began on the Eska Creek Phase 1 project and the Eska Creek Subsidence Pit 1a emergency project near Sutton by the end of the evaluation period. The Eska Creek projects will address two vertical openings (including the emergency subsidence feature), six hazardous structures, and two acres of subsidence. The Program solicited bids on the Suntrana Tipple Phase 3 project near Healy during the 2007 period and opened bids shortly after the beginning of the 2008 evaluation year. Phase 3 of this project will remove the grizzly, conveyor, and coal car loading structure. Appendix 2 shows updates AAMLRP made to AMLIS for completed reclamation during the year. However, those data do not reflect all the work done on the projects mentioned above because they were not yet complete by June 30, 2007.

Figure 2 (below right) compares the estimated costs of reclaiming Alaska's unfunded abandoned coal mine problems currently inventoried in AMLIS. The estimated cost of abating remaining abandoned coal mine hazards currently inventoried in AMLIS totals \$47,015,609. That figure represents an increase of more than \$6.9 million in the estimated cost of abating

Alaska's coal problems since the 2006 evaluation year. About 95.5 percent of the State's remaining coal problems involve dangerous highwalls (71.9%), surface burning (14.4%), and hazardous equipment and facilities (9.2%).

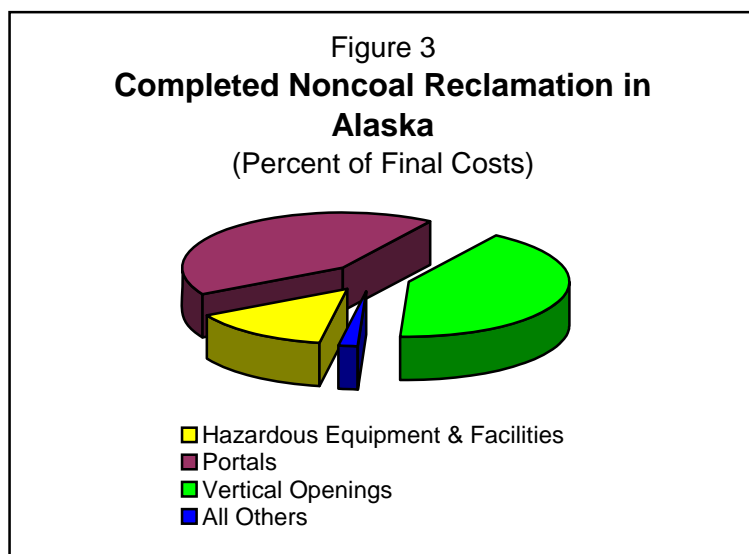
The remaining 4.5 percent of Alaska's coal problems, shown as "all others" in figure 2 (right) include dangerous piles and embankments, portals and vertical openings, and lower

priority mine openings, haul roads, and equipment and facilities. Stated differently, about 96.1 percent of the estimated \$47,015,609 cost of reclaiming Alaska's remaining inventoried coal problems is associated with unfunded priority 1 and 2 problems. The remaining 3.9 percent, or \$1,852,500, is the estimated cost of addressing unfunded priority 3 problems. As amended in the 2006 Act, section 403 of SMCRA might enable Alaska to reprioritize some of those priority 3 problems if they are, or were, located adjacent to priority 1 or 2 problems. Appendix 1 shows Alaska's remaining unfunded coal problems and the estimated costs of addressing them in greater detail.



AAMLRP updated AMLIS during the 2007 evaluation year to better reflect remaining coal problems, show the coal work presently funded, and to show its coal reclamation accomplishments. The table in Appendix 2 shows the changes the Program made to AMLIS during the year. As noted above, those updates added over \$6.9 million in unfunded coal problems to the inventory. Unfunded problems showing increased units and cost estimates include surface burning, hazardous equipment and facilities, and vertical openings. The unfunded cost of portals decreased slightly as the result of adjusting the estimated reclamation costs at the same time the overall number of portals remaining to be addressed increased slightly. Appendix 2 also shows the additional coal problems AAMLRP funded in projects during the 2007 evaluation year, including hazardous equipment and facilities, subsidence, and vertical openings. It also shows that the Program incurred increased costs of abating surface burning. Last, Appendix 2 shows AAMLRP's coal accomplishments as reported during the year. These data do not reflect the cost of the Program's work on surface burning, which it largely completed before the end of the evaluation year on June 30, 2007, but will pay for and report after revegetation work is completed later in the year. AAMLRP plans to further update AMLIS to include a number of significant coal problems that, for unknown reasons, were not previously inventoried. The cover photo of the Center Pit near Healy is an example of one of those problems.

Alaska is limited to abating priority 1 noncoal hazards under section 409(c) of SMCRA as an uncertified State except in rare instances where abatement of a lower priority hazard would be necessary to abate a priority 1 problem. Figure 3 (left) compares the

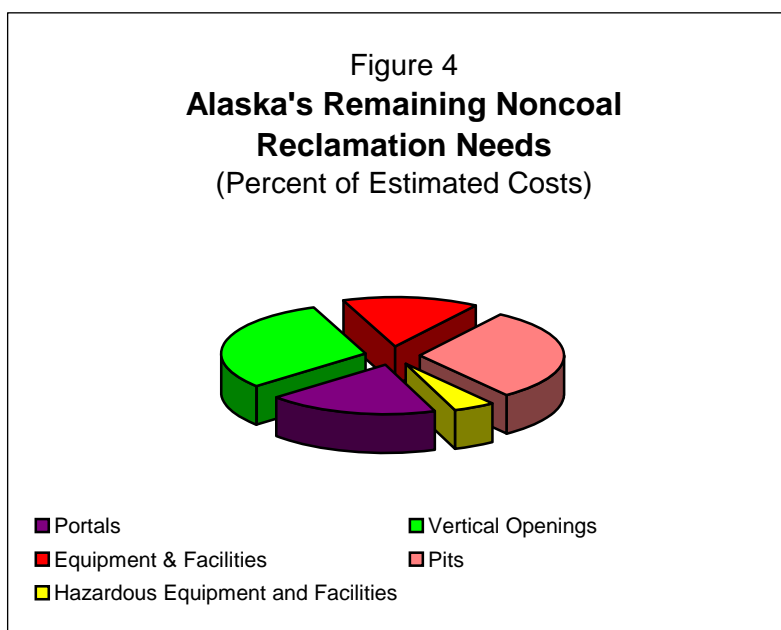


final costs of reclaiming each type of inventoried noncoal hazard based on AMLIS data. Abating hazards associated with vertical openings, portals, and hazardous equipment and facilities equipment and facilities required about 98.1 percent of the \$976,499 spent to date in combined funding from Alaska's SMCRA grants and other sources by the end of the 2007 period. Closures of portals and vertical openings made up about 42 and 41.8 percent of that total cost, respectively, followed by the

cost of addressing hazardous equipment and facilities at 14.3 percent. Reclaiming dangerous highwalls and dangerous piles and embankments made up the remaining 1.9 percent of Alaska's noncoal completion costs. That percentage is represented by "all others" in Figure 3 above. Appendix 3 shows Alaska's noncoal reclamation accomplishments since program approval in greater detail.

The Program contracted for construction on one noncoal project and committed to partially fund a cooperative project during the 2007 evaluation year. The State opened bids for the Ester Dome project in mid June 2007 and expected to award a contract in time for work to begin by the end of July 2007. That project will address about seven mine openings. Also, AAMLRP cooperated with the National Park Service to plan work associated with closing a subsidence opening at the Jumbo Mine in the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve. That work is postponed until the National Park Service can determine if a recent rock slide adequately closed the subsidence opening.

AMLIS data show Alaska has inventoried an estimated total of \$661,000 in unfunded priority 1 and 3 noncoal problems. This is a net decrease of \$986,000 in unfunded costs shown in AMLIS over the past year. That decrease resulted from removing 20 acres of priority 3 spoil area with an estimated reclamation cost of \$1 million and adding 2 vertical openings with an estimated abatement cost of \$14,000. Appendix 4 shows the changes AAMLRP made to AMLIS during the evaluation in greater detail. Changes



that remove and add unfunded units and costs reflect AAMLRP's near-term plans for noncoal reclamation and possibly changes in the status of problems in the field. Changes to the completion data show AAMLRP's reclamation accomplishments and adjust the data to better show how the Program attributed reclaimed units and final costs to cooperating agencies for AMLIS reporting purposes. We note, however, that Alaska's inventory of unfunded noncoal problems is not complete for State, Native,

and private lands. As such, AMLIS does not depict the full scope of the State's unfunded noncoal problem. Also, unfunded noncoal units and costs are based on preliminary data and rough estimates, respectively. Alaska's current inventory of priority 1 vertical openings, portals, and hazardous equipment and facilities makes up about 54.6 percent of the \$661,000 estimated unfunded total cost. The State presently does not have unfunded priority 2 noncoal problems in AMLIS. Priority 3 equipment and facilities and pits make up the remaining 45.4 percent of Alaska's estimated unfunded cost of noncoal hazard abatement. Figure 4 (above left) compares the estimated costs of reclaiming Alaska's remaining unfunded noncoal problems, based on AMLIS data shown in greater detail in Appendix 3.

Appendix 1

Alaska Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program

Coal Reclamation Accomplishments Since December 23, 1983, and Remaining Reclamation Needs*

Problem Type and Description	Unfunded		Funded		Completed		Total	
	Units	Costs	Units	Costs	Units	Costs	Units	Costs
Dangerous Highwalls	12,500 feet	\$33,801,109	0	0	10,220 feet	\$6,411,380	22,720 feet	\$40,212,489
Dangerous Impoundments	0 (count)	0	0	0	4 (count)	\$79,362	4 (count)	\$79,362
Dangerous Piles & Embankments	5 acres	\$150,000	0	0	3.5 acres	\$12,959	8.5 acres	\$162,959
Equipment & Facilities	10 (count)	\$1,760,000	0	0	0	0	10 (count)	\$1,760,000
Gobs	0	0	0	0	6.5 acres	\$11,493	6.5 acres	\$11,493
Hazardous Equipment & Facilities	48 (count)	\$4,311,000	11	\$139,749	1,468 (count)	\$1,589,799	1,527 (count)	\$6,040,548
Haul Road	5 acres	\$17,500	0	0	0	0	5 acres	\$17,500
Hazardous Water Body	0	0	0	0	2 (count)	\$123,640	2 (count)	\$123,640
Industrial / Residential Waste	0	0	0	0	4 acres	\$266,370	4 acres	\$266,370
Mine Openings	1 (count)	\$75,000	0	0	0	0	1 (count)	\$75,000
Portals	6 (count)	\$17,000	0	0	7 (count)	\$52,985	13 (count)	\$69,985
Subsidence	0	0	2.0 acres	\$28,286	0	0	2.0 acres	\$28,286
Spoil Area	0	0	0	0	47 acres	\$84,935	47 acres	\$84,935
Surface Burning	34 acres	\$6,750,000	15 acres	\$1,908,000	20.8 acres	\$2,488,438	69.8 acres	\$11,146,438
Slurry	0	0	0	0	9 acres	\$10,000	9 acres	\$10,000
Slump	0	0	0	0	25.0 acres	\$11,000	25.0 acres	\$11,000
Vertical Openings	7 (count)	\$134,000	2(count)	\$11,093	4 (count)	\$67,751	13 (count)	\$212,844
ALASKA TOTAL COSTS		\$47,015,609		\$2,087,128		\$11,210,112		\$60,312,849

* This table is based on a Problem Type Unit and Cost Summary Report from the Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System as of July 19, 2007. Coal accomplishments and costs shown are the same whether reported as SMCRA-funded only or as funded by all sources.

Appendix 2

Alaska Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program

Coal Reclamation Accomplishments and Inventory Changes in the 2007 Evaluation Year

Problem Type and Description	Unfunded		Funded		Completed		Total	
	Units	Costs	Units	Costs	Units	Costs	Units	Costs
Hazardous Equipment & Facilities	+30 (count)	+\$1,869,000	+11 (count)	+\$139,749			+41 (count)	+\$2,008,749
Portals	+2 (count)	-\$23,000			+3 (count)	+\$6,973	+5 (count)	-\$14,950
Subsidence			+2 acres	+\$28,286			+2 acres	+\$28,286
Surface Burning	+20 acres	+\$5,000,000		+\$128,000			+20 acres	+\$5,128,000
Slump					+25 acres	+\$10,975	+25 acres	+\$10,975
Vertical Openings	-2 (count)	+\$59,000	+2 (count)	+\$11,093				+\$70,093

* This table is based on a comparison of Problem Type Unit and Cost Summary Reports from the Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System as of July 5, 2006, and July 19, 2007. Coal accomplishments and costs shown are the same whether reported as SMCRA-funded only or as funded by all sources.

Appendix 3

Alaska Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program

Noncoal Reclamation Accomplishments Since December 23, 1983, and Remaining Reclamation Needs*

Problem Type and Description	Unfunded		Funded		Completed		Total	
	Units	Costs	Units	Costs	Units	Costs	Units	Costs
Dangerous Highwalls	0	0	0	0	70 (feet)	\$13,350	70 (feet)	\$13,350
Dangerous Piles & Embankments	0	0	0	0	2 acres	\$5,000	2 acres	\$5,000
Equipment and Facilities	1.5 (count)	\$100,000	0	0	0	0	1.5 (count)	\$100,000
Hazardous Equipment & Facilities	2 (count)	\$32,000	0	0	13 (count)	\$139,613	15 (count)	\$171,613
Portals	20 (count)	\$127,000	1 (count)	\$2,000	35 (count)	\$410,754	56 (count)	\$539,754
Pits	3 acres	\$200,000	0	0	0	0	3 acres	\$200,000
Subsidence	0	0	3.4 acres: SMCRA	\$21,000: SMCRA	0	0	3.4 acres: SMCRA	\$21,000: SMCRA
			4 acres: all sources	\$54,800: all sources			4 acres: all sources	\$54,800: all sources
Vertical Openings	30 (count)	\$202,000	3 (count)	\$7,000	32.7(count): SMCRA	\$386,782: SMCRA	65.7 (count): SMCRA	\$595,782: SMCRA
					34 (count): all sources	\$407,782: all sources	67 (count): all sources	\$616,782: all sources
ALASKA TOTAL COSTS		\$661,000		\$30,000: SMCRA		\$928,499: SMCRA		\$1,619,499: SMCRA
				\$63,800: all sources		\$976,499: all sources		\$1,701,299: all sources

* This table is based on a Problem Type Unit and Cost Summary Report from the Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System as of July 19, 2007. AMLIS does not include a complete inventory of Alaska's unfunded noncoal problems.

Appendix 4

Alaska Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program

Noncoal Reclamation Accomplishments and Inventory Changes in the 2007 Evaluation Year

Problem Type and Description	Unfunded		Funded		Completed		Total	
	Units	Costs	Units	Costs	Units	Costs	Units	Costs
Portals			-4 (count)	-\$68,000	+8 (count)	+\$140,090	+4 (count)	+\$72,090
Spoil Areas	-20 acres	-\$1,000,000					-20 acres	-\$1,000,000
Subsidence			+3.4 acres: SMCRA	+\$21,000: SMCRA			+3.4 acres: SMCRA	+\$21,000: SMCRA
			+4 acres: all sources	+\$54,800: all sources			+4 acres: all sources	+\$54,800: all sources
Vertical Openings	+2 (count)	+\$14,000	+1 (count)	-\$23,000	-0.3(count): SMCRA	+\$14,136: SMCRA	+2.7 (count): SMCRA	+\$5,136: SMCRA
					+1 (count): all sources	\$17,136: all sources	+4 (count): all sources	+\$8,136: all sources

* This table is based on a comparison of Problem Type Unit and Cost Summary Reports from the Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System as of July 5, 2006, and July 19, 2007.

Appendix 5

State Comments on the Report

As we have experienced in past evaluations, OSMRE has done a very thorough and professional analysis of the Alaska AML Program. We concur with the findings of this Report. The items that they bring to our attention all serve to assist us as we strive to make the Alaska AML Program worthy of being used by OSMRE as an example of what a State Program should be – from program management to accomplishments on the ground. The ongoing support, encouragement and, at times, patience of the entire OSMRE staff are always appreciated with special thanks to the staff at the Western Regional and Denver Field Division offices.

We look forward to the accelerated mitigation of past coal sites as the grant funding for Minimum Program States is increased under the 2006 SMCRA Amendments.

Joe Wehrman
Alaska ML Program manager