

Partnerships and Collaboration with Federal, State and Local Agencies

DTSC collaborates with federal, state and local agencies and other AML stakeholders to help pool resources for the investigation and cleanup of AML sites, as well as for other issues, such as area assessments, research efforts and community outreach. By collaborating with other stakeholders, which contribute additional funds or in-kind services, DTSC leverages funds and fosters a multi-agency approach in order to maximize the number of AML sites that can be identified, characterized and cleaned up if necessary.

DTSC's Abandoned Mine Lands Partners

- [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#): The U.S. EPA leads the nation's environmental science, research, education and assessment efforts. The mission of the U.S. EPA is to protect human health and the environment. Since 1970, the U.S. EPA has been working for a cleaner, healthier environment for the American people.
- [U.S. Geological Survey](#): The U.S. Geological Survey serves the nation by providing reliable scientific information to describe and understand Earth; minimize loss of life and property from natural disasters; manage water, biological, energy and mineral resources; and enhance and protect our quality of life.
- [U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service](#): The U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service is a federal agency that manages public lands in national forests and grasslands. The Forest Service is also the largest forestry research organization in the world and provides technical and financial assistance to other agencies.
- [U.S. Bureau of Land Management](#): The U.S. Bureau of Land Management's AML program enhances public safety and improves water quality by reducing or eliminating the effects of past hardrock mining in the western United States.
- [California Abandoned Mine Lands Agency Group](#): DTSC is actively involved in coordinating AML site investigations and remediation with private, local, state and federal agencies. DTSC participates in the quarterly meetings of the California Abandoned Mine Lands Agency Group, a workgroup of local, state and



federal agencies that was developed to provide coordination and opportunities to discuss the respective agencies' involvement in the oversight of AML sites.

- **[Abandoned Mine Lands Forum](#)**: DSTC also participates in the quarterly meetings of California's Abandoned Mine Lands Forum, which is a group of federal, state and local environmental, health and land management agencies, as well as private parties, that work together to address environmental and physical threats posed by mining waste.

- **[California Department of Conservation Abandoned Mine Lands Unit](#)**: The Abandoned Mine Lands Unit was created in 1997 to prepare a report to the governor and Legislature on the "magnitude and scope" of the AML issue in California. The Department of Conservation also runs the Abandoned Mine Lands Forum, which provides a venue for discussion and coordination on water quality, safety and environmental hazard issues that agencies and other groups face with their AML remediation projects in California.



- **[Sierra Nevada Conservancy](#)**: The Sierra Nevada Conservancy is a state agency created by bipartisan legislation and signed into law by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2004. It was created with the understanding that the environmental, economic and social well-beings of the Sierra Nevada and its communities are closely linked and that the region would benefit from an organization providing a strategic direction.
- **[California State Water Resources Control Board and Regional Water Quality Control Boards](#)**: The mission of the State Water Resources Control Board and California's Regional Water Quality Control Boards is to preserve, enhance and restore the quality of California's water resources and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use for the benefit of present and future generations.

- **California State Parks**: California State Parks manages more than 270 park units, which contain the finest and most diverse collection of natural, cultural and recreational resources within California.

- **Sierra Fund**: The Sierra Fund's mission is to protect and preserve the Sierra Nevada. The Sierra Fund works with public donors and private agencies to increase and organize conservation investments in the land, air, water and human resources of the Sierra Nevada.



- **California Indian Environmental Alliance**: The California Indian Environmental Alliance was created in 2006 by California tribal representatives and advocates to address mining contaminants, including mercury left from the California gold rush of 1849. The alliance's core program work is the Mining Toxins and Tribal Health Program.