Central Hazardous Materials Fund
20th Anniversary – Fulfilling the Promise; Restoring Our Lands

Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
September 23, 2014
Introduction

* Background on Interior
* 1872 Mining Act and Impact on DOI
* Central Hazardous Materials Fund
* Overview of Projects
The Department of the Interior
Your Interior
Established in 1849 as the Home Department and later called the Department of the Interior

Initially setup to manage the General Land Office, the Patent Office, the Indian Affairs Office and military pension offices.

Some early responsibilities included:

- Construction of the Nation’s Capital water system
- Oversight of DC jail
- Management of hospitals and universities
1872 Mining Act

• New Territories lacked legal guidance for mining
• Although supported by States and territories, it was illegal to mine on Federal public lands
• Several mining laws were passed in 1860s to deal with hard rock and placer mines
• These were combined in the 1872 Mining Act
Act’s Impact to Interior Lands
Central Hazardous Materials Fund

- Department-Wide Fund – Established in 1995
  - Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
  - Involved Bureaus – BIA, BLM, BOR, FWS, NPS & USGS
- CERCLA Response Actions
- Cost Recovery and Cost Avoidance
Types of CHF Funded Sites

- AML: 48%
- Industrial: 23%
- Landfill: 18%
- Other: 11%
CHF Progress to Date

- Response Action Taken at 65 sites
- Completed cleanup at 20 sites
Saginaw Hill, AZ

- Bureau of Land Management
  - Approximately 540 acres
  - BLM Land surrounded by Private land
  - **Contaminants** – Arsenic, lead, mercury
  - **Status** – O&M
Manning Canyon Mill Site, UT

- Bureau of Land Management
  - Part of the Mercur Mining District
  - In-Kind Services
  - **Contaminants** – Arsenic, Mercury, Lead
  - **Status** – O&M
Matheson Ore Transfer Station, CA

- Bureau of Reclamation Lead
  - Part of the Iron Mountain Mine Superfund Site
  - **Contaminants** – Arsenic, Lead, Sulfuric Acid
  - **Status** – Completed
    - Shasta Area Rails to Trails System runs through the site
Krejci Dump Site, OH

- National Park Service
- Former Municipal and Industrial Salvage Yard within the Cuyahoga Valley National Park
- Cost Recovery/Cost Avoidance
- Contaminants – PCBs, Dioxin, PAHs, Pesticides, Benzene, Metals
- Status – Monitoring re-vegetation efforts
On-Going and Future Work

* 1.16 Billion
  * Estimated financial need for CERCLA response within the Department

* 70.65 Million
  * Estimated need is for AMLs
Tar Creek Superfund Site, OK

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Lead Agency
- Bureau of Indian Affairs – Technical Lead
  - Part of the Tri-State Mining District
  - Put on the National Priorities List in 1984
  - Site is Approximately 40 square miles
  - Contaminants – Lead, Zinc, Cadmium
  - Status – Study & Construction (Multiple OUs)
Formosa Mine NPL Site, OR

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Lead Agency for OU1 & 2
  - EPA is Implementing Remedial Actions to address both OUs
- Bureau of Land Management – Lead for BLM land
  - BLM’s Performing a Removal Action to Address Formosa Adit 1
  - Contaminants – Cadmium, Copper, Zinc
  - Status – Study & Implementation of the TCRA
Idaho Phosphate Mines, ID

* Involved Agencies
  * U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
  * Bureau of Indian Affairs
  * Bureau of Land Management
  * U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
  * U.S. Forest Service
  * Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

* Contaminants – Selenium, Zinc, Cadmium

* Status - Studies

Map Source – Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, “Southeast Idaho Phosphate Mining.”
Orphan Mine, AZ

- National Park Service
  - Grand Canyon National Park
  - Mined for Copper and Uranium
  - **Contaminants** – Metals & Radionuclides
  - **Status** - Studies
Lake Roosevelt, WA

* U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
* Bureau of Indian Affairs
* Bureau of Reclamation
* U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
* National Park Service
* U.S. Geological Survey
  * Contaminants – Arsenic, Zinc, Cadmium, Lead
  * Status – Study
Questions