

BULLETIN

Northwest Mining Association

JANUARY/
FEBRUARY 2004

2003 Annual Meeting & Exposition – The Best in Five Years

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The 2003 Annual Meeting & Exposition (December 2-6) was a resounding success. For those unable to attend, NWMA was proud to host over 1,100 attendees, 80 exhibitors occupying 86 exhibit spaces, more than 160 mining industry and government professionals from the US and Canada participated as session chairs, speakers, and short course presenters. Having outgrown the Doubletree Hotel, the meeting moved to the Red Lion Hotel at the Park (formerly Cavanaugh's), where the mood was highly optimistic, full of excitement, and crowded. The new venue received rave reviews from everyone.

Highlights included the Welcoming Luncheon on Wednesday with Keynote speaker Congressman George Nethercutt. Representative Nethercutt is one of mining's strongest supporters in Congress, and provided the audience with his views on the industry.

Thursday, the Industry Outlook Luncheon featured Harvard University Professor Alan Berger. Mr. Berger is a landscape architect and instructor in Harvard's Design School. He is also the author and photographer of the award winning book, *Reclaiming The American West*. His outstanding and thought provoking talk was well received. Berger challenged his audience to focus on conveying the story of reclamation to the public, not the story of how important mining is. He encouraged industry to develop a white paper on International Best Reclamation practices. Examples of his inspiring photographs were on display in the exhibit halls.

Don Birak, Opal Adams and the session chairs organized an outstanding technical program. Many sessions were standing room only. It was great to have SEG back involved. The SEG sponsored session on zinc was organized by NWMA Trustee Eric Cheney. Thanks Eric! 2003 also marked a return of Large Left Lateral Leaps to its geological roots. NWMA Trustee Paul Dirksen deserves the credit for teaming up the USGS with long time LLLL guru Stan Keith to produce an outstanding session.

The Legislative Affairs session featured the hardrock mining industry's #1 advocate and supporter in Congress, Representative Jim Gibbons (NV). Representative Gibbons outlines his efforts to streamline the permitting process, eliminate frivolous lawsuits and establish a strong National Minerals Policy. Also speaking at the session were Mountain States Legal Foundation President Perry Pendley, Skip Underwood, Director of the USFS Division of Minerals & Geology, Con Lass, Chief of Staff, Bureau of Land Management, Dan Garza, Deputy Director, External and Intergovernmental Affairs, U.S. Department of Interior, and former NWMA Trustee and current Legislative Staff to the House Resources Committee, Subcommittee on Energy & Mineral Resources, Kathy Benedetto.

Many exhibitors commented favorably in particular on the coffee breaks each morning in the exhibit halls, and were greatly impressed with the welcoming reception on Wednesday night in the exhibit halls. From 4:30 till well past the official closing of 6:30, this reception provided exhibitors and attendees the perfect chance to talk in a relaxed atmosphere. On Thursday, the hotel did more than \$7,500 in bar business and 90% took place in the exhibit halls.

The best indicator of the success of the 109th Meeting is the degree of increase over the 108th Annual Meeting. Attendance was up by more than 25%, exhibit spaces up 30%, and onsite exhibitor renewals for 2004 were at 35%. Exhibit booth reservations for 2004 are going fast. Call now to reserve your space for what is sure to be an even bigger and better 110th Annual Meeting & Exposition.



10 North Post Street, Ste. 220
Spokane, WA 99201
Tel: 509/624-1158
Fax: 509/623-1241
website: www.nwma.org
Laura Skaer, Executive Director
Pat Heywood, Layout & Design
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NWMA Presents Members Awards at 109th Annual Meeting

Northwest Mining Association (NWMA) honored several longtime members at the 109th Annual Meeting. The 2003 President's Award went to **Michael McClave** for his leadership role in bringing the Army Corps of Engineers and NWMA together to effectively address the issue of reclaiming abandoned mine sites. Mike, a long-standing member and Association supporter as well a current member of the Board of Trustees, is the former Vice-President of Asarco Exploration of Canada. He is currently an independent minerals resource consultant for base and precious metals acquisitions.

The Distinguished Service Award for leadership and outstanding service to the minerals industry was awarded to Representative Jim Gibbons (R-NV). Representative Gibbons is the leading advocate in Congress for a National Minerals Policy that promotes a strong domestic mining industry, ensure supplies of minerals strategic to national and domestic economy interests, and contributes to sustainable rural communities. The industry recognizes Representative Gibbons for being one of the first in Congress to urge Secretary Norton to overturn John Leshy's Millsite Opinion.

John Rishel received the Distinguished Service Award posthumously. John worked at the House Resources Committee and was passionate about exploration and mining. He brought years of experience as a geologist and a professional knowledge to his position. John passed away in May, 2003 after a six-bypass heart operation.

This years Honorary Life Member Award is NWMA's highest individual award recognition and this year went to two people: **Paul Jones**, President of Sovereign Gold Company, and **Earl Bennett**, former Dean of the College of Mines and Earth Resources at the University of Idaho and Director of the Idaho Geological Society.

Paul is a former trustee and past president of the Association. He is a former Executive Director of the Minerals Exploration Coalition. Paul helped the industry respond to its first major environmental crisis at Summitville and has been a long-time advocate for the social and environmental responsibility of mining. Earl has served as a trustee, was active in NWMA's centennial program, and has received high praise for his contributions to the State and Province reports at the Annual Meeting. His focus on education of all ages about mining and minerals exploration has earned him tremendous respect.



Crown Resources received the 2002 Platinum Award for Corporate Excellence for its Buckhorn Mountain Project on Okanogan County, WA. The company took an orphan project with an unwanted and unwelcome plan, and in less than 18 months, re-engineered it to dramatically reduce environmental impacts, create widespread support among government and local communities, and attract a senior partner to develop the project.

The Starter's Award is given to an individual or organization that develops a good-working program that will benefit society. This year, the **Army Corps of Engineers** Restoration of Abandoned Mine Sites (RAMS) was the recipient. The program positions RAMS to act as an equal partner at most abandoned mine sites while supporting activities and priorities set by federal, state, tribal, and other entities. The RAMS program leader approached NWMA last year asking for assistance in mining education and training, resulting in intense program developed by and implemented by NWMA. RAMS and NWMA have been closely associated since 1999, and RAMS has been an Association member since 2000.

NWMA congratulates all recipients and thanks them for their contributions to the Association and the mining industry.

Environmental Excellence Award Presented at NWMA's Annual Meeting

The Northwest Mining Association has awarded ARCO Environmental Remediation with the Presidential Environmental Excellence Award in recognition of its efforts to create a positive environment to the surrounding communities and exemplify best practices in the industry. The award was presented Tuesday evening at the Association's 109th Annual Meeting, Exposition and Short Courses in Spokane, Washington.

In seeking innovative cleanup in Montana, ARCO has employed a strategy designed to maximize overall benefits. ARCO has worked closely with local governments and community groups to achieve these goals. As a result of this partnership approach, the communities are becoming better places to live and are increasing their ability to be economically self-sustaining. Local communities are assisting ARCO in managing remediation and long-term management costs, and are helping in the acceleration of the cleanup work.

The Environmental Excellence Award is given to individuals or companies where mining and reclamation activities have demonstrated a high-level commitment to the principles embodied in the Association's "Statement of Environmental Principles." ARCO has shown leadership in this effort with its superior environmental performance and a proactive approach to Sustainable Development.

"By working with the local communities and government agencies, ARCO has demonstrated how mining and communities can co-exist in a way that is a win-win for everyone," said Laura Skaer, executive director, the Northwest Mining Association. "Community involvement and partnerships such as this, have led to several cleanup solutions in the Clark Fork Basin that are viewed as national models for successful remediation."

ARCO's partnership with the Anaconda-Deer Lodge County resulted in the creation of the famous Jack Nicklaus designed "Old Works Golf Course." ARCO provided financial assistance to the county to complete its master plan and conducted a cost-effective remedy: the golf course.

Student Poster Session Judged a Tie

The 2003 Student Poster Session first place award was awarded to two students, Benjamin George from Colorado School of Mines, and Nate Chutas from the University of Washington. Posters are judged by members of the Board of Trustees based on presentation of the posters and the knowledge of the students in the course of informal conversations.

Benjamin's poster was titled 'Slope Stability Analysis and Industrial Mineral Resource Assessment of the Nez Perce Indian Tribe Mission Creek Quarry, Lewis County, Idaho'. He received his BS in Geological Engineering (and a minor in Civil Engineering) from the Colorado School of Mines and is currently working on his graduate degree. His poster reflected the subject of his thesis. After receiving his degree, Benjamin is planning on entering industry.

Nate's poster was titled 'Thermal History of La Colorada Ag-Deposit, Zacatecas, Mexico'. His BS was earned at Mount Union College, Alliance, Ohio and his MS at the University of Washington working on the K-2 gold deposit (Curlaw, WA). His PhD will be related to the study of ore processes in Ag-deposits, specifically in relation to galena. Nate would like to continue to examine ore-forming processes either in academia or industry.

NWMA congratulates Benjamin and Nate on their outstanding efforts, and would like to encourage students to participate in the 2004 Student Poster Session.



SAVE THESE DATES!!

DECEMBER 6~10 2004

Convention chair **Opal Adams**, Enviroscientists, Inc. and co-chair **Ann Carpenter**, Domestic & International Mineral Development, are well into the planning stages of our 2004 Annual Meeting. Short

Courses will be held on Monday and Tuesday this year, while Technical Sessions and Exhibits remain Wednesday, Thursday and Friday morning.

The show will be held again at the Red Lion Hotel at the Park - Spokane. Events will include the Awards Reception, Welcoming Reception, Alumni Reception, Student Poster Session, and various hospitality events. Watch for registration and reservation information.

• TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The track outline will be much the same as last year. **Mineral Deposits, Geology & Exploration** will bring in State & Province Reports, New Discoveries, a Geology session with Eric Cheney and SEG. USGS will again join forces with LLLL, Geophysics - New Technologies and BC & Yukon. **Business & Finance** track will host Growth Companies, Finance and Investors sessions. **Operations** brings back another Mining Energy session along with Operations and Industrial Minerals. The **Legislative and Public Affairs** area will include a new format for Mining and Communities, and Legislative & Regulatory Affairs. The **Environment** track will address Environmental Issues as well as Reclamation Success Stories.

• CALL FOR PAPERS

If you are interested in giving a paper in one of these session please e-mail your abstract along with your contact information to Pat Heywood at Northwest Mining Association - pheywood@nwma.org.

• EXPOSITION

We are happy to report that as of February 1 our exhibit space is more than half filled. We anticipate a sold out show and urge you to sign up now to reserve your space. The hotel has addressed our issues from 2003. The roll-up door area has been weatherproofed and the isles will be carpeted. Exhibitor Presentations will be back on the program. Contact Pat at NWMA for more information.

• SHORT COURSES

Short courses are in the planning stages. We would like to have another off-site mine tour symposium, the US Forest Service and BLM will combine forces again, and George M.L. Robinson, of R² Incorporated, has agreed to organize a course on Acid Mine Drainage-Perspectives and Case Studies.

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Contact Mike Heywood for details - (509) 624-1158
fax (509) 623-1241 e-mail mheywood@nwma.org



Former DOI Solicitor William Myers Cleared of Ethics Violations

According to documents released from an investigation by the Interior's Inspector General and a review by the Office of Government Ethics of the activities of the former solicitor, William G. Myers III, no violations of government ethics were found.

The investigation determined that Myers generally sought to avoid ethics conflicts involving groups for whom he had lobbied.

"Mr. Myers' actions show a strong intention to comply with his ethics agreement and the rules governing conduct of government employees," wrote Amy L. Comstock, chief of the Office of Government Ethics, in a letter obtained by The Associated Press.

"Based on the evidence presented in the report of investigation, we have concluded that Mr. Myers did not violate his ethics agreement with regard to any of the meetings raised" in a complaint by environmental groups," wrote Comstock, who was appointed to her post by President Clinton.

"During the course of this investigation, we came across numerous occasions where Myers appropriately sought and subsequently followed ethical advice from either (departmental) attorneys or from the department's ethics office," wrote investigator David A. Montoya.

Environmental groups had asked for an investigation into a series of meetings involving Myers and his former lobbying clients and representatives of the mining and grazing industries.

BLM Requests Nominations For 2004 Awards

The BLM is requesting nominations for the 2004 Reclamation and Sustainable Mineral Development Awards. Solid mineral development operations that practice principles of sustainable development or represent outstanding examples of reclamation or environmental stewardship qualify for nomination.

There are two types of awards. The Hardrock Mineral Environmental Award recognizes efforts in environmental stewardship. Specifically, continuous or repeated efforts to meet or beat all reclamation requirements with minimal oversight are sought. In addition to high quality reclamation, an operator may have demonstrated a commitment to reducing the footprint thereby reducing the need for reclamation.

The Hardrock Mineral Award for Community Outreach and Economic Security recognizes efforts shown for community responsibilities and economic benefits of mineral development. This would include projects with local and regional stakeholders, contributions to the quality of life, concern for community long-term health, and use of new or innovative techniques allowing successful operations in critical environmental settings.

Detailed information regarding nominations, the selection process can be found at www.blm.gov. Nominations must be received by March 1, 2004. The awards will be presented at MINExPO on September 27, 2004. This is an outstanding opportunity for NWMA members to demonstrate that modern mining is both environmentally and socially responsible.

Nature Conservancy to be Audited by IRS

The world's largest environmental organization, the Nature Conservancy, will soon have a team of IRS auditors in its offices in Arlington, Virginia. The IRS will examine the Conservancy's 2002 tax returns.

Several former IRS employees indicated that this would be a major audit, one of consequence and could take a year or longer. Former IRS commissioner Donald C. Alexander said that the scope of the audit indicates that this is an extraordinary case, "It is an indication of a pretty strong audit."

The Nature Conservancy has assets of more than \$3 billion and ranks as the eighth largest non-profit of any type in the nation. The audit follows a series of articles in the *Washington Post* over the past year that examined financial irregularities and conflicts of interest at the Nature Conservancy. Stories reported that the Conservancy had loaned money to board members, repeatedly bought land, added development restrictions and then re-sold the properties at reduced prices to its trustees while the buyers made cash gifts to the Conservancy equal to the difference in price, qualifying for substantial tax deductions.

Stay tuned, and don't be surprised if there are a lot of skeletons in the Nature Conservancy closet.

Fraser Institute Announces 7th Annual Survey of Mining Company Results

The Fraser Institute (an independent public policy organization in Canada) released the results of its' 7th Annual Survey of Mining Companies on January 22. The highly regarded Annual Survey counts 159 participants, including 27 senior mining companies and 132 junior exploration companies. Altogether this represents 70% of total mineral exploration expenditure in Canada, 26% of the USA, and 22% of Australia.

In the survey, companies rate the policy and mineral attractiveness of mining jurisdictions around the world. Those countries which combine attractive geology with mining-friendly policies do best on the overall investment attractiveness index. Examples include Chile, Australia, Quebec, and Nevada. Areas with good geology but with less favorable policies are hurt on the overall Investment Attractiveness Index. British Columbia and Indonesia were noted by the Institute as examples.

The winner of the overall Attractiveness Index was Chile. High scores on both Mineral Potential Index and Policy Potential Index contributed to this ranking (score-92). Top-rated in North America (and number 2 overall) is Nevada with a score of 91. Western Australia and Quebec finished 3 and 4. The other top ten finishers (in order) are Brazil, Peru, Ontario, the Northern Territory (Australia), Russia, and Mexico.

Ranking among the least attractive areas for new investment are Washington, California, South Dakota, and Colorado. Interestingly, despite the recent changes in policy in British Columbia, the province continues to suffer in the rankings due to perception, no doubt due to previous unattractive policies.

Full details of the Survey can be found at www.fraserinstitute.com.



MEMBERS IN THE NEWS...

Gold Resource Corporation in Second Round of Drilling at El Aguila, Oaxaca, Mexico

Gold Resource Corp., a private Colorado Corporation owned 40% by U.S. Gold and **Canyon Resources Corporation** announced results from a second round of exploration drilling at El Aguila, in Oaxaca State, Mexico. Over 6500 feet of drilling encountered various high-grade intercepts. The best interval was 2.96 ounces of gold per ton and 30 ounces of silver per ton over 6 feet. Twelve holes hit intercepts greater than 0.10 ounces of gold per ton.

Drilling continues and Gold Resource has commissioned a pre-feasibility study based on a 750 ton/day mill. Canyon is funding the exploration program and can earn a 50% interest by spending \$3.5 million.

Coeur Rochester Produces its 100th Million Ounce of Silver

The Coeur Rochester Mine near Lovelock, Nevada, one of the largest and lowest cost primary silver mines in the United States, has surpassed 100 million ounces of historic silver production. Rochester is the 7th largest silver mine in the world and also produces a significant amount of gold.

In addition to being one of the world's largest silver mines, Rochester is a beacon of environmental responsibility. It has received 5 major environmental awards, including awards for cultural resource protection, integration of environmental protection measures into permitting activities, and wildlife habitat development and protection. In 2001, Rochester was presented with the Nevada Governor's Award for Excellence in mine reclamation work.

The mine also has an exemplary safety record. Rochester has received the Nevada Mining Association's Safety Award six times in the last eight years, and three of those times were for first place.

Northwest Mining Association congratulates **Coeur d'Alene Mines Corporation** on reaching these important milestones.

San Bartolome & Kensington Show Improved Project Economics

Coeur d'Alene Mines Corporation announced December 29, 2003 that optimization and feasibility work has improved the project economics of San Bartolome (Bolivia, silver) and Kensington (Alaska, gold). Coeur estimates production from both projects will begin in 2006.

San Bartolome is expected to produce 6 million ounces annually at an average cash operating cost of \$2.50 per ounce. Proven and probable reserves are 123 million ounces of silver in silver-bearing gravel deposits, giving a mine life of approximately 14 years. Capital costs are estimated at \$80 million. Commercially recoverable tin is expected to add to the project economics. Final feasibility and permits are expected in the second quarter of 2004.

Kensington, 45 miles north of Juneau, contains an estimated 1.8 million ounces of gold in the proven and probable categories,

with 1.4 million ounces in the resource column. Current projections place capital costs for production at \$75 million. The mine life is planned for 10 years. Permits are expected in the second quarter of 2004.

Final development and construction decisions for both projects will follow completion of permitting.

Constellation Copper Corp. Acquires Copper Porphyry Deposit in Philippines

Constellation Copper Corporation announced the acquisition of the Hinoba, a copper-gold-molybdenum porphyry deposit on Negros Island in the Philippines, from privately held Hinoba Holdings. Hinoba would receive 52 million shares of Constellation, representing 9.9% of the company. In addition, a Hinoba representative will be appointed to the Constellation Board.

Measured and indicated resources were estimated at 240.6 million tons grading 0.37% copper. Former work by International Pursuit (now **Apollo Gold**) indicated simple flotation recovering 90% of the copper. Constellation says sampling in previous work would add gold, silver, and molybdenum credits. Sampling and drilling are planned to assist in the review of the project's technical data. Finalization of the proposal is expected by Feb 15 subject to all normal requirements.

Golden Phoenix Active At Mineral Ridge And Ashdown

Golden Phoenix Minerals announced January 28 that half of the planned drilling program at its Mineral Ridge gold mine in Nevada has been completed. Seven locations have been identified. Five holes were drilled in the Blue Light exploration area on the western edge of the mine. Assays from these drill holes included a 5 foot interval of 1.38 ounces of gold per ton and 0.44 ounces of silver. These initial holes tie in with previous drilling nearby. Additional drilling is planned, to be followed by an economic evaluation. Golden Phoenix believes the potential exists for the development of an open pit mine.

The Brodie Pit saw initial blasting from a 75 hole shot which was designed to prepare the area for mining. Assays from these blast holes revealed a 5 foot interval of 4.7 ounces of gold per ton, with another 5 feet of 1 ounce gold per ton. This is the first blast at the Mineral Ridge Mine.

Current proven and probable reserves are 2.66 million tons averaging 0.079 ounces of gold per ton, for a total of 209,000 total ounces.

Golden Phoenix also recently announced that it has entered into a joint venture with Win-Eldrich Mines for the Ashdown gold-molybdenum property in Humboldt County, NV.

Previous production from Ashdown (1880-1942) was underground and produced approximately 50,000 ounces of gold from ore averaging 0.35 ounces per ton. In recent times (since 1979), four companies (including Win-Eldrich) have spent over \$7 million on core and reverse circulation drilling, metallurgical testing, excavation of a 1,880 foot tunnel for bulk molybdenum samples, and feasibility studies to examine open-pit gold and underground molybdenum potential. *(Continued next page.)*

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS... (Continued)

Past evaluations identified over 1 million tons with a grade of 0.125 ounces of gold per ton, and a separate 146,000 ton molybdenum grading 2.9%. Step-out drilling to explore expansion potential is planned. Golden Phoenix has started the permitting process for a pilot mill (100-200TPD) to process molybdenum ore stockpiled from a previous excavation.

Golden Phoenix can earn a 60% interest in the venture by placing the property into profitable production using a small pilot mill, or by spending \$5 million toward development of the project. Vesting must take place within four years.

Cerro San Pedro Moving To Production

Metallica Resources, Inc. announced on Jan. 12, 2004 that it awarded a contract to provide site development and contract mining services to **Washington Group International** for the Cerro San Pedro gold-silver deposit in central Mexico. The mine life is estimated at 8+ years. The contract has a value of about \$105 million, including \$98 million for contract mining and \$7 million for equipment mobilization. Equipment is expected to be on-site by the end of January.

Construction will begin in the first quarter, with production expected by the end of 2004. Annual production is forecast at over 90,000 ounces of gold and 2 million ounces of silver. Mineable reserves are estimated at 1.2 million ounces of gold.

NWMA congratulates **Ritch Hall** and his team at Metallica on a job well done.

Teck Cominco Increases Holding In Highland Valley Copper

Teck Cominco Ltd. has exercised its' right of first refusal regarding the sale of Rio Algom's 33.57% interest in the Highland Valley Copper partnership. The deal is for \$73 million in cash.

The effective date of the transaction is January 3, 2004. After completion of the agreement (subject to all customary conditions), Teck will own, directly and indirectly, 97.5% interest in the British Columbia mine.

Current mine projections show production of 174,000 metric ton of copper in concentrate over a mine life of 5+ years. Planned copper production for Teck will rise by 28%.

Newmont Raises \$1 Billion, Seeks More

Newmont Mining Corporation recently raised \$1 billion and plans to raise another \$1-2 billion in a stock/debt offering. While the company denies any specific target or plan for an acquisition, rumors abound. A preferred target has yet to emerge, but **Placer Dome, Inc.**, with 3.6 million ounces per year production has been mentioned. Placer is known to have expressed no surprise at the rumor.

Newmont completed its acquisitions of **Franco-Nevada** and **Normandy Mining** in 2002. Newmont is currently the world's largest gold producer at 7.3 million ounces per year, projected to increase to 7.7 in 2004.

Don Birak Joins

Coeur d'Alene Mines Corporation

Coeur d'Alene Mines Corporation announced the appointment of **Don Birak** as Senior Vice President-Exploration. Don was most recently Vice President-Exploration for **AngloGold North America, Inc.** Don will be headquartered in Coeur's Coeur d'Alene, Idaho office where he will oversee the company's worldwide exploration programs, including the Silver Valley in Idaho, Cerro Bayo in Chile, and Martha in Argentina. Don serves on the NWMA's Board of Trustees and was last year's Annual Meeting chairman, where he was responsible for putting together one of the best technical programs in recent memory. In 2001, Don received the Prospector of the Year Award from PDAC. Congratulations Don, and welcome to the great Northwest!

NWMA Welcomes New Corporate Members

ARCO

Bitterroot Restoration, Inc.

Casualty & Surety, Inc.

Darling Environmental & Surveying, Ltd.

Ecological Land Services, Inc.

Godwin Pumps

Global Intermodal Systems, Inc.

Newmont Mining Corporation

Pennaluna & Co.

SAIC

Vivid Learning System, Inc.

WDC Exploration & Wells

WYO-BEN, Inc.

Queenstake Resources USA, Inc.

NWMA thanks these mining industry leaders and looks forward to working with them to promote a healthy domestic exploration and mining industry.

CALL FOR NEWS AND INFORMATION

NWMA is requesting news about our member companies and your activities. If you have not already done so, please put us on your e-mail list for press releases, product information, and all other news of interest that would interest our members.

The *Bulletin* will be adding more news about mining companies, suppliers, and service providers in order to keep our members informed on the latest in exploration, development, and technology in the mining industry.

For more information, (or to provide some!), please contact Mike Heywood at (509) 624-1158 ex 10 or e-mail mheywood@nwma.org.



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Alaska Pacific Powder
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Placer Dome America
Prospector Newspaper

SAIC
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Society of Economic Geologists (SEG)
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The Northern Miner
Tire Distribution Systems (TDS/Sound Tire)

United Central Industrial Supply
US Army Corps of Engineers
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Chair: Joe Baird, Baird-Hanson-Williams LLP

Potential Listing of Sage Grouse as Threatened or Endangered

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has received several petitions to list sage grouse as a threatened or endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Environmental groups have put forth three petitions that address a range-wide listing of sage grouse and the USFWS is currently undertaking the 90-day review of the petitions to determine if they are substantial and have merit.

It is rumored that at least one of the petitions will be found to have merit and the USFWS will enter into a 12-month species status review. If this happens, a 60-day public comment period will be triggered.

The potential listing of sage grouse has implications for not only the mining industry, but all natural resource industries and public land users across the west. NWMA is in contact with several member companies, as well as other natural resource industry associations to ensure that a well coordinated response is filed at the appropriate time.

If you have any experience in this area, or information concerning your operations and sage grouse, please contact Laura at the NWMA office (lskaer@nwma.org).

MINING LAW

Chair: Steve Alfors, NewWest Resources Group

Court Decides 3809 Lawsuit

On November 18, 2003, U.S. District Court Judge Henry Kennedy of the District of Columbia rendered a long-awaited decision in the lawsuit over the 43 CFR 3809 surface management regulations governing hardrock mineral activities on BLM administered lands, (*Mineral Policy Center v. Norton*, Civil Action 01-00073, HHK). Secretary Norton finalized the 3809 revisions in October 2001, ending a four year long rulemaking process initiated by former DOI Secretary Bruce Babbitt. Secretary Norton's version of the 3809 regulations eliminated several onerous components that Secretary Babbitt had added, including the controversial Substantial Irreparable Harm (SIH) provision that greatly expanded BLM's authority to reject Plans of Operation.

Judge Kennedy's decision upheld Secretary Norton's version of the 3809 regulations and concluded that the plaintiffs (Mineral Policy Center, et al) had not made a sufficient legal case to require the court to reject Secretary Norton's revisions. Despite the fact that the Court upheld the Norton 3809 regulations, the decision is not a clear victory for the mining industry. In fact, many aspects of the Court's decision are ambiguous and have the potential to create considerable uncertainty in the future for both the industry and BLM.

Perhaps the most telltale indicator that the Judge's decision is a mixed bag is that all sides describe it in favorable terms. For example, Roger Flynn, an attorney with the Western Mining

Action Project, (an anti-mining organization) said his group was "very satisfied with Judge Kennedy's decision and his interpretation of the 1872 Mining Law and the Federal Land Policy Management Act (FLPMA)." Flynn added that he intends to see how this plays out in the field. "The Court has given the Interior Department marching orders. We'll hold the department to the Court's order in mining cases as they arrive."

Judge Kennedy's decision includes a surprising remand requiring BLM to evaluate whether the agency should be charging Fair Market Value (FMV) for certain mining activities on public land. This FMV finding is tied to Judge Kennedy's unique interpretation of the Mining Law and his convoluted discussion of "unclaimed" and "invalidly claimed" lands. According to Kennedy, claimants have no Mining Law rights until they make a valid discovery, and all mineral activities leading up to a discovery (e.g. entry, prospecting, staking and occupancy) should be subject to broader discretionary authority and land use restrictions outside of the 3809 regulations. Judge Kennedy also contends that because these pre-discovery mineral activities do not enjoy use and occupancy rights under the Mining Law, BLM may be required to charge FMV for these uses of public land.

The deadline for appealing Judge Kennedy's decision has come and gone. Thus, it remains to be seen if and how this decision will influence BLM's implementation of the 3809 regulations. Despite the ambiguity and potential problems created by Judge Kennedy's troublesome language pertaining to "unclaimed and invalidly claimed lands," the Court's decision does not require BLM to manage hardrock mining projects any differently. Eventually, the agency will have to initiate rulemaking in response to the Court's FMV remand order.

It is clear that anti-mining groups will seek to advance some of the Mining Law issues discussed in Judge Kennedy's decision in future court actions. Roger Flynn has already referenced Judge Kennedy's findings in several litigation proceedings. These mining opponents will likely attempt to use this court decision to erode claimants' Mining Law rights to occupy and use the surface of public lands prior to making a valid mineral discovery.

Waldo Mining District Files Suit

On August 29, 2003, the **Waldo Mining District** (WMD), Oregon's oldest mining district (established in 1852) filed suit in U.S. District Court (Medford, OR) against the Siskiyou National Forest (SNF) in an attempt to force the Forest Service to follow their own 36 CFR 228 Mining Regulations, and against the U.S. Department of Commerce to remove several species of salmon from the endangered species list.

Prior to filing its suit, the WMD attempted to intervene in an earlier suit brought against the SNF by the environmental group Siskiyou Regional Education Project (SREP). SREP's suit, filed February 6, 2003, in U.S. District Court (Medford, OR), is designed to force the Forest Service to require approved Plans of Operation, Reclamation Plans, and Bonds, for all mining activities within Riparian Reserves pursuant to provision "MM-1" of the 1994 Northwest Forest Plan. It is believed that if SREP wins their suit, Plans of Operation (POOs) would be required for such non-disturbing mining activities as gold panning, sluicing, and

COMMITTEE REPORTS

suction dredging. It is interesting to note that the SNF has approved only one POO in the last 13 years.

Although Waldo's attempt to intervene was denied, certain Waldo members were granted limited intervention in the remedial phase only.

The Waldo Mining District has retained attorney James Buchal to represent them. Even though the U.S. Department of Justice has thrown many roadblocks against them (including a Motion to Dismiss), the WMD has every faith that it will eventually win.

To help cover the high cost of litigation, the WMD is seeking donations from all those involved (large and small) in the mineral industry. Donations can be sent directly to the WMD at P.O. Box 1574, Cave Junction, OR 97523. For more information, write the WMD, e-mail them at waldominingdistrict@hotmail.com, or visit website <http://www.waldominingdistrict.org/index.htm>.

PUBLIC LANDS

House Resources Subcommittee Holds Hearing on the Impact of Science on Public Policy

On February 4, 2004, Representative Barbara Cubin (R-WY), chairman of the Subcommittee on Energy and Minerals, House Resources Committee, held a hearing on how bad scientific data can adversely affect the management of public and private land. "Bad science inevitably leads to bad public policy," she said "Environmental decisions should be based on scientific facts – not scientific opinions. I don't think it's unreasonable to ask that we require a sound scientific basis for decisions that could lock away thousands of acres of public and private land."

Among those testifying at the hearing was former NWMA trustee, **Chris Herald**, CEO of **Crown Resources Corporation**. Chris' testimony highlighted the real life consequences that bad science and policy had on his company, the domestic mining industry, and ultimately our nation's economy. His testimony focused on the permitting nightmare surrounding the Buckhorn Mountain (formerly Crown Jewel) project in northeastern Washington State. His oral testimony is set forth below.

Madam Chairman, Members of the Subcommittee, good afternoon. My name is Chris Herald and I am the CEO of Crown Resources Corporation, a U.S.-based mineral exploration company. Today the relationship between science and policy is being discussed. I will provide testimony concerning the real-life consequences that bad science and policy has had on our company, and ultimately our nation's economy.

During the 1980's, Crown Resources spent about \$2.0 million a year exploring for minerals exclusively in the United States. Most of our employees were based in rural America and earned, on average, twice the local pay scale. We were very successful and made a significant gold discovery in 1985 and a second one in 1988, both in Washington State. The first discovery, called Kettle River, was permitted in 11 months. This operation has provided 150 highly paid jobs for the past 16 years. Although we sold our interest in the property years ago, the project continues to be the economic backbone for an entire community.

The second discovery, called Buckhorn Mountain, is quite a different story. After spending several million dollars discovering this deposit, we brought in a major mining company to further fund the exploration and development of this significant new mine. Permitting for the project began in early 1992. Almost 12 years and \$75 million later, the project lies idle, our larger mining partner gave up in disgust over permitting, and we went through Chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganization. Yet the project still requires another 18 months of regulatory review. Hundreds of real jobs and millions of dollars in potential tax revenues have been lost as this very beneficial development project languishes in a regulatory black hole created in part out of bad science and policy.

Here's an example. We were told that our mining operation at Buckhorn Mountain would negatively impact the deer population in the area. Herd size was predicted to slightly decrease and migrate a fair distance away from the operation. The impacts were quantified based on "scientific" models that were at best guesswork, and at worse, purposely formulated to produce the perceived right result – mining is very bad for wildlife. To mitigate this predicted impact, we had to purchase expensive nearby private land and turn it into a deer preserve.

This would have been a good solution to a scientifically predicted environmental problem, if the problem were real. To determine reality, let us return to the formerly mentioned Kettle River mine. During the permitting process for Kettle River, the same dire consequences to the deer population were predicted. A modest mitigation plan was developed for this impact and the project was allowed to move forward in a timely fashion.

What is the reality of the Kettle River operation on deer? Well, all one has to do is visit the mine and observe plentiful numbers of deer, perhaps even too many, casually grazing around the operation's entire infrastructure - mine, mill and buildings. Apparently they like the vegetation and are curious about what we are doing. Someone needs to inform these deer that they should be stressed-out and grazing miles away from this active mining operation.

Today regulatory policy as applied to resource development on public lands does not distinguish between real risks with significant potential impacts and ill-defined, remotely possible risks with at most insignificant and temporary impacts. Consequently, junk science is often used to impede the advancement of important economic projects through a process devoid of common sense.

This is why our company now spends two million dollars a year exploring for minerals in South America and nothing in the United States. Although two million dollars a year may not sound like much, let's not forget that our company, spending a similar amount in the 1980's, generated mining projects that resulted in over a \$100 million in employee payroll and \$400 million in invested capital and operating expenses. A similar amount will be spent on these same projects over the next ten years. That's one billion dollars in new wealth creation. If bad science and policy continues, additional job and tax revenue declines are inevitable, as well as the loss of domestic production of critical and strategically important raw materials. (continued on next page)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mining companies are no longer significantly funding the mineral exploration in the United States for primarily one reason - environmental policies that are unpredictable and lack common sense. I am sad to say that we perceive third world countries in South America less risky than the United States based almost solely on domestic regulatory uncertainties. Our decision to abandon exploration in the United States for foreign shores is not to avoid the costs of sound environmental practices, but to escape chaotic and often arbitrarily applied regulatory policy. I would very much like to return to the United States for business. I believe this committee could help provide the policy guidance to the regulators to allow our industry to return home and create meaningful new jobs for rural America.

President's Budget Proposes to Increase Mining Claim Maintenance Fees

The Bush administration's FY 2005 Budget proposal includes an increase in the mining claim maintenance fee from \$100 to \$126 per year, "consistent with the statutory requirement that the fee be adjusted to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index." NWMA is actively working to remove the claim maintenance fee increase

from the budget and to ensure that it does not survive the appropriations process. We need your support. Please contact your members of Congress and ask them to oppose the increase and to advise either the Senate Appropriations Committee or the House Appropriations Committee that they oppose the increase. In addition, contact Senator Conrad Burns (R-MT), chair of the Senate Interior Appropriations Committee and express your opposition to this increase (fax: 202/224-8594), or Representative Charles Taylor, chair of the House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee (fax: 202/226-6422).

The current \$100 per claim maintenance fee is one of the highest, if not the highest, claim holding fee in mineral producing countries. It is an impediment to grassroots exploration and mineral development. A 26% increase is poor public policy at a time when the United States should be encouraging domestic mineral development, not impeding it.

INTERNATIONAL REPORTS

CANADIAN REPORTS

CIM Adopts Mineral Estimation Guidelines

The Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM) has adopted best-practice guidelines for the estimation of mineral resources and mineral reserves. A report titled, *Estimation of Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves, Best Practice Guidelines*, is available on the CIM website at www.cim.org/committees/estimation2003.pdf.

The guidelines are intended to assist a "qualified person" in the planning, supervision, preparation and reporting of mineral resource and mineral reserve estimates. In Canada, all estimation work reported to the public must be under the direction of a "qualified person" and follow the requirements of National Instrument 43-101.

STATE REPORTS

ALASKA

Golden Summit in Alaska Gets New Venture Partner

Meridian Gold, Inc. has entered into an Option/Joint Venture Agreement with Freegold Ventures Limited on Freegold's Golden Summit Project 5 miles north of **Kinross Gold Corporation's** Ft. Knox Mine in Alaska.

Golden Summit is an advanced stage exploration project in a historic high grade area which has seen little work in 50 years. Exploration conducted during the 1980's focused on a bulk tonnage model. However, current thinking is that the high grade deposits may be targets themselves. The 18,000+ acre project area has been divided into three parts (A, B & C). Meridian may earn-in up to 70% of Areas A and B by funding exploration and development, and placing a property into production. 2004 will see a guaranteed exploration expenditure of \$740,000. In addition, Meridian has a first right of refusal on Area C with the funding of an airborne survey.

ARIZONA

Rio Tinto PLC Finds Major Copper Deposit in Arizona

Rio Tinto's \$110 million exploration program is beginning to return big dividends. Rio Tinto recently announced the discovery of a deep copper-molybdenum deposit approximately 90 miles east of Phoenix near the historic Superior Mine site.

Named Resolution, the deposit is described as huge, with over 1 billion tons at 1.5% copper. The deposit is roughly 5900 feet by 1650 feet and 650 to 1450 feet thick. Depth of the deposit will present challenges however. The top of the dome like ore body is 4600 feet below ground surface and extends to approximately 6500 feet below surface. Temperatures in the range of 175 degrees Fahrenheit are to be expected. Because of rock stresses at this level, block caving is expected to be the only mining method open to the company.

Ongoing efforts over the next few years will include studying the ore body to determine the best mining method, securing land and water rights, and environmental baseline studies. The company also will have to navigate the onerous and time consuming permitting process. As a result, production is not anticipated for at least 10-12 years.



STATE REPORTS

Arizona Copper Mines To Restart

Phelps Dodge Corp. announced on January 29, that it will increase copper production by 11% in 2004 and 17% in 2005 by restarting the Sierrita and Bagdad mines in Arizona. The decision to restart was made in response to a global shortage of copper, strong demand from China, and disruptions at other mines (one, the possibility of a strike at Highland Valley in British Columbia, was averted on January 29 when labor voted to accept management's proposal. On January 29, **Teck Cominco, Ltd.** elected to buy Highland Valley).

Phelps Dodge's production will increase by 240 million pounds in 2004 and by 370 million pounds in 2005. The number one copper producer projects total production at 2.35 billion pounds in 2004, and 2.5 billion pounds in 2005. The decision to ramp up was predicated on copper averaging \$1.10/lb for 2004.

Bagdad, Sierrita, and the Miami Smelter are expected to be at 100% capacity by year end. PD expects that its currently closed Cobre Mine and Chino milling facility in New Mexico will be at 50% capacity by year end. The New Mexico operations will rehire 200 workers over the next two years at an average wage of \$45,000. This is good news for Grant County, where unemployment is at 13.5% and the per capita income is \$18,500.

MONTANA

Mining Groups Gauge Support for Reversal on Cyanide Ban

The Montana Mining Association (MMA), NWMA, and other industry groups are taking tentative first steps toward launching a drive to repeal the state's voter-passed 1998 cyanide leach mining ban (I-137).

Angela Janacaro, executive director of MMA, said her group and others have hired an outside consultant to conduct focus groups to find out how Montanans feel about the cyanide ban. They have not ruled out trying to put a repeal of the ban on the 2004 ballot.

The consulting group started contacting registered Montana voters in late December. After asking voters a few questions, the consultants invite them to a focus group – a small gathering of people who discuss cyanide heap leach mining, Montana's economy and other issues related to mining and resource extraction.

Repealing the ban "is not necessarily the primary reason we're doing this, Janacaro said.

I-137 banned the use of cyanide in open pit gold and silver mines in 1998 after voters passed the measure by a 52 percent to 48 percent margin. The mining industry has always opposed the ban and one company, Canyon Resources Corp., of Colorado, has been fighting the ban in court ever since.

NWMA will keep you informed as the repeal effort moves forward. Success will depend on the entire U.S. mining industry getting involved, not just those companies with projects in Montana. The best way to stop anti-cyanide initiatives from spreading to Colorado, Argentina and other jurisdictions is to cut it off at its source.

NEVADA

Pacific Ridge Exploration to Option Sno Property, Elko City, NV

Pacific Ridge Exploration LTD has announced the optioning of a 60% interest in the Sno Property in Elko County, 6 miles east of the Ken Snyder Mine in the Midas District. The 60% interest may be earned by the expenditure of \$2 million on exploration, the issuance of 1 million common shares, and advance royalty payments of \$180,000.

Prior sampling of quartz vein mineralization from pits and dumps assayed up to 0.56 ounces gold per ton. A drilling program is planned for the first quarter 2004 to explore for potential at depth.

Wayne Roberts, VP Exploration, Pacific Ridge, was a speaker at the 2003 Annual Meeting in the New Discoveries Dot Com session. He spoke on the Company's Golden Arrow Project in the Tonopah Gold District in Nevada.

OREGON

State Bond Pool for Mining

During the last session of the Oregon legislature, a state bond pool for small mining operations was approved. The Division of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) is responsible for implementation. The State Insurance Commission is currently doing a risk assessment on the bond pool and a business model is being submitted to a board representing the hardrock mining industry, aggregates and government for their review and approval. Draft regulations should be completed by May 1, 2004.

It is anticipated that both the state BLM and USFS offices will be meeting with DOGAMI to discuss MOUs to allow the bond pool to be used for mining operations on BLM and USFS administered lands.

The bond pool is a step in the right direction for Oregon and welcome news to the mining community.

2004 NWMA Service Directory

The 2004 NWMA Service is scheduled for publication in June, 2004. Initial mailings for display advertising and listings have been sent, and responses are coming in. NWMA encourages all members to send in updated information regarding Company, address, phone number, and e-mail if these have changed in the past year.

Advertising space reservations and listing reservations will be closing April 30; ad copy is required by May 14.

Display advertising is open to members and non-members (at a higher rate); the Professional Services listings are open to members only.

Please call or e-mail Mike Heywood (509 624-1158 ex 10, mheywood@nwma.org) for more information.

Northwest Mining Association would like to thank its corporate members for their support. NWMA encourages you to patronize our corporate members whenever possible.

AngloGold North America Inc.
Apollo Gold
ARCO
Ashton Mining of Canada, Inc.

Baird Hanson WilliamsLLP
Behre Dolbear & Co., Inc.
Bitterroot Exploration
Boart Longyear Company
Brush Resources Inc.

Canyon Resources Corp. - McDonald
Gold Project
Carver & Kirchhoff, LLC
Casualty & Surety, Inc.
Coach USA
Coeur, The Precious Metals Company
Constellation Copper Corporation
Crowell & Moring, LLP
Crown Resources Corp.

Darling Environmental & Surveying,
Ltd
Dawn Mining Company
Degerstrom Ventures

Earthworks Technology, Inc
Eastern Oregon Mining Association
Echo Bay Minerals Company
Ecological Land Services, Inc.
Eklund Drilling Co., Inc.
Environomics, Inc.
Enviroscientists, Inc.

Frazer Creek Exploration Co.
Fujian Coal Industry (Group) Co., Ltd.

Geotemps, Inc.
Glamis Gold, Inc.
Global Intermodal Systems, Inc.
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Golden Phoenix Minerals, Inc.
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Greystone Environmental Consultants,
Inc.

Hecla Mining Company
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Intr'l Society of Mine Safety Professionals

J. R. Simplot Company
JDF Consulting LLC

Kennecott Minerals Co.
Kennecott Exploration Co.
Kinross Gold Corporation

Last Chance Mine
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MAXIM Technologies, Inc.
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Minera Andes, Inc.
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Montana Mining Association
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N. A. Degerstrom, Inc.
Netafim Inc.
Nevada Miners and Prospectors
Newmont Mining Corporation
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Northern Stone Supply, Inc.

Oregon Independent Miners

Parsons, Behle & Latimer
Pennaluna & Co.
Perkins Coie, LLP
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Placer Dome America
Preston Gates & Ellis LLP

Queenstake Resources USA, Inc.

Revett Silver Company
Rimrock Explosives
Royal Gold Incorporated

SAIC
Small Mine Development
Society for Mining, Metallurgy &
Exploration, Inc.
Smith River Consulting
SRK Consulting

Stillwater Mining Company
Struhsacker Consulting

Teck Cominco American Incorporated
The Doe Run Mining Company
The Mining Record
The Northern Miner
Thompson Creek Metals Co.
Thompson Creek Mining Co.
Thunder Mountain Gold, Inc.

U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers

Vista Gold U.S., Inc.
Vivid Learning Systems, Inc.

WDC Exploration & Wells
W.S. Adamson and Associates, Inc.
Waldo Mining District
Washington Group International, Inc.
West Arm Rare Earths and Associated
Minerals
Western Mine Engineering, Inc.
Western States Equipment Co.
Weyerhaeuser Company
WYO-BEN, Inc.

Yogo Creek Mining, LLC



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2004

NWMA Board of Trustees Meeting, February 20, Spokane, WA. 8:30 am Members welcome. Contact Kathy 509/624-1158 Email:kwilson@nwma.org

SME Annual Meeting and Exhibits, February 23-25, 2004, Denver, Colorado. Contact: Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration, Inc., Meetings Department 800/763-3132, 303/973-9550, Fax 303/979-3461 Email: meetings@smenet.org

MARCH 2004

PDAC International Convention and Trade Show, March 7-10, 2004, Metro Toronto Convention Center, Toronto, Canada. Contact: PDAC, 416/362-1969, Fax 416/362-0101, Email: info@pdac.ca

MAY 2004

Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy Annual Meeting, May 9-12, 2004, Edmonton, AB. Contact: CIMM, Montreal Quebec, 514 939-2710, Fax 514 939-2714, E-mail: cim@cim.org

7th Annual Mine & Quarry Blasting Short Course, May 10 - 12, 2004, Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. Presented by Golder Associates. Contact Cheryl Luter at Golder. 775/828-9604, Fax 775/828-9645, Email clutter@golder.com.

NWMA Board of Trustees Meeting, May 14, 2004, Reno, NV. 8:30 am Members welcome. Contact Kathy 509/624-1158 Email:kwilson@nwma.org

California Mining Association Annual Meeting, May 26-28, 2004, Napa Valley Marriot Hotel and Spa. Contact Stephanie Pridmore, 916 447-1977 E-mail:spredmore@calmining.org

JUNE 2004

Elko Mining Expo, June 9-11, 2004, Elko, NV. Contact: Elko Convention and Visitors Authority, 800 248-3556. Website: www.elkocva.com

JULY 2004

Stake Your Claim To Learning, hosted by Nevada Mining Association, July 11-14, 2004, CalNeva Resort, Crystal Bay, NV. Contact: Nevada Mining Association, 775 829-2120. E-mail: amiller@nevadamining.org

NWMA Board of Trustees Meeting, July 30, Butte, MT. 8:30 am Members welcome. Contact Kathy 509/624-1158 Email:kwilson@nwma.org

AUGUST 2004

Utah Mining Association Annual Meeting, Aug. 26-27, Grand Summit Hotel, Park City, UT. Contact: Utah Mining Association, 801 364-1874. Email: mining@xmission.com

SEPTEMBER 2004

Nevada Mining Association Annual Meeting, Sep. 17-18, Hyatt Tahoe, Lake Tahoe, NV. Contact: Nevada Mining Association, 775 829-2121. E-mail: amiller@nevadamining.org

17th Annual National Mining Hall of Fame Banquet, September 25, 2004, Las Vegas Hilton, NV. Tickets - contact Sam McGeorge, The National Mining Hall of Fame & Museum, 719/486-1229, Fax : 719/486-3927

MINExpo 2004, Sep. 27-30, Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, NV. Contact: National Mining Association, 202 463-2600, Fax 202 463-2666. Website: www.minepo.com

OCTOBER 2004

NWMA Board of Trustees Meeting, October 15, Spokane, WA. 8:30 am Members welcome. Contact Kathy 509/624-1158 Email:kwilson@nwma.org

NOVEMBER 2004

Alaska Miners Association Annual Meeting, Nov. 1-6, Sheraton Hotel, Anchorage, AK. Contact: Alaska Miners Association, 907 563-9229, Fax 907 563-9225. E-mail: ama@alaskaminers.org

DECEMBER 2004

NWMA Board of Trustees Meeting, December 7, 2004, Spokane, WA. 2:30 pm Members welcome. Contact Kathy 509/624-1158 Email:kwilson@nwma.org

Northwest Mining Association's 110th Annual Meeting, Exposition & Short Courses, December 6-10, 2004, Spokane, Washington

For more information contact Pat Heywood, Email: pheywood@nwma.org, phone 509/624-1158, fax: 509/623-1241, NWMA, 10 N. Post Street, Ste. 220, Spokane, WA 99201-0772 or visit us on the web: www.nwma.org.