

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT

**Annual Evaluation Summary Report
For the**

North Dakota Public Service Commission Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program



**Evaluation Year 2025
(July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025)**

**Produced by the Denver Field Division
Casper Area Office**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following is a summary of the Evaluation Year (EY) 2025 Oversight Report for the North Dakota Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) Program. This report covers the period of July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025.

Site visits were jointly conducted both independently by the OSMRE and jointly with state personnel at various AML reclamation project sites to help assess overall reclamation success on September 25th, 2024, and April 7th, 10th, and 11th, 2025. Evaluation of AML projects included the use of aerial photography in conjunction with on-site visits to select project sites. In addition, NDPSC personnel have documented project progress in completion reports and site photographs. It was agreed that all projects met their goals, abatement and reclamation measures were deemed intact and functional, and no problems compromising those measures were apparent.

The North Dakota AML program received \$2,829,000 in AML fee-based consolidated grant funding (Grant No. S25AF00151) and \$3,100,210 in IIJA consolidated grant (S25AF00127) funding during EY2025. This includes administrative and construction sub-grants that fund 4.5 Full-Time Employees (FTEs) and is intended to fund, in whole or in part, four projects that are considered construction ready. A total of five non-emergency projects and no emergency projects were completed during EY2025.

OSMRE has determined that North Dakota has a system in place that is adequate to ensure accurate data is entered into e-AMLIS. The CAO has reviewed a random sample of PADs and is satisfied that all information entered e-AMLIS agrees with the information in the PADs.

The NDPSC adequately encourages public participation and outreach through public meetings, public service announcements, press contacts, project meetings, the NDPSC website, and by responding to public inquiries.

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Cover Page Photograph: Photo shows an aerial photograph of the Buechler Velve Phase 3 AML site. Mine pits and spoil piles from the former Truax-Traer Coal Mine are readily apparent.

I. GENERAL

A. Introduction

The Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA) created the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) in the Department of the Interior. SMCRA provides authority to OSMRE to oversee the implementation of and provide federal funding for the state abandoned mine land programs that have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the minimum standards specified by SMCRA. In addition to conducting oversight of approved state programs, OSMRE provides technical assistance, staff training, financial grants, and assistance, as well as management assistance to each state program. This report contains summary information regarding the North Dakota Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation (AMLR) Program and the effectiveness of the program in meeting the applicable purposes of SMCRA as specified in Section 102. This report covers the 2025 Evaluation Year (EY) July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025.

On December 23, 1981, the Secretary of the Department of Interior approved North Dakota's AMLR Plan under Title IV of SMCRA. With that approval, the State of North Dakota through the North Dakota Public Service Commission (NDPSC) has exclusive responsibility and authority to operate and administer the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program.

The OSMRE's evaluation methods are based upon OSMRE Directive AML-22 (Evaluation of State and Tribal Abandoned Mine Lands Programs) and a Performance Agreement (PA) between the NDPSC and the OSMRE. The PA establishes a commitment between the NDPSC and the OSMRE to identify topics for review, methodologies for enhancement and evaluation of performance reviews, and assistance in the preparation of the final report. Assessment of the NDPSCs performance includes reviews of selected topics such as fiscal and administrative controls, progress in coal mine reclamation, overall reclamation success, public interaction and outreach, and integration with the OSMRE Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System (AMLIS) database. Reclamation site visits were conducted jointly by NDPSC project managers and OSMRE staff.

Detailed background information and comprehensive reports for the program elements evaluated during the EY are available for review and copying at the OSMRE, Denver Field Division (DFD), Casper Area Office (CAO), 100 East B St., Room 4100, Casper, WY 82601. To arrange an appointment time, contact Jeff Fleischman via telephone (307) 261-6550 or email jfleischman@osmre.gov.

The reports are also available at the OSMRE Oversight Documents website at <http://odocs.osmre.gov>. Adobe Acrobat Reader® is needed to view these documents. Acrobat Reader® is free and can be downloaded at <http://get.adobe.com/reader>.

Follow these steps to gain access to the document of interest:

1. Select North Dakota from the drop-down box labeled “State”. Also select the current “Evaluation Year”, and then click “Submit”. The search can be narrowed by choosing selections under the “Keyword” or “Category” headings.
2. The oversight documents and reports matching the selected state and evaluation year will appear at the bottom of the page.
3. Select “View” for the document that is of interest and the report will appear for viewing, saving, and/or printing.

The following acronyms are used in this report:

AML	Abandoned Mine Land
AML-1	OSMRE Directive AML-1
AML-22	OSMRE Directive AML-22
AMLIS	Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System
AMLR	Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation
AMLD	Abandoned Mine Land Division
ATP	Authorization to Proceed
BIL	Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (also the IIJA)
CAO	OSMRE’s Casper Area Office
CE	Categorical Exclusion
DFD	OSMRE’s Denver Field Division
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EY	Evaluation Year
FAM	OSMRE’s Federal Assistance Manual
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
GIS	Geographic Information System
GPS	Global Positioning System
IIJA	Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act -H.R.3684 (formerly the BIL)
NDAC	North Dakota Administrative Code (Rules)
NDCC	North Dakota Century Code (Law)
NDDOT	North Dakota Department of Transportation
NDPSC	North Dakota Public Service Commission
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NTTP	National Technical Training Program
OSMRE	Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement
PAD	Problem Area Description
SMCRA	Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977
SPGM	Suitable Plant Growth Material
TIPS	Technical Innovation and Professional Services
WR	OSMRE Western Region (Unified Regions 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11)

B. Program Administration

The North Dakota AMLR program continues to operate under the guidelines of SMCRA, the approved State Reclamation Plan, the Federal Assistance Manual, and associated rules, regulations, and policy decisions. The State administers an excellent AMLR program in full compliance with their approved AMLR Plan.

The Casper Area Office (CAO) continues to enjoy an excellent working relationship with the staff of the North Dakota AMLD. Their personnel are experienced, knowledgeable, and dedicated to the goals of the program. The AMLD also maintains a good relationship with other State and Federal agencies that must be contacted while preparing projects for reclamation. The North Dakota AMLD maintains a program staff of 4.5 full time employees.

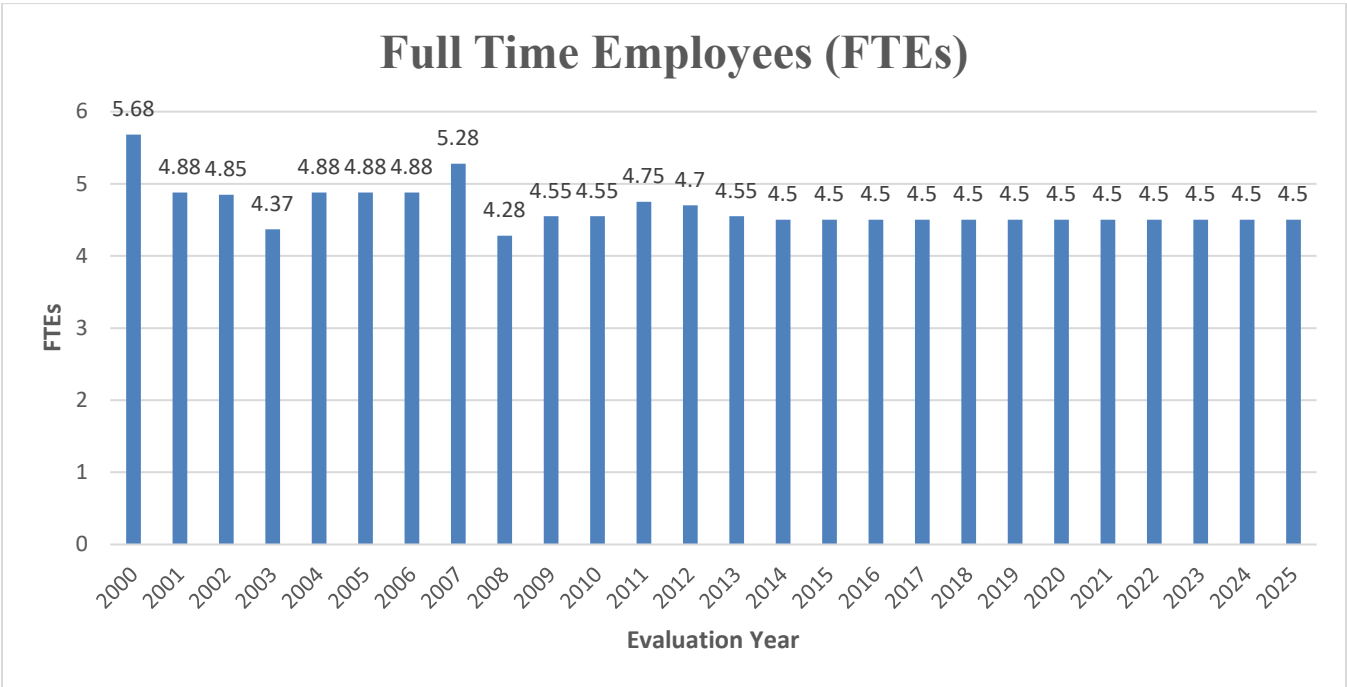


Figure 1: Number of Full Time Employees

The North Dakota AMLD initiates reclamation activities each spring as soon as weather conditions allow. Many rural sites are accessible only by dirt and gravel roads, which must be allowed to dry sufficiently before heavy equipment can travel on them. Work may start as much as two months earlier on sites located near paved roads, and then continues until halted by the severe weather conditions usually encountered in North Dakota during the winter. However, this is generally the time of the year when future projects are designed, and coordination necessary to get projects ready for the next construction season takes place. All the reclamation completed in North Dakota to date has been on abandoned coal mines, and no non-coal work is planned.

Prior to initiating any construction work, the AMLD submits a documentation package to the OSMRE with a request for an Authorization to Proceed (ATP). This package includes 1) a complete Environmental Assessment or Categorical Exclusion, 2) a project eligibility determination pursuant to 30 CFR 874.12 prepared by the Director of the North Dakota Reclamation and AML Divisions, 3) final determination from consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department regarding threatened and endangered species, 4) final determination from consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office, 5) final determination from consultation with the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality regarding the effects on surface and groundwater resources, 6) site maps and photographs, and 7) e-AMLIS Problem Areas Description (PAD) reports. If acceptable and complete, the CAO issues a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and an Authorization to Proceed (ATP) pursuant to section 4-160-50D.3 of the FAM to the AMLD prior to reclamation or construction of each project.

C. Program Maintenance

The NDPSC has submitted two program amendments to their approved AML program for informal pre-submission review. Both submittals are partially in response to a nation-wide effort to review and update State AML Reclamation Plans.

ND-058-PRE

A request for pre-submission review of State Program Amendment VI (6) to the North Dakota AML Program was received by OSMRE on October 14th, 2024, and was processed under SATS #: ND-058-PRE. This proposed amendment includes updating the surface mining regulations to:

- NDCC 38-14.2-02: Updates the definition of “abandoned mine reclamation plan”.
- NDCC 38-14.2-04: Updates the list of purposes for which the abandoned mine reclamation fund may be used for and creates a special fund in the state treasury called the state abandoned mine reclamation STREAM ACT fund set-aside trust account.
- NDCC 38-14.2-06: Updates what lands and water are eligible for reclamation and abatement expenditures under this chapter. It specifies that land and water designate for remedial action under the Uranium Mine Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978, or the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liabilities Act of 1980 are not eligible for reclamation or drainage abatement under this chapter.
- NDCC 38-14.2-07: Replaces the entire text. The text lays out the order of priorities for expenditure of funds. It also specified that subdivision e (eligible land and water resources not geographically contiguous) must be funded by IIJA (BIL) funds.

A peer reviewed technical review of ND-058-PRE identified potential conflicts with the submission. The submittal and technical review were forwarded to the Solicitor’s office (SOL) for further guidance. SOL responded February 23, 2025, with comments. An Informal Review and Findings letter was sent to the state on March 13, 2025, identifying sections that were deemed likely not in compliance federal

regulations. The state made all suggested revisions and resubmitted the informal proposed amendment. A conference call held on March 21, 2025, acknowledged that all revisions are now likely in compliance federal regulations. Informal review of SATS #: ND-058-PRE is complete. Formal submission of State Program Amendment VI (6) to the North Dakota AML Program was received by OSMRE on September 10, 2025, and is being processed under SATS#: ND-058-FOR.

ND-059-PRE

Informal submission of State Program Amendment VII (7) to the North Dakota AML Program was received by OSMRE on July 14th, 2025, and is being processed under SATS #: ND-059-PRE. This proposed amendment includes updating the surface mining regulations to:

- NDAC 69-05.3-01-03: This proposed revision removes references to “research and demonstration” projects when considering project evaluation factors, thus bringing North Dakota Rules in line with the current version of SMCRA.
- NDAC 69-05.3-01-04: This proposed revision removes references to research and demonstration projects from included reclamation contracts, thus bringing North Dakota Rules in line with the current version of SMCRA.
- NDAC 69-05.3-01-06: This proposed revision changes the notice requirement for entry upon property for the purpose of reclamation from 5 days to 30 days, thus bringing North Dakota Rules in line with federal regulations.
- NDAC 69-05.3-01-08: This proposed revision requires that the notice of entry shall be by certified mail and include a copy of findings required by the State. It also states the notice shall be posted on the property and in the newspaper, including a statement of where to obtain the state findings. It also changes the notice requirement for entry from 5 days to 30 days, thus bringing North Dakota Rules in line with federal regulations.
- NDAC 69-05.3-01-09: This proposed revision requires that the notice of entry for emergency reclamation shall be by certified mail, thus bringing North Dakota Rules in line with federal regulations.
- NDAC 69-05.3-01-10: This proposed revision states that, regarding land acquisitions, the Commission shall make their findings in writing that such interests are necessary to the planned reclamation work. It also requires the acquisition be approved by OSMRE in writing, thus bringing North Dakota Rules in line with federal regulations.
- NDAC 69-05.3-01-13: This proposed revision adds the word “appropriate” when stating that, when acquiring land, all user fees collected shall be deposited in the appropriate Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund. This mirrors the text in 30 CFR\$879.14, thus ensuring North Dakota Rules are consistent with federal regulations.
- NDAC 69-05.3-01-14: This proposed revision revises text to state that all moneys received from disposal of land under NDAC 69-05.3-01-14 shall be returned to OSMRE, thus bringing North Dakota Rules in line with federal regulations.

A peer reviewed technical review of ND-059-PRE was completed August 8, 2025, and concluded that the proposed amendment is likely in compliance with SMCRA and consistent with Federal regulations. The submittal and technical reviews have been forwarded to an assigned Solicitor for additional review and guidance.

II. NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The NDPSC continues to administer an efficient and successful AMLR program as set forth in Section 102 of SMCRA. Since the Program's inception, the North Dakota AMLD has conducted over 194 primary reclamation projects, 34 emergency projects and numerous construction maintenance and sinkhole filling projects, at a total cost of over \$67.7 million of federal funds. Almost 39.1 linear miles of dangerous surface mine pits and highwalls, and over 1,546 acres of underground mine subsidence have been reclaimed (source e-AMLIS database – Appendix 1, Tables 2 and 2A). These projects have reduced the likelihood of death or injury to property owners and the public.

The following accomplishments by the North Dakota AMLR Program during the 2025 evaluation year are worthy of note:

- Incorporating soil amendments and saving subsoil were done for the first time in the 2024 Dakota Collieries Project. The site will continue to be monitored to see its effectiveness.

III. UTILIZATION OF OSMRE TECHNOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE

The OSMRE provides technical assistance and technology support to state AMLR Programs at the individual state level on project specific efforts, and at the national level in the form of national meetings, forums, and national initiatives. The OSMRE provides direct technical assistance in project and problem investigation, design and analysis, permitting assistance, developing technical guidelines, training, and support. The OSMRE initiated a regional Technology Transfer Team in 2004 to support and enhance the technical skills needed to operate regulatory and reclamation programs, for which each state, including North Dakota, has a representative.

A. National Technical Training Program (NTTP)

During the evaluation year, NDPSC AML staff attended the following NTTP classes:

- AML Drilling and Grouting
- Mine Subsidence (Online)
- Effective Writing (Online)
- Applied Engineering Principles Course

B. Technical Innovation and Professional Services (TIPs)

North Dakota AML staff attended the following TIPS training classes during the evaluation year:

- AutoCAD Essentials
- Global Mapper

- ArcPro
- ArcGIS Essential Workflow

C. OSMRE Western Region Library

The OSMRE Western Region’s library services did not fill any requests from NDPSC for references or article reprints during the evaluation year.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND OUTREACH

The term “public” includes all stakeholders (i.e., citizenry at large, industry, other federal, state, or local agencies, and environmental groups). Opportunities for public participation occur at various points in the North Dakota AML reclamation program.

A. OSMRE

The OSMRE-DFD provides for transparency in the oversight process by conducting outreach to stakeholders and encouraging public participation throughout the OSMRE-DFD’s annual oversight activities. The public can find copies of OSMRE’s annual oversight reports, oversight guidance documents and North Dakota’s Performance Agreement relating to the OSMRE’s oversight of North Dakota’s program on the following OSMRE website: <http://odocs.osmre.gov>.

Each evaluation year, the OSMRE-DFD solicits input from the public and interested parties to comment on oversight and provide suggestions for potential oversight evaluation topics. Sharing of information with the public is highly encouraged by both the OSMRE and the State. The public may include a variety of stakeholders, including, but not limited to, citizenry at large, other federal, state, or local agencies, or environmental groups. OSMRE’s public solicitation for comment on the 2025 evaluation year was distributed on March 9th, 2024, and OSMRE’s public solicitation for comment on the 2026 evaluation year was distributed on March 16th, 2025. To be included in future solicitations, please make the request by contacting the OSMRE, Denver Field Division (DFD), Casper Area Office (CAO), at 100 East B St., Room 4100, Casper, WY 82601.

B. North Dakota

The North Dakota Public Service Commission (NDPSC) is the State agency charged with the responsibility for the permitting and regulation of the coal mining industry and reclamation of abandoned mine lands in North Dakota. North Dakota continues to solicit public comment and input on individual AMLR projects and the AMLR program at large. North Dakota publishes notices for each proposed major reclamation project on North Dakota’s procurement website and solicits public comment and requests for public meeting participation. The AMLD has also published a brochure about AML subsidence and routinely sends project completion reports to landowners and other interested parties.

The NDPSC maintains a web site: <http://www.psc.nd.gov> that includes links to information on current and past AML projects, current construction bidding, project selection, department contacts, state laws and rules, consumer information, and professional procurement information.

The NDPSC encourages public participation through public meetings, public service announcements, press contacts, project meetings, and by responding to public inquiries. The NDPSC commonly hosts, or participates in a variety of public meetings, conferences, and workshops.

During the 2025 evaluation year, the North Dakota AMLR Program participated in the following public meetings, conferences, workshops or other events involving the press or public notification:

- Annual NDSU Reclamation Workshop
- NAAML P Annual Meeting and the NAAML P Winter Business Meeting
- Interstate Mining Compact Commission (IMCC) Midyear and Annual meetings
- Lignite Energy Council (LEC) Quarterly & Midyear Meetings
- Lignite Energy Council (LEC) Annual Meeting
- Wetland determination meeting with Army Corps of Engineers representatives
- North Dakota State Geospatial Committee monthly meetings
- Morton County Tax Equalization meeting
- Bismarck State College Engineering/Civil//Land Survey Tech and EnerGETic Advisory Committee
- ND Geospatial Summit
- Frontier Precision Trimble User Group Meeting

Public meetings conducted by NDPSC involving projects completed or started during EY2025 include:

- November 13, 2024: Public meeting was held for the 2025 Buechler Velva Phase 3 Project
- December 12, 2024: Public meeting was held for the 2025 Lehigh Road Phase X and Scranton Phase IV Project
- March 6, 2025: Virtual Pre-bid tour was posted on the NDPSC website for the 2025 Lehigh Road Phase X and Scranton Phase IV Project
- March 25, 2025: Pre-bid meeting was held for the 2025 Buechler Velva Phase 3 Project
- April 8, 2025: Public bid openings were held for the 2025 Buechler Velva Phase 3 Project and 2025 Lehigh Road Phase X and Scranton Phase IV Project

OSMRE's programmatic reviews of the North Dakota program indicate that the NDPSC is adhering to the State's policies and procedures regarding opportunities for public participation in all phases of their reclamation program.

V. RESULTS OF EVALUATION YEAR 2025 REVIEWS

OSMRE Directive AML-22 Evaluation of State/Tribe AML Programs dictates that OSMRE oversight of State AMLR programs will include a short description of all program elements reviewed during the evaluation year. These topic-specific reviews are identified and agreed to by both the State and the OSMRE in the most recent performance agreement. For the 2025 evaluation year, both parties have agreed that the OSMRE will conduct topic-specific reviews of: 1) Overall Reclamation Success, 2) AML Emergency Investigations and Abatement Efforts, 3) AML Grant Fiscal and Administrative Controls, 4) AMLIS, and 5) Public Outreach. However, since Public Outreach is already addressed in section IV of this report, a topic-specific review of Public Outreach will not be included in this section.

The North Dakota AML Performance Agreement (PA) for EY2025 was signed on July 2nd, 2024. The PA describes the team's purpose and the topics selected for review to evaluate the performance of the AML program. On-the-ground, performance-based results were the principal focus of program evaluation and documentation. The North Dakota AML Performance Agreement (PA) for EY2026 was signed on June 6th, 2025.

Results of the EY2025 evaluations are summarized below. The evaluations included field visits to AML projects, interviews with NDPSC-AMLD staff, and reviews of the AMLR Program's project specifications, grant applications and reports, and internal state and AMLIS inventories.

A. Overall Reclamation Success

Our EY2025 evaluation of overall reclamation success determined if the NDPSC-AMLD's reclamation met project goals. We compared NDPSC-AMLD's reclamation to project specifications, results of interagency consultation, and other information. Our evaluation focused on determining whether reclamation met project goals by implementing the scope of work to abate original hazards, complying with conditions (if any) resulting from interagency consultation, and improving overall site conditions compared to pre-reclamation conditions. Generally, we agreed that projects met their goals if abatement and reclamation measures are intact and functional, and no problems compromising those measures were apparent. We consider site conditions improved overall if hazards to public health and safety are abated and associated reclamation reduced environmental problems such as erosion and sedimentation while promoting re-vegetation.

We concluded that the projects we visited met their respective goals. NDPSC-AMLD met the goals of abating hazards and improving site conditions at all projects conducted during the evaluation year. Highwalls associated with abandoned surface coal mines were properly eliminated and the re-graded areas were re-vegetated. Underground mine voids were backfilled remotely with injection of pressurized grout through drilled injection holes to eliminate the threat of subsidence. The injection holes were properly reclaimed. Sinkholes associated with underground mine voids were properly eliminated and backfilled areas were re-vegetated. OSMRE conducted on-site visits of select AML projects on September 25th, 2024, and April 7th, 10th, and 11th, 2025.

On September 25th, 2024, the following AML sites were visited:

- 2024 Exploratory Drilling AML Project-New Salem Site
- 2024 Sinkhole Filling Project – Richardton Site
- 2024 Lehigh Road Phase IX AML Project
- 2024 Dakota Collieries AML Project

On April 7th, 10th, and 11th, 2025, the following AML sites were visited:

- 2025 Scranton Phase IV AML Project
- 2022 Sinkhole Filling Project – Wilton Site
- 2025 Sinkhole Filling Project – Custer Site
- 2025 Buechler Velva Phase 3 AML Project
- 2023 Sinkhole Filling Project – Turtle Lake Site
- 2025 Exploratory Drilling AML Project – New Salem
- 2025 Sinkhole Filling Project – Comet Site
- 2025 Sinkhole Filling Project – New Leipzig Site
- 2025 Sinkhole Filling Project – Ruck Site

AML Projects Completed During EY2025

Five non-emergency projects and no emergency AML projects were completed during EY2025.

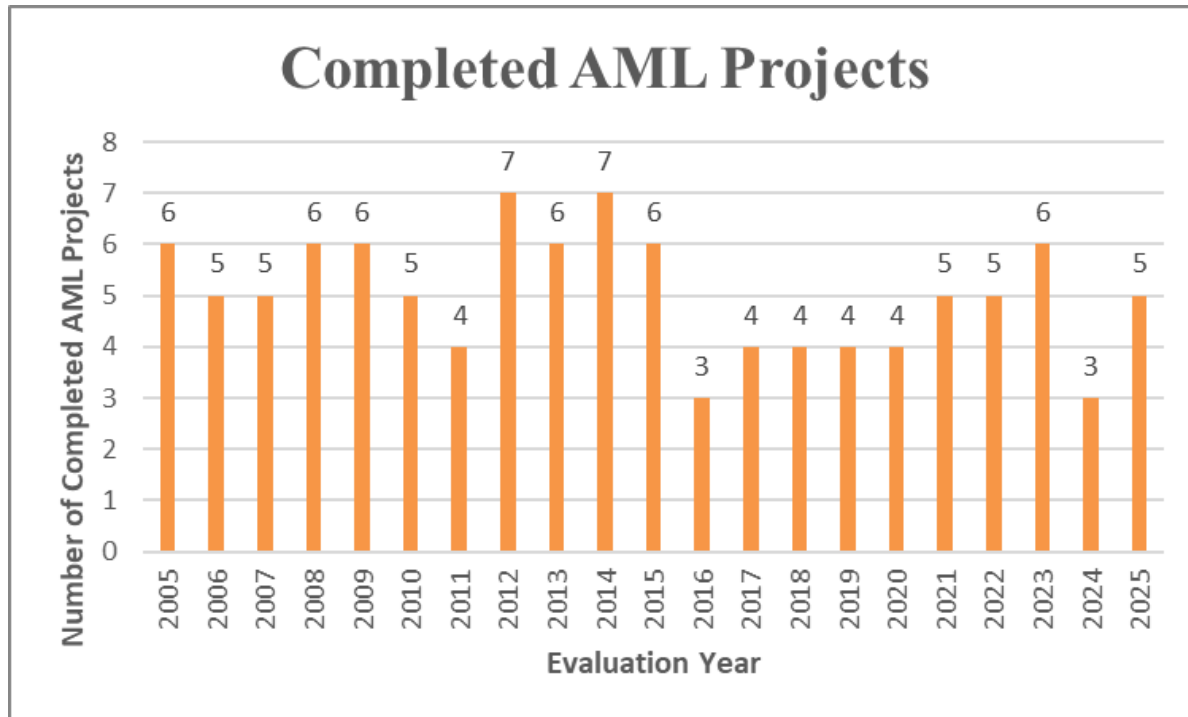


Figure 2: Number of Completed AML Projects

The following is a summary of major non-emergency AML Projects completed during EY2025:

Project Site	Project Cost
2024 Dakota Collieries AML Project	\$1,103,073
2024 Lehigh Road Phase IX AML Project	\$1,234,493
2024 Exploratory Drilling AML Project	\$281,313
2024-2025 Sinkhole Filling & Maintenance AML Project (2024 Sites)	\$226,306
2025 Exploratory Drilling AML Project	\$390,176
TOTAL	\$3,235,361

Figure 3: AML Projects completed during EY2025.

2024 Dakota Collieries AML Project

Begin Date: August 13, 2024

End Date: October 4, 2024

AMLIS Key: ND000014 (Beulah)

Contract Cost: \$1,103,073

Funding Source: IJA (BIL) Consolidated Grant # S23AF00037

NEPA Action: EA completed January 2024. ATP/FONSI issued January 29, 2024.

Location: This site is located approximately 3 miles southeast of Zap, ND, within T144N, R89W, Section 36 and T144N, R88W, Sections 31 and 32, in Mercer County.

Mining History: Several former underground and surface coal mining operations have operated on or nearby the project site. The EL Gunderson Mine began operations in 1905 as a small underground lignite mine and later became the Lucky Strike Mine. Zap Colliery operated a surface lignite mine from at least 1922 and went through several name changes, including the Dakota Collieries Mine in 1938 and the Indian Head Mine in 1955. In a letter dated December 28th, 2023, General Counsel for the State of North Dakota made the determination that this site meets eligibility requirements for abandoned mine reclamation, consistent with 30CFR\$874.12.

Project Summary: A public meeting was held on January 8, 2024, in Beulah, ND to discuss the project and seek input from landowners and the public. This project was split into West, Central and East work areas. Tree removal took place over the winter, to avoid disturbing raptor and bat populations. The West area included subsidence and erosional features from an abandoned surface operation. Approximately 51 subsidence features were filled with spoil material. A soil enhancement mixture was added to the cover material to enhance soil health prior to seeding and mulching. Rock channels were installed or reinforced to help control erosion. The Central area consists of a former surface operation, with 915 feet of dangerous highwall, 50 feet in height. Available topsoil and subsoil were stripped and stockpiled. The highwalls were then back-sloped and back-filled with approximately 115,000 cubic yards of material from adjacent spoil piles. While grading the highwall, a single sinkhole opened, the result of a

previously undocumented underground operation. The sinkhole was filled and compacted on-site. Topsoil and subsoil were respread, and soil amendments were incorporated. Drainage channels were installed to direct surface runoff, and a solar well and two stock tanks were also installed. The East area included spoil material and subsidence features in and adjacent to a farm trail used for property access. Spoil was moved to address erosion and stabilize the slopes. Subsidence features were also filled with spoil. Manure was also incorporated into the surface to help establish vegetation. An old culvert was removed and replaced with a flexible concrete mat. A rock channel was also installed to stabilize erosion. Affected areas were seeded with locally adapted grass species and mulched.

A detailed description of this project, including a completion report prepared by the AMLD, is available on the NDPSC website at <https://www.psc.nd.gov/jurisdiction/aml/projects/2024.php>.

2024 Dakota Collieries AML Project

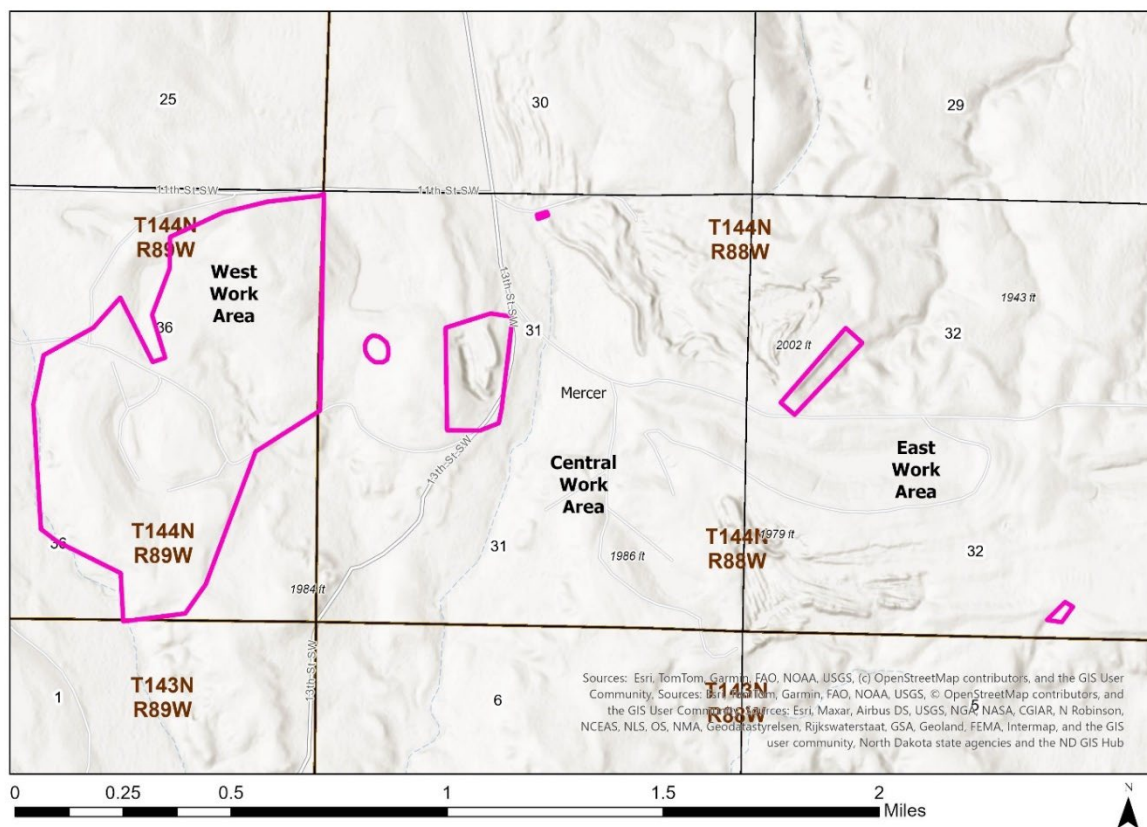


Figure 4: Boundaries and location of 2024 Dakota Collieries AML Project



Central Work Area prior to reclamation. (Photo provided by NDPSC)



Central Work Area after reclamation. (Photo provided by NSPDC)

2024 Lehigh Road Phase IX AML Project

Begin Date: July 18, 2024

End Date: September 19, 2024

AMLIS Key: ND000024 (Binek B, C, D, E, H)

Contract Cost: \$1,234,493

Funding Source: S22AF00047 and S23AF00108

NEPA Action: An Environmental Assessment was completed in January 2024. The ATP/FONSI was issued January 29, 2024.

Location: This project is located approximately four miles southeast of Dickinson, ND, within T139N, R95W, Sections 7, 8, 17, and 18, in Stark County.

Mining History: Multiple underground mines have operated in the project area since at least the early 1900s and continuing through the mid-1970s. The most recent operations include the Dickinson Coal Mine (1941-1975) and Husky Briquetting Inc. (1967-1971). The AMLD has previously conducted

multiple sinkhole filling projects and eight drilling and grouting projects at this site. In a letter dated December 28th, 2023, General Counsel for the state of North Dakota made the determination that this site meets eligibility requirements for abandoned mine reclamation, consistent with 30CFR\$874.12.

Project Summary: A public meeting was held on February 7, 2024, to solicit input from local landowners, government and the general public. This project is a continuation of the 2022 & 2023 Exploratory Drilling Projects. Those projects revealed that the extent of underground mining along LeHigh Road is larger than previously anticipated. Phase IX of this project stabilized abandoned coal mine workings near public infrastructure. The project involved remote backfilling and grouting using existing boreholes, and drilling additional holes as needed. Eighty-six holes were cased, and grout was pumped into thirty-one of the cased holes. Fifty-eight additional holes were filled from adjacent pumping. Approximately 22,338 feet have been drilled, with 3,933 feet of casing, and 3,401 cubic yards of grout were injected. Material testing was also conducted on the grout and fine aggregate to ensure adequate strength. Additional grouting is planned as part of Phase X of this project.

A detailed description of this project, including a completion report prepared by the AMLD, is available on the NDPSC website at <https://www.psc.nd.gov/jurisdiction/aml/projects/2024.php>.

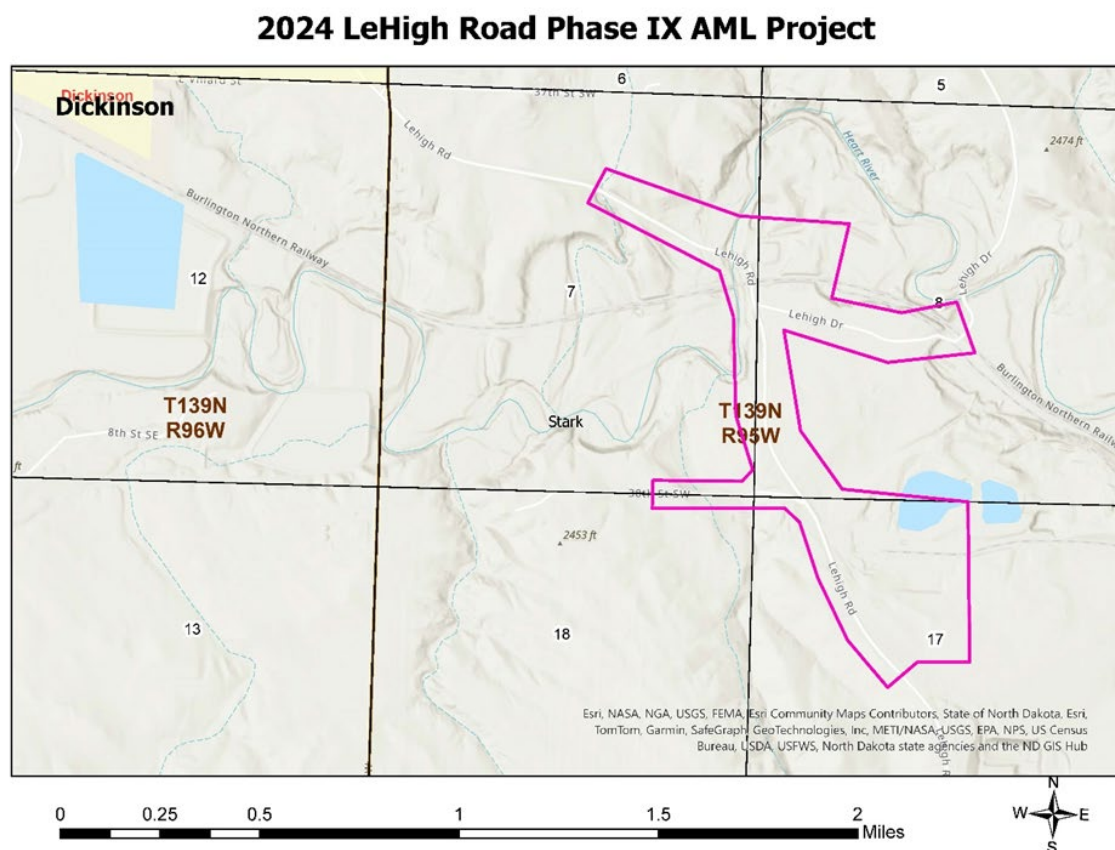


Figure 5: Boundaries and location of 2024 LeHigh Road Phase IX AML Project.

2024 Exploratory Drilling AML Project

Begin Date: May 16, 2024

End Date: June 20, 2024

AMLIS Key: ND000003 (South Scranton), ND000054 (New Salem), ND000528 (Scranton)

Contract Cost: \$312,000

Funding Source: AML Consolidated Grant # S22AF00047 and S23AF00108.

NEPA Action: Categorical Exclusion completed January 29th, 2024. ATP issued January 29, 2024

Project Location: This project included three sites: one located at the western edge of New Salem, T139N, R85W, Sec 21, another located immediately east of Scranton, T131N, R100W, Sec 24, and another immediately South of Scranton at T131N, R100W, Sec 26.

Mining History: The New Salem Site is underlain by an abandoned underground operation. The McCormick Coal Company operated at this location from 1922 until 1932, when the Deep Mine Coal Company continued operations until 1951. This mine is estimated to be from 190 to 240 deep. Mine maps indicate that mining has taken place beneath Highway 10 and other private structures that may potentially be subject to subsidence hazards. The AMLD has conducted one previous reclamation project at this location in 1990.

The South Scranton Site is underlain by the Scranton Lignite Coal Company, which operated an underground mine from 1923 through at least 1946. Sinkholes are prevalent in this area and the AMLD has previously addressed several sinkhole filling and drilling and grouting projects at this location, including a sinkhole in May of 2023 that closed Highway 67 for an extended period of time.

The Northern Scranton Site is underlain by former underground operations that have operated since 1909 through 1936. Surface mining has also occurred at this site from 1918 through 1936. Former operations at this site include the Scranton Coal Mine (1909), Johnson Fuel Company Coal Mine (1917-1923), and the Scranton Coal Mining Company (1932-1936). The AMLD has previously conducted several sinkhole filling projects and three drilling and grouting projects at this site.

In a letter dated December 28th, 2023, General Counsel for the State of North Dakota made the determination that these sites meet eligibility requirements for abandoned mine reclamation, consistent with 30CFR\$874.12.

Project Summary: This project located and characterized underground mine workings that may impact public roads or other infrastructure. A truck mounted drilling rig was used to drill four-inch holes in search of former mine workings. The project completed 20,092 feet of drilling and installed 6,362 feet of casing. Twenty-one holes were cased between the two Scranton sites, and twenty-five holes were cased at the New Salem Site. Mine voids were identified in preparation for additional drilling and grouting projects planned over the next few years at these sites. Those projects will be prioritized based on hazards and potential risks to the public.

A detailed description of this project, including a completion report prepared by the AMLD, is available on the NDPSC website at <https://www.psc.nd.gov/jurisdiction/aml/projects/2024.php>.

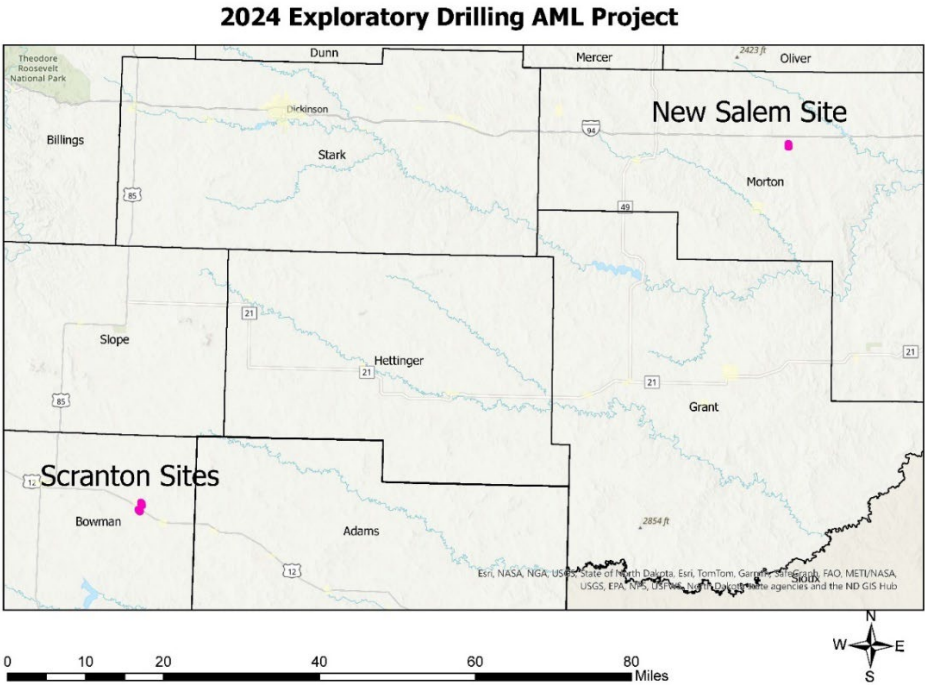


Figure 6: Location of 2024 Exploratory Drilling AML Project

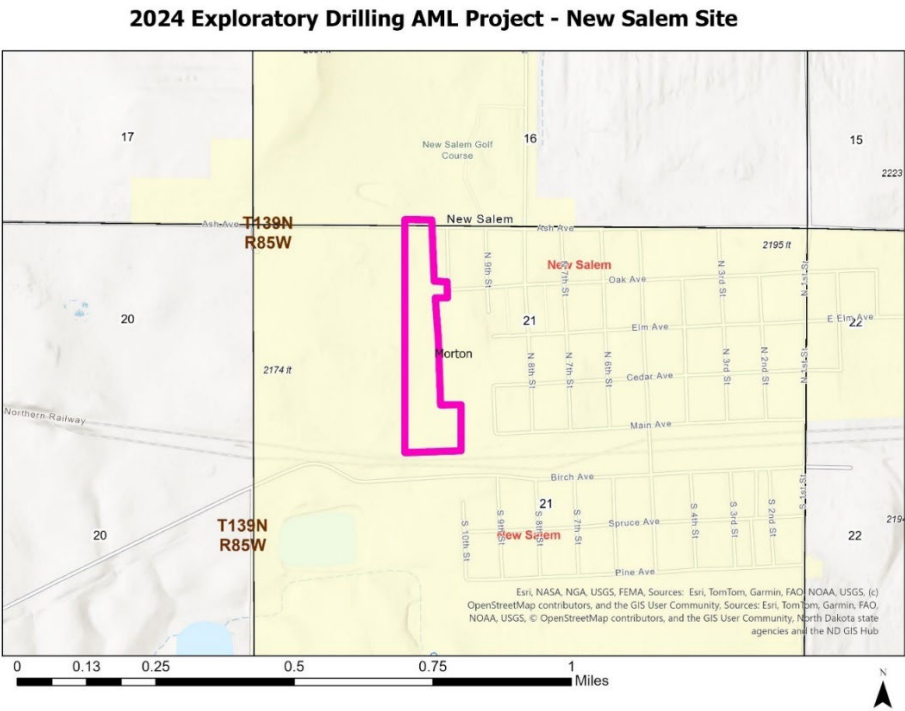


Figure 7: Boundaries and location of 2024 Exploratory Drilling AML Project – New Salem Site.

2024 Exploratory Drilling AML Project - Scranton Sites

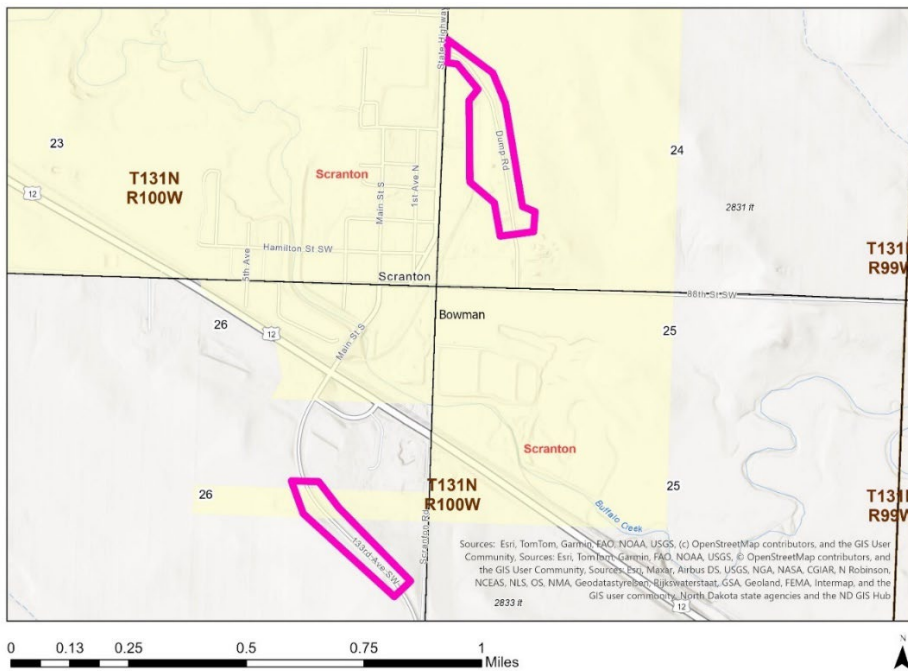


Figure 8: Boundaries and location of 2024 Exploratory Drilling AML Project – Scranton Sites.

2024-2025 Sinkhole Filling and Maintenance AML Project (2024 Sites)

Begin Date: September 16, 2024

End Date: November 13, 2024

AMLIS Keys: South Scranton (ND000003), Washburn (ND000006), Sokolski (ND000009), Beulah (ND000014), Dickinson (ND000024), Richardton (ND000025), Bowman (ND000033), North New Salem Maintenance (ND000100), Haynes (ND000124), Helm Brothers Maintenance (ND000216), and Scranton (ND000528).

Contract Cost: \$226,306

Funding Source: AML Consolidated Grant # S22AF00047 and S23AF00108.

NEPA Action: EA completed September 2022 and ATP/FONSI issued August 29, 2023, and August 8, 2024.

Project Summary: This multi-year project is reported annually and involves the surface backfilling of dangerous sinkholes caused by subsidence of underground mines. The project also includes maintenance items for previous projects, otherwise deemed complete. Construction work for the 2024 Sites took place beginning September 16, 2024, and ended by November 13, 2024 (which is encompassed by EY2025). Remaining sites will be addressed during EY2026. Over 132 sinkholes were filled at nine sites, including sites at: Bowman, Scranton, Haynes, Beach, Dickinson, Richardton, Beulah, and Washburn. Maintenance work was also conducted at the Helm Brothers Site (2019 Morton County Phase 2 AML Project), and the North New Salem Site (2022 Morton County Phase 3 AML Project).

For sinkhole filling sites, areas are backfilled and re-spread with available topsoil and seeded with native grass mixes. Construction activities involved stockpiling topsoil or other suitable plant growth material, excavating the sinkhole and backfilling with approved fill material. The areas were then graded to blend into adjacent topography, respread with topsoil and seeded with locally adapted native grasses. The Helm Brothers Site maintenance included the grading of erosional features, soil amendments/fertilizer, and reseeding. The North New Salem Site maintenance included the application of additional fill material for settling and subsidence features.

The EA for the sinkhole sites in this project was completed in September of 2022. While it is impossible to predict exactly when and where sinkholes will occur, the EA for this project evaluates potential sites within historic mining districts and includes areas where sinkholes have been documented in the past. Sinkholes commonly open in the spring, as frozen ground thaws and water stored as ice and snow over the winter seeps into shallow underground mine voids, contributing to the collapse of overburden. Occasional maintenance work may also be required. Historic mining districts occur near the towns of Beach, Beulah, Bowman, Burlington, Dickinson, Garrison, Hanks, Havelock, Haynes, Hebron, Heil/Comet, Lefor, Leith, New Salem, New Leipzig, Niobe, Noonan, Parshall, Regent, Richardton, Scranton, Tioga, Velva, Washburn, White Earth, Williston, Wilton, Zap, and Zenith.

Summary of Sinkhole Filling and Maintenance Sites completed during EY2025:

Scranton Sites (ND000003 and ND000528)

Begin Date: October 2, 2024

End Date: October 3, 2024

AMLIS Keys: South Scranton (ND000003), and Scranton (ND000528).

Contract Cost: \$2,842 (South Scranton) and \$4,393 (Scranton)

Funding Source: AML Consolidated Grant # S22AF00047.

NEPA Action: EA completed September 2022 and ATP/FONSI issued November 1, 2022, and August 29, 2023.

Location: T131N R100W, Sections 24 and 26. Both sites overlap municipal boundaries for the town of Scranton, ND, Bowman County.

Mining History: The South Scranton Site (ND000003), in Section 26, likely overlies the former Scranton Lignite Coal Company or Andy's Mine. This mine was an underground operation that began operations around 1923 and operated until at least 1946. The mine exploited a 17 ft coal seam, of which, 9 ft was extracted, and approximately 75 ft of overburden. At its peak this mine produced 9,647 tons in 1938. The Scranton Site (ND000528), in Section 24, likely overlies an abandoned underground operation that began in 1909 as the Scranton Coal Mine and operated until at least 1936 under the following names: Johnson Fuel Co. Coal Mine, Johnson Coal Co., The Johnson Fuel Co., Scranton Coal Mining Co., Scranton Collieries Corporation, Northwestern Power Company, and Scranton Coal Mining

Company. This operation reported mining 10 ft of a 19 ft seam, with 40 ft of overburden, and later reported mining 7-12 ft of a 19 ft seam with 50 ft of overburden.

Site Summary: Twelve sinkholes were filled between the two sites. The areas were respread with topsoil and seeded with a native pasture seed mixture.

Washburn Site (ND000006):

Begin Date: November 8, 2024

End Date: November 13, 2024

AMLIS Keys: Washburn (ND000006).

Contract Cost: \$9,650

Funding Source: AML Consolidated Grant # S22AF00047 and S23AF00108.

NEPA Action: EA completed September 2022 and ATP/FONSI issued November 1, 2022, and August 29, 2023.

Location: T144N R83W, Sections 10 and 11. Seven miles west of Washburn, ND, McLean County.

Mining History: The area in Section 11 is likely undermined by the former Pfister Coal Mine. This is an abandoned underground operation that began operations sometime prior to 1916 and may have operated through 1953, however, little information is available as to when this operation ceased. The operation mined 6-7 ft of a 7.5-8 ft coal seam, with 30-47 ft of overburden. Its largest recorded production was 1,675 tons in 1930. The sinkholes in Section 10 are likely the result of one of two recorded abandoned underground mines in the area; the Brown Coal Mine or the Youngquist Coal Mine. The Brown Mine likely operated prior to 1935 and ceased operations around 1942. Its largest production year was 1937, with 833 tons of coal. The Youngquist Coal Mine began reporting in 1909 but may have been in operation since 1883. It operated until at least 1934. The operation reportedly mined 6-7 ft of coal from a 7.5-11 ft seam, with 35-80 ft of overburden. Its largest production year was 1912, with 1,200 tons of coal.

Site Summary: Thirty sinkholes were filled between the two areas in Sections 10 and 11. The areas were respread with topsoil and seeded with a native pasture seed mixture.

Sokolski/Beach Site (ND000009):

Begin Date: October 14, 2024

End Date: October 16, 2024

AMLIS Keys: Sokolski (ND000009)

Contract Cost: \$5,200

Funding Source: AML Consolidated Grant # S22AF00047.

NEPA Action: EA completed September 2022 and ATP/FONSI issued August 29, 2023.

Location: T139N R106W, Section 34. Eight miles southwest of Beach, ND, in Golden Valley County.

Mining History: This site is likely underlain by the Schauer Coal Mine, an abandoned underground operation that began in 1939 and operated through 1946. No information is available regarding the thickness or depth of coal. The greatest production years were 1942 and 1943, with 3,400 tons mined each year.

Site Summary: A single large sinkhole was filled at this location. The area was respread with topsoil, provided by the landowner and seeded with winter wheat, also provided by the landowner.

Beulah Site (ND000014):

Begin Date: October 25, 2024

End Date: November 8, 2024

AMLIS Keys: Beulah (ND000014).

Contract Cost: \$29,105

Funding Source: AML Consolidated Grant # S22AF00047 and S23AF00108.

NEPA Action: EA completed September 2022 and ATP/FONSI issued November 1, 2022, August 29, 2023, August 8, 2024, and May 2, 2025.

Location: T144N R88W, Sections 12 and 13, and T144N R87W, Section 30. Within one mile of Beulah, ND, Mercer County.

Mining History: The areas in Section 12 and 13 are likely underlain by the Kessler Coal Mine, an abandoned underground operation that began in 1917 and operated through 1930. The operation mined 9-14 ft of an 18 ft coal seam, with 30 ft of overburden. The greatest production year for this operation was 1917, when it produced 1,054 tons of coal. This area may also have been undermined by the Knife River Coal Company, from 1915 through 1953. Knife River reported mining 7-10 ft of an 11-14 ft coal seam, with 40-100 ft of overburden. This operation produced up to 455,097 tons of coal in 1951. Mining operations beneath Section 30 are unknown.

Site Summary: Forty-six large sinkholes were filled between three distinct areas. Coal seams in the Beulah area can range from 15 to 24 feet in thickness, resulting in large scale collapse. Affected areas were filled, spread with topsoil and seeded with a native pasture seed mix.

Dickinson Site (ND000024):

Begin Date: October 16, 2024

End Date: October 24, 2024

AMLIS Keys: Dickinson (ND000024)

Contract Cost: \$19,011

Funding Source: AML Consolidated Grant # S22AF00047.

NEPA Action: EA completed September 2022 and ATP/FONSI issued November 1, 2022, and August 29, 2023.

Location: T139N R95W, Sections 8, 17 and 18. Three miles southeast of Dickinson, ND, Stark County.

Mining History: Possible candidates for underground operations that may have mined in this area are, an unknown underground mine in the northwest quarter of Section 17, the Turner Mine, another underground operation that operated in 1923, and LeHigh Briquetting Company. Little is known about the two previous mines, but the LeHigh Briquetting Company, or the same operation by another name, mined underground coal in the area since at least 1921 through 1957. The operation mined 7-8 ft of coal from a 6.5-14 ft seam, with an unknown thickness of overburden. The greatest production year for the mine was 1942, when it produced 113,285 tons. Another possible source for subsidence in Section 8 is the Reilly Coal Company, which operated an underground mine that began in 1926 and ran through 1937. This operation mined 7 ft of a 12.5 ft seam, and an unknown thickness of overburden. Its largest production year was 1933, with 4,659 tons of coal.

Site Summary: Twenty-five sinkholes were filled on three distinct areas. Many of these features had very little exposure at the surface, making them especially dangerous and difficult to detect. Affected areas were filled, spread with topsoil and seeded with a native pasture seed mix.

Richardton Site (ND000025):

Begin Date: October 23, 2024

End Date: October 25, 2024

AMLIS Keys: Richardton (ND000025)

Contract Cost: \$3,100

Funding Source: AML Consolidated Grant # S22AF00047

NEPA Action: EA completed September 2022 and ATP/FONSI issued November 1, 2022, and August 29, 2023.

Location: T139N R92W, Section 5. Within one mile of Richardton, ND, Stark County.

Mining History: Possible underground operations in Section 5 include the Hinz Mine and the North Star Coal Mine. No information is available for the Hinz Mine, but the North Star Mine began operations in 1914 and continued through 1935. This operation mined 5 to 5.5 ft of coal from a 5-6 ft coal seam, with 40-100 ft of overburden. The mine's greatest production occurred in 1919, with 3,053 tons of coal.

Site Summary: Five sinkholes were filled at this location. Affected areas were filled, spread with topsoil and seeded with a native pasture seed mix.

Bowman Site (ND000033):

Begin Date: September 30, 2024

End Date: October 1, 2024

AMLIS Keys: Bowman (ND000033)

Contract Cost: \$6,010

Funding Source: AML Consolidated Grant # S22AF00047

NEPA Action: EA completed September 2022 and ATP/FONSI issued November 1, 2022, and August 29, 2023.

Location: T132N R102W, Section 15. Five miles north of Bowman, ND.

Mining History: The only record of an underground operation in Section 15 is the Halleck Coal Mine, which operated in 1926. No further information was found on the mine.

Site Summary: Four sinkholes were filled at this location. Affected areas were filled, spread with topsoil and seeded with a native pasture seed mix.

North New Salem Maintenance Site (ND000100):

Begin Date: April 29, 2025

End Date: June 6, 2025

AMLIS Keys: North New Salem Maintenance (ND000100)

Contract Cost: \$48,935

Funding Source: AML Consolidated Grant # S22AF00047 and S23AF00108

NEPA Action: EA completed November 2021 and ATP/FONSI issued December 9, 2021, and OSMRE concurrence that the existing ATP is valid issued August 8, 2024.

Location: T140N R85W, Section 19. Approximately 5 miles northwest of New Salem, ND, Morton County.

Mining History: The New Salem Maintenance Site is the site of the former Youngstown Mine. The Youngstown Mine is an abandoned surface operation. No further information is available regarding this mine.

Site Summary: This site encompasses 12.5 acres and was reclaimed in 2022 by the AMLD as part of the 2022 Morton County Phase 3 AML Project. During reclamation efforts in 2022, approximately 3200 ft of highwall was back sloped and backfilled. Erosional rills and settlement features have since developed. Maintenance for this site required the grading of erosional features. Soil amendments were incorporated and mixed with existing topsoil. The site was then re-seeded with a seed mix for native pasture.

Haynes Site (ND000124):

Begin Date: October 3, 2024

End Date: October 4, 2024

AMLIS Keys: Haynes (ND000124),

Contract Cost: \$9,245

Funding Source: AML Consolidated Grant # S22AF00047 and S23AF00108.

NEPA Action: EA completed September 2022 and ATP/FONSI issued August 8, 2024.

Location: T129N R94W, Section 16. Three miles northeast of Haynes, ND, Adams County.

Mining History: Possible underground operations in Section 16 include, the Arrowhead Mine, the Smith Mine, Haynes Coal Company, and the Rupp Mine. The Arrowhead Mine, which also operated as the Rupp Coal Mine, or Dakota Collieries Company, mine operated from 1935 through 1973. No information is available on coal or overburden thickness. Production peaked in 1947 with 49,964 tons. No information is available for the Haynes Coal Company, Rupp or Smith Mines.

Site Summary: Nine sinkholes were filled at this site. Affected areas were filled, spread with topsoil and seeded with a native pasture seed mix.

Helm Brothers Maintenance Site (ND000216):

Begin Date: September 16, 2024

End Date: September 20, 2024

AMLIS Keys: Helm Brothers Maintenance (ND000216)

Contract Cost: \$137,750

Funding Source: AML Consolidated Grant # S22AF00047 and S23AF00108

NEPA Action: EA completed January 2019 and ATP/FONSI issued February 3, 2019, and OSMRE concurrence that the existing ATP is valid issued August 8, 2024.

Location: T140N R82W, Section 17. Approximately 6 miles northwest of Mandan, ND, Morton County.

Mining History: The Helm Brothers Mine is a surface operation that mined coal in or around 1925. The exact dates of operation are not known. This operation reportedly mined a 4 ft seam of coal that was very near the surface.

Site Summary: This site encompasses 16.5 acres and was reclaimed in 2019 by the AMLD as part of the Morton County Phase 2 AML Project. Erosional rills have since developed, in part due to limited topsoil and sparse precipitation. Maintenance for this site required the grading of erosional features. Soil amendments were incorporated and mixed with existing topsoil. The site was then re-seeded with a seed mix for native pasture.

A detailed description of this project, including a completion report prepared by the AMLD, is available on the NDPSC website at <https://www.psc.nd.gov/jurisdiction/aml/projects/2024.php>.

2024 Sinkhole Filling and Maintenance Sites

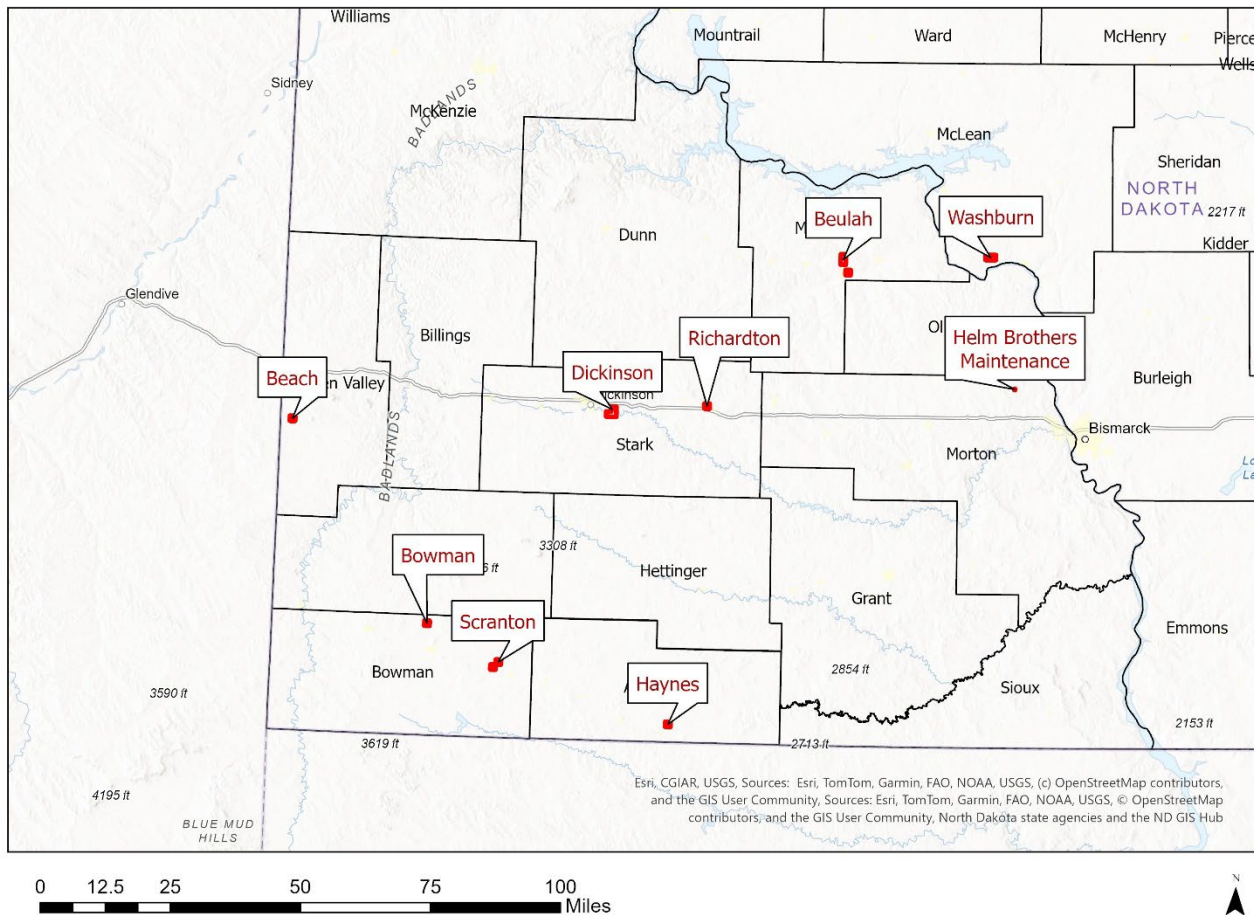


Figure 9: Location of Sinkhole Filling and Maintenance Project Sites completed during EY2025 in North Dakota.

2025 Exploratory Drilling AML Project

Begin Date: December 26, 2024

End Date: March 17, 2025

AMLIS Key: ND000054 (New Salem)

Contract Cost: \$390,176

Funding Source: AML Consolidated Grant # S23AF00108.

NEPA Action: Categorical Exclusion completed November 20, 2024. ATP issued November 20, 2024.

Project Location: This project is located at the western edge of New Salem, ND at T139N, R85W, Sec 21.

Mining History: The New Salem Site is underlain by an abandoned underground operation. The McCormick Coal Company operated at this location from 1922 until 1932, when the Deep Mine Coal Company continued operations until 1951. This mine is estimated to be from 190 to 240 deep. Mine maps indicate that mining has taken place beneath Highway 10 and other private structures that may

potentially be subject to subsidence hazards. This project is a continuation of the 2024 Exploratory Drilling AML Project. The AMLD also conducted a previous reclamation project at this location in 1990. In a letter dated December 28th, 2023, General Counsel for the state of North Dakota made the determination that this site meets eligibility requirements for abandoned mine reclamation, consistent with 30CFR\$874.12.

Project Summary:

This project located and characterized underground mine workings that may impact public roads or other infrastructure. A truck mounted drilling rig was used to drill four-inch holes in search of former mine workings. The project completed 25,275 feet of drilling and installed 5,533 feet of casing. One hundred and two holes were drilled, and twenty-four holes were cased at this site. Mine voids were identified in preparation for additional drilling and grouting projects planned over the next few years. Those projects will be prioritized based on hazards and potential risks to the public.

A detailed description of this project, including a completion report prepared by the AMLD, is available on the NDPSC website at <https://www.psc.nd.gov/jurisdiction/aml/projects/2025.php>.

2025 Exploratory Drilling AML Project - New Salem Site

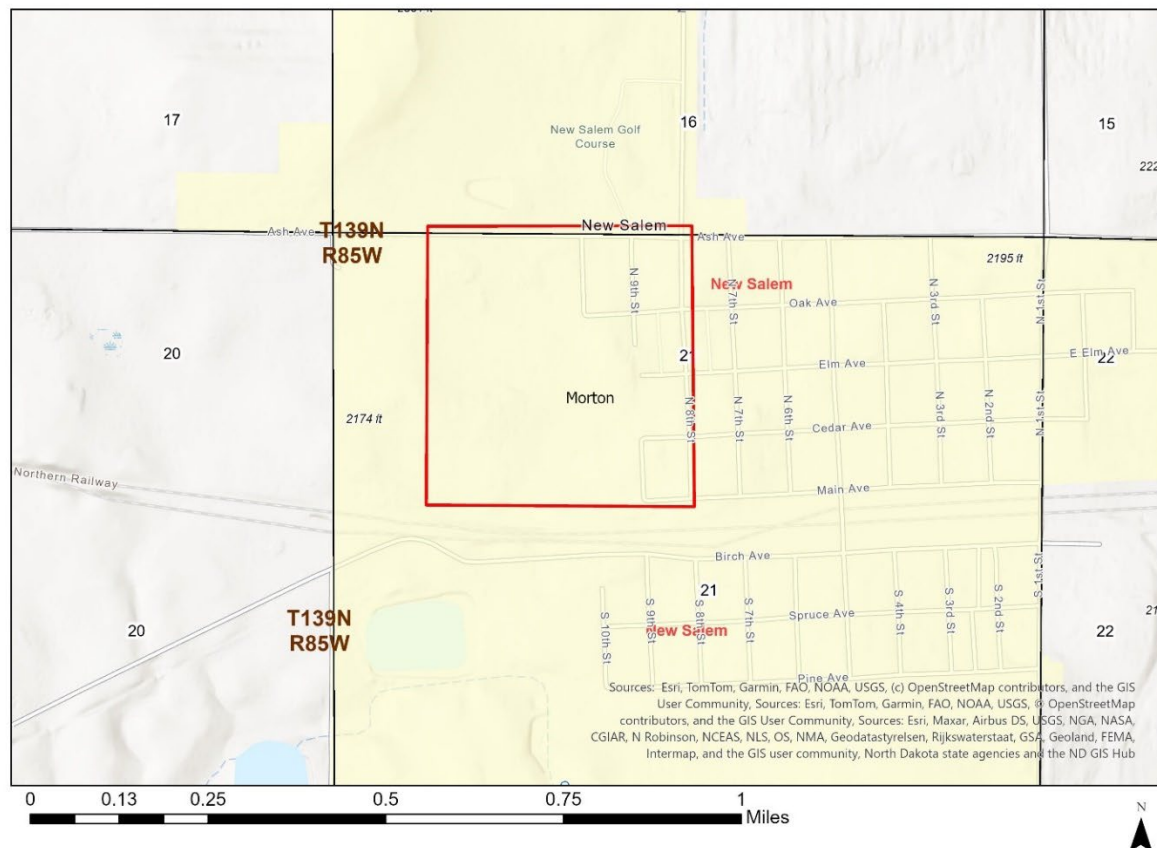


Figure 10: Location of 2025 Exploratory Drilling AML Project

2026 Construction Ready Projects

The following is a summary of construction ready projects. These are estimates of project areas for which information is available for preliminary project design. Field construction is expected to be carried out over the summer and fall of 2025, and completion data will be reported in OSMRE's EY2026 oversight evaluation report.

Project Site	Estimated Project Cost
2025 Buechler Velva Phase 3 AML Project	\$1,948,500
2025 Lehigh Phase X AML Project	\$850,000
2025 Scranton Phase IV AML Project	\$1,035,000
2024-2025 Sinkhole Filling & Maintenance AML Project (2025 Sites)	\$150,000
TOTAL	\$3,983,500

Figure 11: Construction Ready Projects planned for the summer and fall of 2025 (EY2026).

2025 Buechler Velva Phase 3 AML Project

Estimated Begin Date: December 2024

Estimated End Date: November 2025

AMLIS Key: ND000004 (Buechler Knorr)

Estimated Contract Cost: \$1,948,500

Anticipated Funding Source: IJJA Grant # S23AF00037, IJJA Grant # S24AF00018, and IJJA Grant # S25AF00127.

NEPA Action: EA completed January 2024. ATP/FONSI issued January 29, 2024. Amended Dec. 3, 2024, and July 25, 2025. Both amendments were to updated funding sources.

Location: This project is located approximately 10 miles southwest of Velva, ND at T151N, R81W, Sec 1, in Ward County.

Mining History: This project encompasses the former Truax-Traer abandoned surface mine. The Truax Traer Coal Company operated at this site beginning around 1927 and continued until 1969. It operated as the Consolidated Coal Company's Velva Mine from 1970 until final closure in 1991. The mine exploited a 15 ft coal seam, with approximately 30 ft of overburden. AT it's peak, the mine produced 567,351 tons in 1974. In a letter dated December 28th, 2023, General Counsel for the state of North Dakota made the determination that this site meets eligibility requirements for abandoned mine reclamation, consistent with 30CFR\$874.12

Project Summary: This project involves the backsloping and backfilling of approximately 2,900 feet of Priority 2 dangerous highwalls. The site encompasses approximately 81 acres and contains steep, eroding highwalls, approximately 35 ft in height. Work is proposed in two phases. The first phase involves tree removal planned for December 2024 through March 2025. The second phase is planned

between May and November 2025 and involves using adjacent spoil piles to backslope and backfill the highwall. Affected areas are to be re-seeded with native grass species.

2025 Buechler Velva Phase 3 AML Project

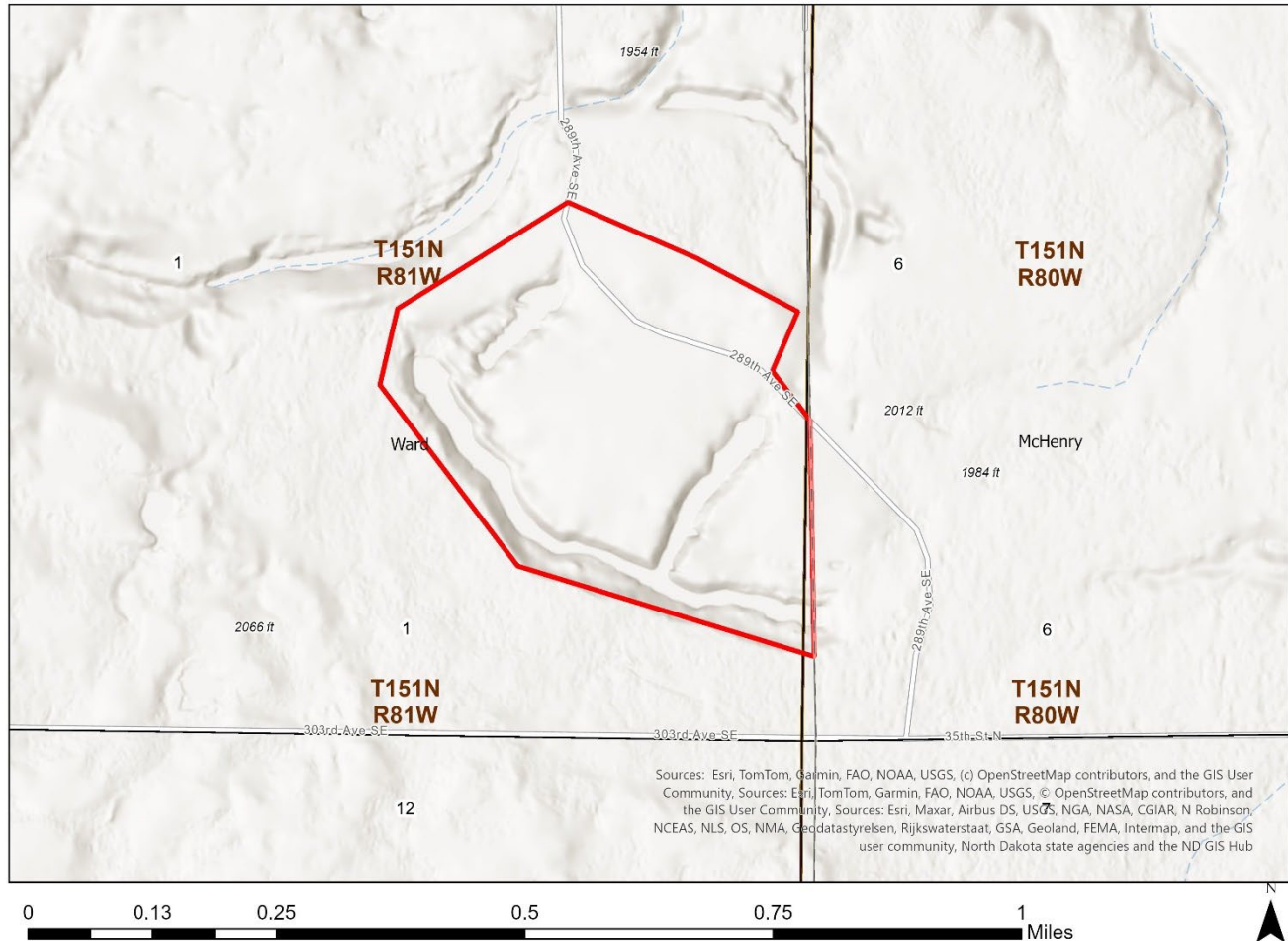


Figure 12: Boundaries and location of 2025 Buechler Velva Phase 3 AML Project

2025 Lehigh Phase X AML Project

Estimated Begin Date: May 2025

Estimated End Date: September 2025

AMLIS Key: ND000024 (Binek B, C, D, E, H)

Contract Cost: \$850,000

Funding Source: AML fee-based S22AF00047, and AML fee-based S23AF00108

NEPA Action: An Environmental Assessment was completed in January 2024. The ATP/FONSI was issued November 25, 2024.

Location: This project is located approximately four miles southeast of Dickinson, ND, within T139N, R95W, Sections 7, 8, 17, and 18, in Stark County.

Mining History: Multiple underground mines have operated in the project area since at least the early 1900s and continuing through the mid-1970s. The most recent operations include the Dickinson Coal Mine (1941-1975) and Husky Briquetting Inc. (1967-1971). The AMLD has previously conducted multiple sinkhole filling projects and eight drilling and grouting projects at this site. In a letter dated December 28th, 2023, General Counsel for the state of North Dakota made the determination that this site meets eligibility requirements for abandoned mine reclamation, consistent with 30CFR§874.12.

Project Summary: A public meeting was held on February 7, 2024, to solicit input from local landowners, government and the general public. This project is a continuation of the 2022 & 2023 Exploratory Drilling Projects and the 2024 LeHigh Road Phase IX AML Projects. Exploratory drilling revealed that the extent of underground mining along LeHigh Road is larger than previously anticipated. Phase X of this project intends to continue the remote backfilling and grouting of abandoned mine workings using existing boreholes, and drilling additional holes as needed. Material testing is also planned for the grout and fine aggregate to ensure adequate strength.

2025 LeHigh Road Phase X AML Project

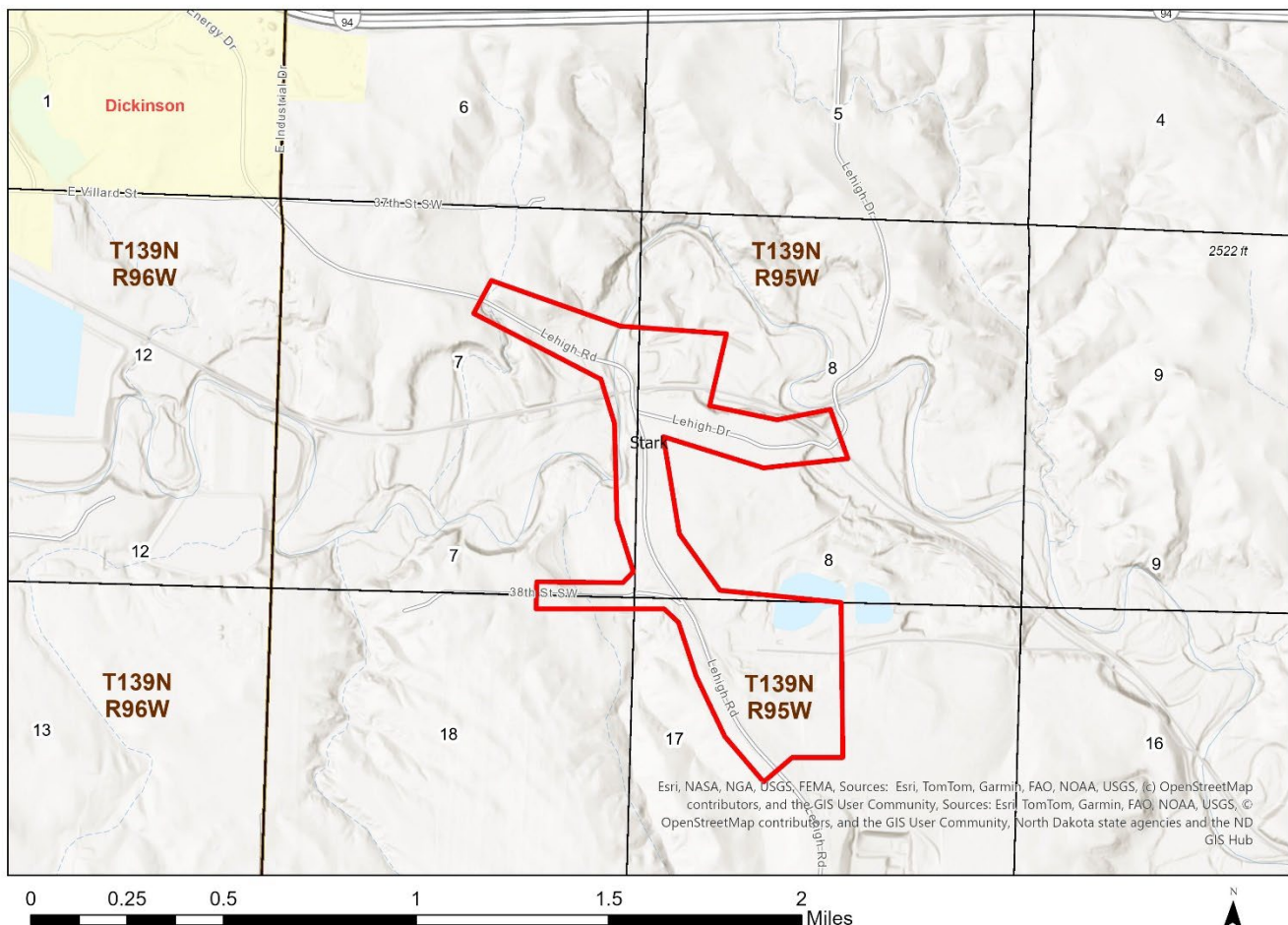


Figure 13: Boundaries and Location of 2025 Lehigh Road Phase X AML Project

2025 Scranton Phase IV AML Project

Estimated Begin Date: May 2025

Estimated End Date: August 2025

AMLIS Key: ND000003 (South Scranton), ND000528 (Scranton)

Estimated Contract Cost: \$1,035,000 (\$455,000-ND000003 and \$580,000-ND000528)

Anticipated Funding Source: AML Consolidated Grants S23AF00108, and S24AF00084.

NEPA Action: Categorical Exclusion completed January 29th, 2024. ATP issued January 29, 2024

Location: This project includes two sites: one located immediately east of Scranton, T131N, R100W, Sec 24 (ND000528), and another immediately South of Scranton at T131N, R100W, Sec 26 (ND000003). Both sites are in Bowman County, ND.

Mining History:

The South Scranton Site (ND000003) likely overlies the former Scranton Lignite Coal Company or Andy's Mine. This mine was an underground operation that began operations around 1923 and operated until at least 1946. The mine exploited a 17 ft coal seam, of which, 9 ft was extracted, and approximately 75 ft of overburden. At its peak this mine produced 9,647 tons in 1938.

The Scranton Site (ND000528) likely overlies an abandoned underground operation that began in 1909 as the Scranton Coal Mine and operated until at least 1936 under the following names: Johnson Fuel Co. Coal Mine, Johnson Coal Co., The Johnson Fuel Co., Scranton Coal Mining Co., Scranton Collieries Corporation, Northwestern Power Company, and Scranton Coal Mining Company. This operation reported mining 10 ft of a 19 ft seam, with 40 ft of overburden, and later reported mining 7-12 ft of a 19 ft seam with 50 ft of overburden.

Project Summary: This project is a continuation of the 2024 Exploratory Drilling Project. That project revealed the extent of mine voids along 133rd Ave SW. Phase IV of this project intends to conduct remote backfilling to stabilize these features. It is estimated that approximately 2,500 cubic yards of grout will be required.

2025 Scranton Phase 4 AML Project

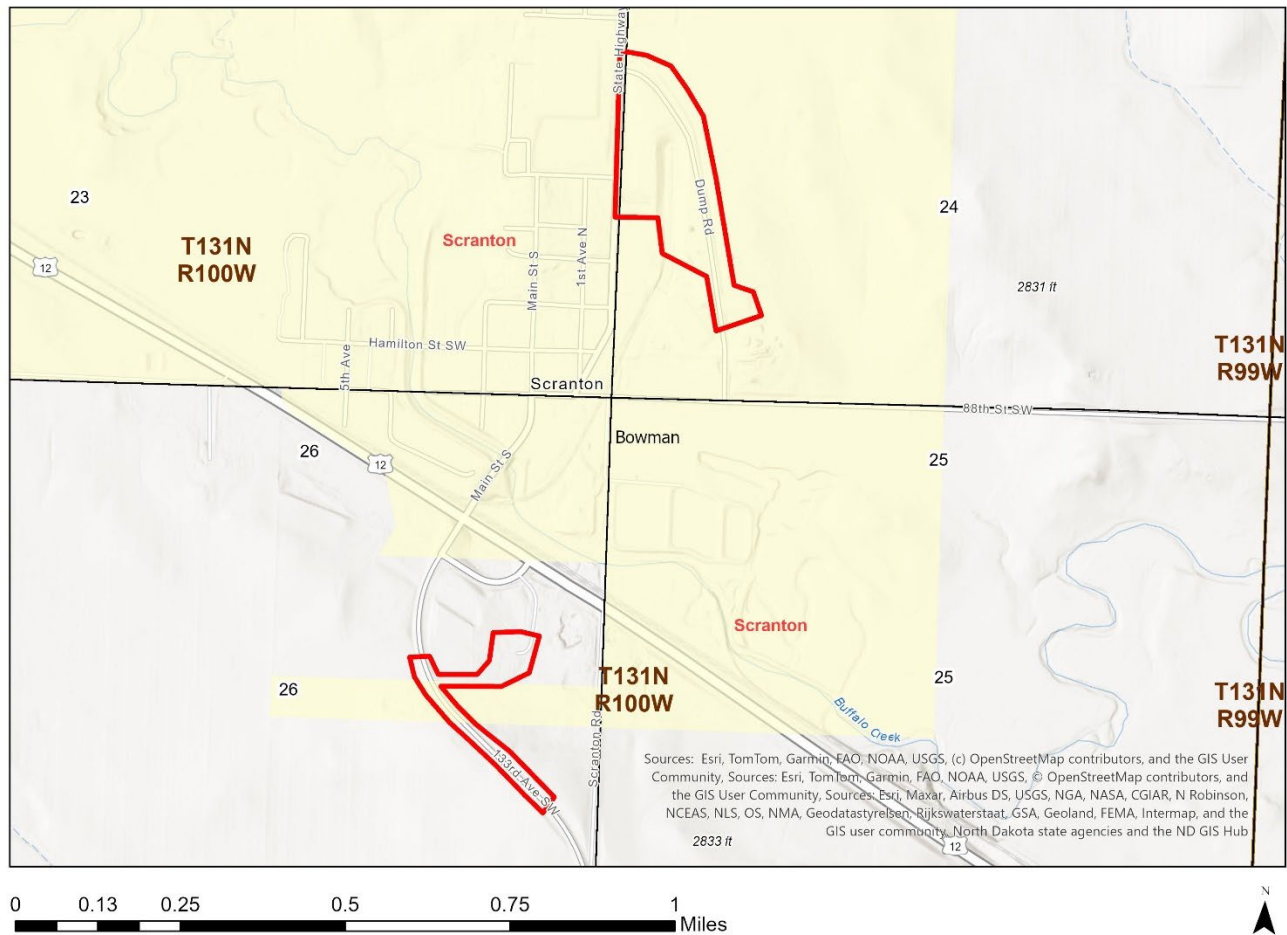


Figure 14: Boundaries and Location of 2025 Scranton Phase IV AML Project

2024-2025 Sinkhole Filling and Maintenance AML Project (2025 Sites)

Estimated Begin Date: Summer 2025

Estimated End Date: Fall 2025

AMLIS Keys: Wilton (ND000001), South Scranton (ND000003), Washburn/Black Diamond (ND000006), Beach/Sokoloski (ND000009), Coal Lake A,B (ND000012), Beulah (ND000014), Dickinson/Binek B,C,D,E,H (ND000024), Richardton/Abbey A,B (ND000025), Ruck (ND000026), Noonan (ND000029), New Leipzig (ND000030), Columbus (ND000031), Bowman/Andrews Lake (ND000033), North New Salem (ND000100), Comet (ND000109), Williston/Williams County Road 9 (ND000111), Haynes (ND000124), Custer (ND000136), Helm Brothers (ND000216), and Scranton (ND000528).

Estimated Contract Cost: \$150,000

Anticipated Funding Source: AML Consolidated Grant # S22AF00047, S23AF00108, and S24AF000084.

NEPA Action:

- An EA completed September 2022 includes all potential sinkhole filling project sites listed above. Maintenance sites ND000031, ND000100 and ND000216 are not included in the EA dated September 2022.
- An ATP/FONSI issued August 8, 2024, includes the following sites: Beulah (ND000014), Ruck (ND000026), New Leipzig (ND000030), Comet (ND000109), Williston/Williams County Road 9 (ND000111), Haynes (ND000124). The same letter concurs that ATPs issued Nov 1, 2022, and Aug 29, 2023, for the 2022 and 2023 Sinkhole Filling Projects remain current and valid for sites entered as PADs ND000001, ND000003, ND000006, ND000009, ND000012, ND000024, ND000025, ND000029, ND000033, and ND000528 that were incomplete or required maintenance. The letter also concurs that ATPs issued on Jan 29, 2015 for the Columbus Phase 15 Project, Feb 5, 2019 for the Morton County Phase 2 Project (Helm Bros Site), and on Dec 9, 2021 for the Morton County Phase 3 Project (North New Salem Site) remain current and valid for project sites entered into the e-AMLIS as PADs ND000031, ND000216, and ND000100 that require maintenance, providing the scope and location of the project has not changed.
- An ATP/CatEx was issued May 2, 2025, for the Beulah Site (ND000014).
- An ATP/CatEx was issued May 2, 2025, for the Custer Site (ND000136).
- An ATP/CatEx was issued June 6, 2025, for the Williston/Williams County Road 9 Site (ND000111).

Anticipated Sinkhole Filling and Maintenance Site Locations Planned for EY2026:

- Wilton (ND000001): T143N R80W Section 36, T142N R80W Section 1, T142N R79W Sections 5,6,8.
- Beulah (ND000014): T143N R89W Section 1, T144N R87W Sections 6,7,18, T144N R88W Sections 12,13, T144N R89W Section 17.
- Ruck (ND000026): T134N R91W Section 24.
- 2015 Columbus Phase 15 Columbus Project - Maintenance (ND000031): T162N R94W Sections 8,9, T162N R93W Section 27.
- Williston/Williams County Road 9 (ND000111): T154N R100W Sections 7,8,17, 27,28,33,34, T153N R100W Sections 3,4,9.
- Haynes (ND000124): T129 R94 Sections 6,8,9,15,16, T129 R95 Section 1.

Project Summary: This is a multi-year project that is administered annually and involves the surface backfilling of dangerous sinkholes caused by subsidence of underground mines. The sites listed above were included in a request for authorization dated August 5, 2024, which included potential sites planned for construction during the 2024 and 2025 field seasons. The same letter also requested concurrence for Sinkhole Filling and Maintenance project sites previously authorized for construction during the 2022, 2023, 2024, or 2025 seasons, but have not yet been completed. In 2023, the NDPSC solicited four sinkhole filling contracts, but only received one contract bid, leaving many of the proposed sites unreclaimed.

Construction work for the 2025 Sites will take place during the summer and fall of 2025 and results will be reported in the oversight evaluation report for EY2026. Construction activities for the sinkhole filling sites will involve stockpiling topsoil or other suitable plant growth material, excavating the sinkhole and backfilling with approved fill material. The areas will be graded to blend into adjacent topography, respread with topsoil and seeded with locally adapted native grasses. Construction activities for the maintenance sites generally involve grading of erosional features, mowing, soil amendment/fertilizers, and reseeding.

While it is impossible to predict exactly when and where sinkholes will occur, the EA for this project evaluates potential sites within historic mining districts and includes areas where sinkholes have been documented in the past. Sinkholes commonly open in the spring, as frozen ground thaws and water stored as ice and snow over the winter seeps into shallow underground mine voids, contributing to the collapse of overburden. Occasional maintenance work may also be required. Historic mining districts occur near the towns of Beach, Beulah, Bowman, Burlington, Dickinson, Garrison, Hanks, Havelock, Haynes, Hebron, Heil/Comet, Lefor, Leith, New Salem, New Leipzig, Niobe, Noonan, Parshall, Regent, Richardton, Scranton, Tioga, Velva, Washburn, White Earth, Williston, Wilton, Zap, and Zenith.

Proposed 2025 Sinkhole Filling & Maintenance Sites

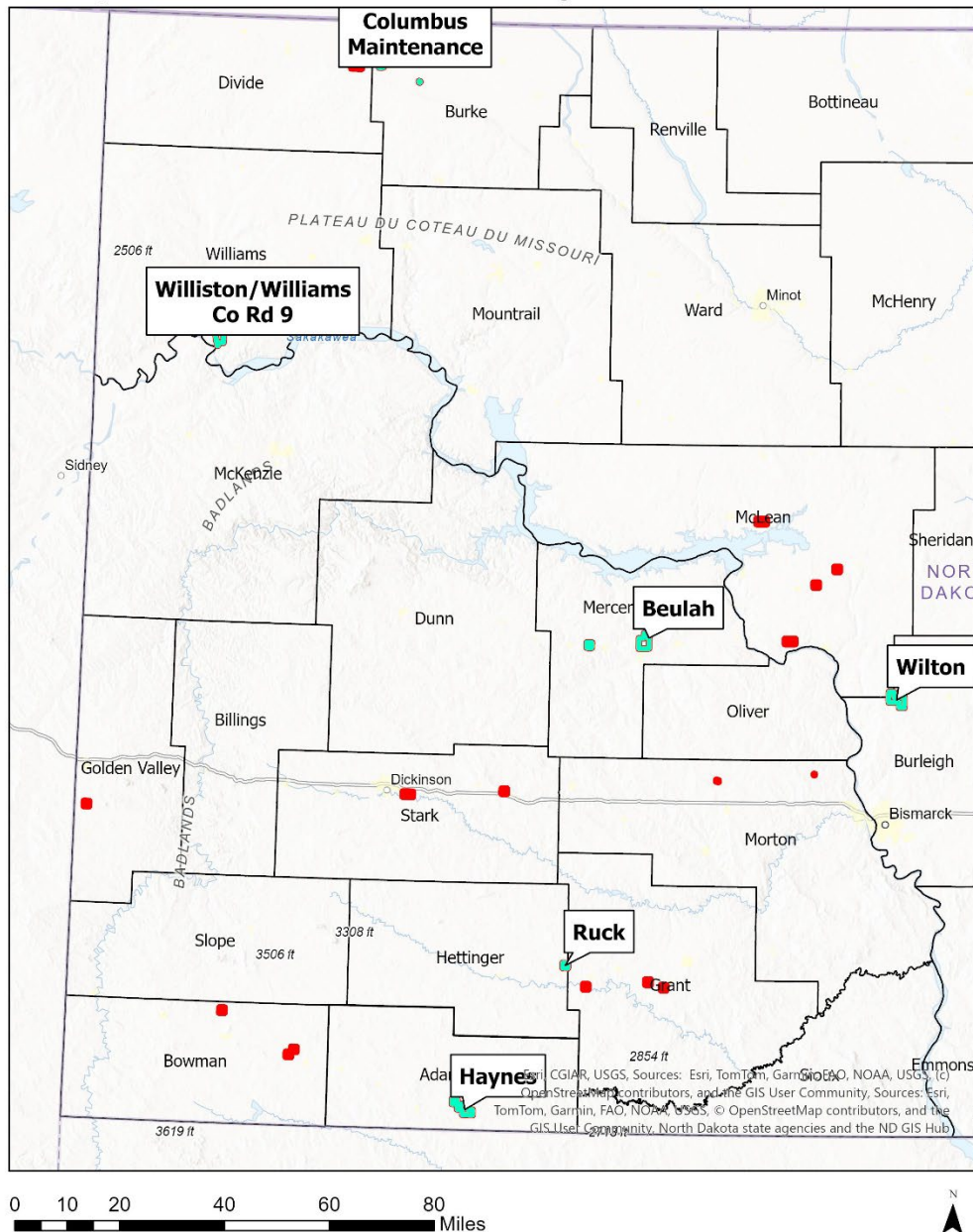


Figure 15: Planned Location of 2025 Sinkhole Filling Project Sites in North Dakota. Construction is planned for EY2026 field season. Sites authorized are in RED. Sites planned for EY2026 are highlighted and labeled.

B. AML Emergency Reclamation Success

North Dakota has managed its own Emergency AML Program since OSMRE approval in 1993. OSMRE no longer distributes emergency funding with the annual AML grant allocations. North Dakota funds and operates its Emergency AML Program in conjunction with non-emergency AML projects. No emergency projects were conducted during EY2025.

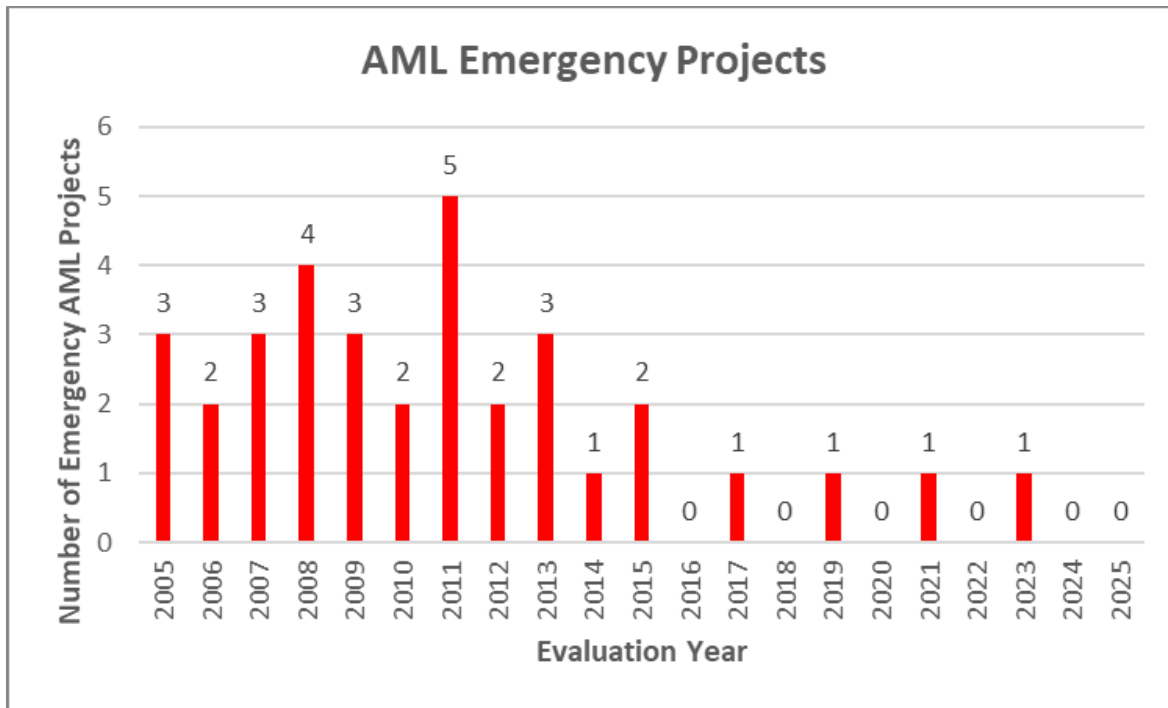


Figure 16: Number of AML Emergency Projects (2005-2025)

C. AML Grant Fiscal and Administrative Reviews

When OSMRE receives a grant application from the North Dakota AMLD, the OSMRE staff review the application package to determine compliance with programmatic requirements. This review ensures that the application meets the requirements set forth in the Federal Assistance Manual (FAM) Part 1-120-30B including the completion of forms SF-242 (Application for Federal Assistance), OSM-51 (or an equivalent program narrative), OSM-47 (or alternative format itemized budget), and Assurances Form SF-424D as appropriate. Prior to approval, the OSMRE must review the application to determine whether the State can accomplish the proposed goals in the manner and timeframe provided, and whether the State can manage the projects in compliance with federal laws and regulations. Section 1-150-30 of the FAM also prescribes how the OSMRE will monitor program performance.

The North Dakota AMLD is currently 100% federally funded and utilizes two sources of grant funding; Fee-based AML Consolidated Grants and IJA Consolidated Grants. During EY2025, the North Dakota AML Program was allocated \$2,829,000 in fee-based funding (Grant # S25AF00151) and \$3,100,210 in IJA funding (Grant # S25AF00127) for a total of \$5,929,210.

Fee-based AML funding

The Abandoned Mine Land (AML) program was authorized in Title IV of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA). States with approved AML programs, or specific Indian tribes, are eligible for Abandoned Mine Land grants that support reclamation efforts. The grant distribution is

determined annually using a pre-set formula authorized by SMCRA. The amounts are based on the fees paid by active coal mine operators on each ton of coal mined. Fee-based grants allocated to the North Dakota AML Program typically begin on March first of the fiscal year and are scheduled to continue for three years, ending on February 28th of the final year. All projects conducted during the grant periods are anticipated to involve the reclamation of abandoned surface and underground coal mines.

The North Dakota AMLD was allocated \$2,829,000 dollars for their fiscal year 2023 grant period, beginning March 1, 2023. Grant No. S23AF00108 began on March 1, 2023, and is scheduled to end on February 28, 2026.

The North Dakota AMLD was allocated \$2,829,000 dollars for their fiscal year 2024 grant period, beginning March 1, 2024. Grant No. S24AF00084 began on March 1, 2024, and is scheduled to end on February 28, 2027.

The North Dakota AMLD was allocated \$2,829,000 dollars for their fiscal year 2025 grant period, beginning March 1, 2025. Grant No. S25AF00151 began on March 1, 2024, and is scheduled to end on February 28, 2028.

The North Dakota AML Program's fee-based grant funding and expenditures for grants currently open are broken down as follows:

AML Fee-based Consolidated Grant Funding and Expenditures

2023 AML Consolidated Grant (S23AF00108)

Sources

Minimum Program Makeup	\$1,764,214
State Share (SS)	\$815,366
Historic Coal Funds (HC)	<u>\$249,420</u>
Total	\$2,829,000

Grant Line-Item Budgets

Administrative Costs	\$440,424
Project Construction Costs	<u>\$2,388,576</u>
Total	\$2,829,000

Cost Categories (subaccounts)

Non-Emergency Admin Costs (SS01)	\$440,424
Non-Water Supply (SS03)	\$1,513,802
Non-Water Supply (HC03)	\$505,493
Non-Water Supply (FE03)	<u>\$1,764,214</u>
Total	\$2,829,000

2024 AML Consolidated Grant (S24AF00084)

Source

Minimum Program Makeup	\$1,848,419
State Share (SS)	\$736,924
Historic Coal Funds (HC)	<u>\$243,657</u>
Total	\$2,829,000

Grant Line-Item Budgets

Administrative Costs	\$436,289
Project Construction Costs	<u>\$2,392,711</u>
Total	\$2,829,000

Cost Categories (subaccounts)

Non-Emergency Admin Costs (SS01)	\$451,289
Non-Water Supply (SS03)	\$1285,635
Non-Water Supply (HC03)	\$243,657
Non-Water Supply (FE03)	<u>\$1,848,419</u>
Total	\$2,829,000

2025 AML Consolidated Grant (S25AF00151)

Minimum Program Makeup	\$1,882,025
State Share (SS)	\$738,026
Historic Coal Funds (HC)	<u>\$208,949</u>
Total	\$2,829,000

Grant Line-Item Budgets

Administrative Costs	\$458,057
Project Construction Costs	<u>\$2,370,943</u>
Total	\$2,829,000

Cost Categories (subaccounts)

Non-Emergency Admin Costs (SS01)	\$458,057
Non-Water Supply (SS03)	\$279,969
Non-Water Supply (HC03)	\$208,949
Non-Water Supply (FE03)	<u>\$1,882,025</u>
Total	\$2,829,000

IIJA Funding

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also known as “The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (the Law),” was enacted on November 15, 2021. In addition to the extension of abandoned mine land (AML) fee collections and mandatory AML Grant distributions, \$11.293 billion in new funding was authorized to be appropriated for deposit into the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund. OSMRE will distribute amounts made available in the appropriation to eligible states and Tribes on an equal annual basis over a 15-year period in accordance with the provisions of the infrastructure law. The distribution

announced on February 7, 2022, is the first of 15 annual installments under the IIJA that will provide approximately \$10.87 billion (after IIJA directed reductions) for AML reclamation projects, in addition to funds available under AML-fee based grants.

As directed by the IIJA, the distribution amounts were based on the number of tons of coal historically produced in each State or from the applicable Indian lands before August 3, 1977. OSMRE relied on the March 1980 Final Environmental Impact Statement (OSM-EIS-2) to ascertain these amounts and then calculated each State's or Tribe's percentage of total historic coal production.

The North Dakota AMLD was allocated an additional \$3,101,700 dollars (grant # S23AF00037) for their fiscal year 2022 grant period. The project period for grant # S23AF00037 is from 10/1/2021 until 9/30/2028. The budget period runs from 10/1/2021 until 9/30/2022 and the start date for this grant was 2/1/2023.

The North Dakota AMLD was allocated an additional \$3,100,210 dollars (grant # S24AF00018) for their fiscal year 2023 grant period. The project period for grant # S24AF00018 is from 10/1/2022 until 9/30/2028. The budget period runs from 10/1/2022 until 9/30/2023 and the start date for this grant was 10/1/2023.

The North Dakota AMLD was allocated an additional \$3,100,210 dollars (grant # S25AF00127) for their fiscal year 2024 grant period. The project period for grant # S25AF00127 is from 10/1/2024 until 9/30/2029. The budget period runs from 10/1/2024 until 9/30/2029 and the start date for this grant was 10/1/2024.

The North Dakota AML Program's IIJA consolidated grant funding and expenditures for grants currently open are broken down as follows:

IIJA Grant Funding and Expenditures

2022 IIJA Consolidated Grant (S23AF00037)

Grant Line-Item Budgets

Administrative Costs	\$338,078
Project Construction Costs	<u>\$2,763,622</u>
Total	\$3,101,700

Cost Categories (subaccounts)

Non-Emergency Administrative Costs (01)	\$338,078
Non-Water Supply (Cost Project) Costs (03)	\$2,585,197
Coal Projects Engineering & Design Costs (19)	\$153,425
<u>IIJA Emergency Project Costs (23)</u>	<u>\$25,000</u>
Total	\$3,101,700

2023 IJJA Consolidated Grant (S24AF00018)

Grant Line-Item Budgets

Administrative Costs	\$1,288,193
Project Construction Costs	<u>\$1,812,017</u>
Total	\$3,100,210

Cost Categories (subaccounts)

Non-Emergency Administrative Costs (01)	\$1,288,193
Non-Water Supply (Cost Project) Costs (03)	\$1,427,231
Coal Projects Engineering & Design Costs (19)	\$384,786
<u>IJJA Long Term AML Reclamation Fund (24)</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Total	\$3,100,210

2024 IJJA Consolidated Grant (S25AF00127)

Grant Line-Item Budgets

Administrative Costs	\$150,852
<u>Project Construction Costs</u>	<u>\$2,949,358</u>
Total	\$3,100,210

Cost Categories (subaccounts)

Non-Emergency Administrative Costs (01)	\$150,852
Non-Water Supply (Cost Project) Costs (03)	\$1,513,802
Coal Projects Engineering & Design Costs (19)	\$505,493
<u>IJJA Long Term AML Reclamation Fund (24)</u>	<u>\$930,063</u>
Total	\$3,100,210

One ATP was issued during EY2025, and one projects was completed during EY2025 that utilized IJJA funding. The 2024 Dakota Collieries AML Project utilized funds from IJJA Grant # S23AF00037. An ATP/FONSI for the 2025 Buechler Velva Phase 3 AML Project was issued on January 29, 2024, and twice amended on Dec. 3, 2024, and July 25, 2025, to update the stated source of funding. The 2025 Buechler Velva Phase 3 AML Project plans to use funds from IJJA Grant # S23AF00037, IJJA Grant # S24AF00018, and IJJA Grant # S25AF00127.

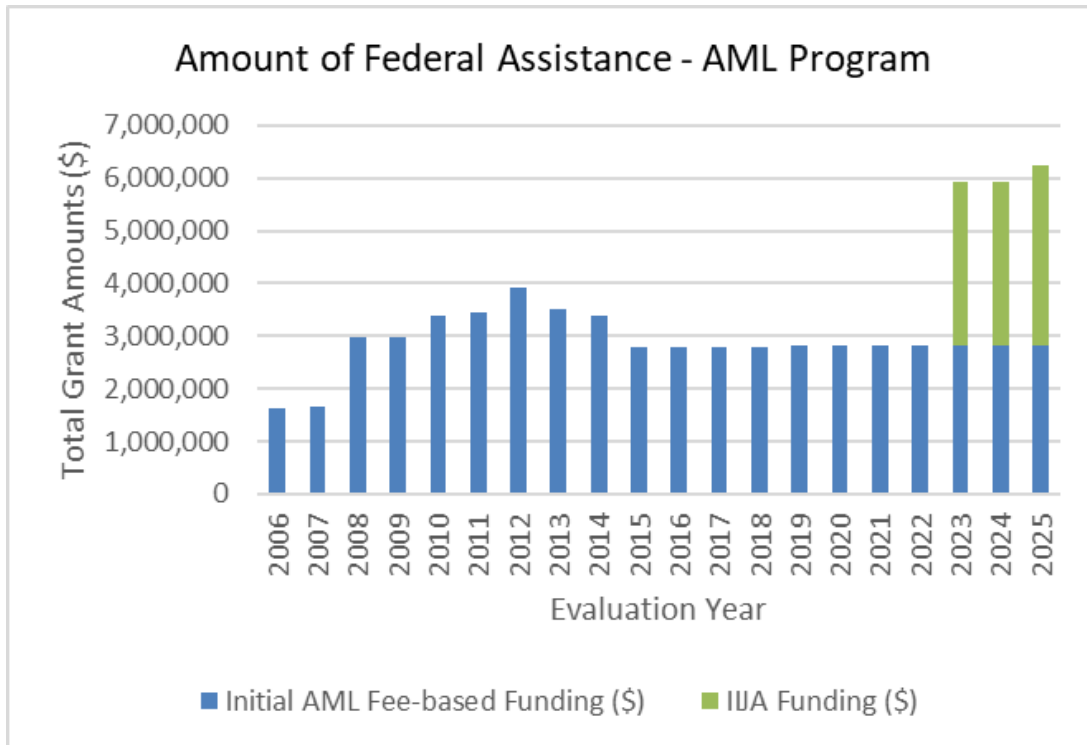


Figure 17: Amount of Federal Assistance Allocated to North Dakota (2006-2025)

The NDPSC maintains a very cost-effective program with only 14% of the grant dedicated to Administrative Costs. The remainder of the grant is spent on project design and construction.

D. e-AMLIS

The North Dakota AMLD compiles data from various sources for input into e-AMLIS. These sources include project information spreadsheets, project diaries, closeout reports to the NDPSC and NDPSC-approved payment of contractor invoices. Data pertaining to emergency projects include procurement and contract data compiled in Project Summary Books, site-specific project data and site photographs. Project completion data is tracked on an Excel spreadsheet. Information in the spreadsheet includes the project name, location, contract number, contractor name, year of contract, year of completion, cost, and method of reclamation. Designated AMLD Project Managers enter information into e-AMLIS. This information is based on the above-mentioned data sources.

OSMRE’s EY2024 evaluation of e-AMLIS determined if the information the State entered into e-AMLIS agrees with information in its files. This topic was mandated for review due to a September 2004 report issued by the Interior’s Office of the Inspector General (OIG). The report criticized the accuracy of e-AMLIS data, based on the OIG review of e-AMLIS data for four eastern States’ AML programs. The OIG’s review concluded that e-AMLIS data did not match data in those States’ files and recommended establishing “a quality control system that ensures that States, Tribes, and the OSMRE, as applicable, review and certify the accuracy of data entered into AMLIS.” In response to the OIG’s recommendation, the OSMRE required its field offices to implement two requirements. The first

requirement is to “assure that each State and Indian Tribe AML program has procedures in place to ensure and certify the accuracy of data entered into e-AMLIS” as part of the FY2004 oversight (subsequently changed to FY2005). OSMRE Headquarters subsequently advised field offices to drop the certification requirement. As a result, the focus is to make sure States and Tribes have requisite systems in place. The CAO has determined that North Dakota has such a system in place that is adequate to ensure accurate data is entered into e-AMLIS.

The second requirement implemented by the OSMRE in response to the OIG’s recommendation stated, “once these State and Indian Tribe procedures are in place, the OSMRE will annually review a random sample of [PADs] to see if the information entered into e-AMLIS agrees with the information in the PAD.” The CAO has reviewed a random sample of PADs and is satisfied that all information entered into e-AMLIS agrees with the information in the PAD.

APPENDIX 1: Summary of Core Data to Characterize the AML Program

North Dakota Annual Evaluation Report Evaluation Year 2025

The following tables present summary data pertinent to abandoned mine land activities under the North Dakota AML program. Unless otherwise specified, the reporting period for the data contained in the tables is the Evaluation Year. Other data and information used by OSMRE in its evaluation of North Dakota performance are available for review in the evaluation file maintained by the DFD-CAO.

Because of the enormous variations from state to state and the differences between state programs, the summary data should not be used to compare one state to another.

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**Table 1 – North Dakota Status of AML Inventory all Priority 1, 2, and 3 Hazards on June 30, 2025
(Fee-based AML Funded Projects)**

	High Priority		Elevated Priority 3	Stand-Alone Priority 3	Total
	Priority 1	Priority 2		(Not adjacent or in conjunction w/ P1&2)	
UNFUNDED					
GPRA Acres	72.9	8088.17	N/A	2,707	10868.07
Dollars	\$568,789.78	\$34,293,625.53	N/A	\$105,000.00	\$34,967,415.31
FUNDED					
GPRA Acres	0	1.5	0	0	1.5
Dollars	\$0.00	\$1,980,000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,980,000.00
COMPLETED					
GPRA Acres	254	4,624.36	12	1,390	6,280.36
Dollars	\$1,629,301.72	\$65,048,589.27	\$0.00	\$0.00	66,677,890.99

*A mistake was found and corrected in e-AMLIS, but will not show up until FY2026. \$1,600,996 and 19 acres was returned from P2 to P1 Subsidence completed costs.

**There are 7 acres unfunded and 27 acres completed (no cost) of P2 spoil.

**Table 1A – North Dakota Status of AML Inventory all Priority 1, 2, and 3 Hazards on June 30, 2025
(IIJA Funded Projects)**

	High Priority		Elevated Priority 3	Stand-Alone Priority 3	Total
	Priority 1	Priority 2		(Not adjacent or in conjunction w/ P1&2)	
UNFUNDED					
GPRA Acres	0	6.49	N/A	250	250
Dollars	0.00	582,081.00	N/A	6,400,000	6,400,000
FUNDED					
GPRA Acres	0	41.4	0	0	41.4
Dollars	0	2,434,836	0	0	2434836
COMPLETED					
GPRA Acres	0	17.11	0	0	17.11
Dollars	0.00	1,108,083.00	0	0	1,108,083.00

Table 2 - North Dakota Accomplishments in Eliminating Health and Safety Hazards Related to Past Mining Priority 1 and 2 Hazards - (Fee-based AML Funded Projects As of June 30, 2025)

PROBLEM TYPE (keyword)																		
	Clogged Stream (CS) (miles)	Clogged Stream Lands (CSL) (acres)	Dangerous Pile or Embankment (DPE)(acres)	Dangerous Highway (DH) (feet)	Dangerous Impoundment (DI) (count)	Dangerous Slide (DS) (acres)	Gases: Hazardous /Explosive (GHE) (count)	Hazardous Equip. /Facilities (HEF) (count)	Hazardous Water Body (HWB) (count)	Industrial/Residential Waste (IRW) (acres)	Portal (P) (count)	Polluted Water:Agri/Industrial (PWA)(count)	Polluted Water: Human Consumption (PWHC)(count)	Subsidence (S) (acres)	Surface Burning (SB) (acres)	Underground Mine Fire (UMF) (acres)	Vertical Opening (VO) (count)	TOTAL
UNRECLAIMED/REMAINING HAZARDS (Unfunded)																		
Units			0.00	116,410.00	6.00	0.00		5.00	25.00	14.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	6,290.54	6.30		0.00	N/A
GPRA Acres			0.00	1,684.63	30.00	0.00		0.50	125.00	14.00	0.10	5.00	5.00	6,290.54	6.30		0.00	8,161.07
Dollars			\$0.00	\$17,565,317.05	\$68,789.78	\$0.00		\$25,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$208,700.00	\$7,500.00	\$16,879,895.98	\$42,212.50		\$0.00	\$34,862,415.31
ANNUAL RECLAMATION - EY2025 only (Completed)																		
Units				10.00										9.31				N/A
GPRA Acres				0.10										9.31				9.41
Dollars				\$186,685.00										\$1,954,056.00				\$2,140,741.00
HISTORICAL RECLAMATION - EY1978 - 2025 (Completed)																		
Units			317.00	205,827.00	8.00	35.00		14.00	18.00	2.00	12.00	6.00	0.00	1,397.41	22.87		71.00	N/A
GPRA Acres			317.00	2,940.58	40.00	35.00		1.40	90.00	2.00	1.20	30.00	0.00	1,391.21	22.87		7.10	4,878.36
Dollars			\$972,048.00	\$19,887,120.95	\$44,839.22	\$122,500.00		\$74,861.00	\$278,558.00	\$2.00	\$11,003.00	\$746,144.00	\$0.00	\$44,171,530.32	\$87,073.50		\$282,211.00	\$66,677,890.99

Table 2A - North Dakota Accomplishments in Eliminating Health and Safety Hazards Related to Past Mining Priority 1 and 2 Hazards (IJA Funded Projects - As of June 30, 2025)

	Clogged Stream (CS) (miles)	Clogged Stream Lands (CSL) (acres)	Dangerous Pile or Embankment (DPE)(acres)	Dangerous Highwall (DH) (feet)	Dangerous Impoundment (DI) (count)	Dangerous Slide (DS) (acres)	Gases: Hazardous /Explosive (GHE) (count)	Hazardous Equip. /Facilities (HEF) (count)	Hazardous Water Body (HWB) (count)	Industrial/Residential Waste (IRW) (acres)	Portal (P) (count)	Polluted Water:Agri/Industrial (PWA)(count)	Polluted Water: Human Consumption (PWHC)(count)	Subsidence (S) (acres)	Surface Burning (SB) (acres)	Underground Mine Fire (UMF) (acres)	Vertical Opening (VO) (count)	TOTAL
UNRECLAIMED/REMAINING HAZARDS (Unfunded)																		
Units				0										6.49				N/A
GPRA Acres				0.00										6.49				6.49
Dollars				\$514,211.00										\$67,870.00				\$582,081.00
ANNUAL RECLAMATION - EY2025 only (Completed)																		
Units				915										4.01				N/A
GPRA Acres				13.1										4.01				17.11
Dollars				\$900,953.00										\$207,130.00				\$1,108,083.00
HISTORICAL RECLAMATION - EY1978 - 2025 (Completed)																		
Units				915.00										4.01				N/A
GPRA Acres				13.10										4.01				17.11
Dollars				\$900,953.00										\$207,130.00				\$1,108,083.00

Table 3 - North Dakota Accomplishments in Eliminating Environmental Problems Related to Past Mining Priority 3 and SMCRA section 403(b) Hazards - (Fee-based AML Funded Projects As of June 30, 2025)

PROBLEM TYPE (keyword)															
		Bench , Solid Bench, Fill Bench (BE) (acres)	Industrial/Residential Waste Dump (DP) (acres)	Equipment and Facilities (EF) (count)	Gob (GO) (acres)	Highwall (H) (feet)	Haul Road (HR) (acres)	Mine Opening (MO) (count)	Pit, Open Pit, Strip Pit (PI) (acres)	Spoil, Spoil Bank (SA) (acres)	Slurry (SL) (acres)	Slump (SP) (acres)	Water (WA) (gallons)	Other (specify)	Water Supplies (WS) – Section 403(b) (count)
															TOTAL
UNRECLAIMED/REMAINING HAZARDS (Unfunded)															
Units					1.00					2,701.00			10.00		N/A
GPRA Acres					1.00					2,701.00			10.00		2,712.00
Dollars					\$5,000.00					\$70,000.00			\$30,000.00		\$105,000.00
ANNUAL RECLAMATION - EY2025 only (Completed)															
Units					0.00					0.00			0.00		N/A
GPRA Acres					0.00					0.00			0.00		0.00
Dollars					\$0.00					\$0.00			\$0.00		\$0.00
HISTORICAL RECLAMATION - EY1978 - 2025 (Completed)															
Units					0.00					1,402.00			0.00		N/A
GPRA Acres					0.00					1,402.00			0.00		1,402.00
Dollars					\$0.00					\$0.00			\$0.00		\$0.00

Table 3A - North Dakota Accomplishments in Eliminating Environmental Problems Related to Past Mining Priority 3 and SMCRA section 403(b) Hazards -(IIJA Funded Projects - As of June 30, 2025)

PROBLEM TYPE (keyword)															
		Bench , Solid Bench, Fill Bench (BE) (acres)	Industrial/Residential Waste Dump (DP) (acres)	Equipment and Facilities (EF) (count)	Gob (GO) (acres)	Highwall (H) (feet)	Haul Road (HR) (acres)	Mine Opening (MO) (count)	Pit, Open Pit, Strip Pit (PI) (acres)	Spoil, Spoil Bank (SA) (acres)	Slurry (SL) (acres)	Slump (SP) (acres)	Water (WA) (gallons)	Other (specify)	Water Supplies (WS) – Section 403(b) (count)
															TOTAL
UNRECLAIMED/REMAINING HAZARDS (Unfunded)															
Units										250.00					N/A
GPRA Acres										250.00					250.00
Dollars										\$6,400,000.00					\$6,400,000.00
ANNUAL RECLAMATION - EY2025 only (Completed)															
Units										0.00					N/A
GPRA Acres										0.00					0.00
Dollars										\$0.00					\$0.00
HISTORICAL RECLAMATION - EY1978 - 2025 (Completed)															
Units										0.00					N/A
GPRA Acres										0.00					0.00
Dollars										\$0.00					\$0.00

**Table 4 – North Dakota Public Well-Being Enhancement
(All Priority 1, 2, and 3 AML projects completed during EY 2025)**

#	PAD Number	Project Name	Problem Type(s) Reclaimed	GPRA Acres	Cost	Number of People with Reduced Exposure Potential (State Estimated /or/ Census Data)
1	ND000054	2024 Exploratory Drilling - New Salem	2 S (Subsidence)	0.1	\$175,250.00	270
2	ND000024	2024 Lehigh Road Phase IX	2 S (Subsidence)	0.89	\$1,234,493.00	285
3	ND000216	2024 Maintenance Project - Helms Brothers	2 DH (Dangerous Highwall)	0	\$137,750.00	5
4	ND000014	2024 Dakota Collieries	2 DH (Dangerous Highwall)	13.1	\$900,953.00	75
5	ND000014	2024 Dakota Collieries	2 S (Subsidence)	4	\$202,120.00	75
6	ND000033	2024 Sinkhole Filling - Bowman	2 S (Subsidence)	0.31	\$6,010.00	5
7	ND000528	2024 Sinkhole Filling - Scranton	2 S (Subsidence)	0.27	\$4,393.00	5
8	ND000003	2024 Sinkhole Filling - South Scranton	2 S (Subsidence)	0.09	\$2,842.00	5
9	ND000124	2024 Sinkhole Filling - Haynes	2 S (Subsidence)	0.75	\$9,245.00	5
10	ND000009	2024 Sinkhole Filling - Beach	2 S (Subsidence)	0.13	\$5,200.00	5
11	ND000024	2024 Sinkhole Filling - Dickinson	2 S (Subsidence)	0.93	\$19,011.00	15
12	ND000025	2024 Sinkhole Filling - Richardton	2 S (Subsidence)	0.1	\$3,100.00	5
13	ND000014	2024 Sinkhole Filling - Beulah	2 S (Subsidence)	1.16	\$29,105.00	15
14	ND000006	2024 Sinkhole Filling - Washburn	2 S (Subsidence)	0.64	\$9,650.00	10
15	ND000054	2025 Exploratory Drilling - New Salem	2 S (Subsidence)	0.1	\$390,176.00	270
16	ND000026	2025 Sinkhole Filling - Ruck (New Leipzig)	2 S (Subsidence)	0.04	\$2,125.00	5
17	ND000030	2025 Sinkhole Filling - New Leipzig	2 S (Subsidence)	0.02	\$2,783.00	10
18	ND000109	2025 Sinkhole Filling - Heil	2 S (Subsidence)	0.32	\$3,333.00	5
19	ND000014	2024 Dakota Collieries (Maintenance)	2 S (Subsidence)	0.01	\$5,010.00	5
20	ND000001	2025 Sinkhole Filling - Wilton	2 S (Subsidence)	1.19	\$28,461.00	20
21	ND000012	2025 Sinkhole Filling - Turtle Lake	2 S (Subsidence)	0.95	\$6,349.00	5
22	ND000136	2025 Sinkhole Filling - Garrison	2 S (Subsidence)	0.15	\$5,300.00	5
23	ND000029	2025 Sinkhole Filling - Noonan	2 S (Subsidence)	1.17	\$17,230.00	7
24	ND000100	2025 Maintenance Project - North New Salem	2 DH (Dangerous Highwall)	0.1	\$48,935.00	5
TOTAL				26.52	\$3,248,824.00	1117

Table 5 – North Dakota - Partnership Financial Resources Dedicated to Protecting the Public from Adverse Effects of Past Mining (AML projects completed during EY 2025)

#	PAD Number	Project Name	SMCRA Program Funding Source	Total SMCRA funding	Alternate Non-SMCRA Funding Source	Total non-SMCRA Funding	In-Kind Services	Total Project Funding	Comments
1	ND000054	2024 Exploratory Drilling - New Salem	State Grant Authority	\$175,250				\$175,250	
2	ND000024	2024 Lehigh Road Phase IX	State Grant Authority	\$1,234,493				\$1,234,493	
3	ND000216	2024 Maintenece Project - Helms Brothers	State Grant Authority	\$137,750				\$137,750	
4	ND000014	2024 Dakota Collieries	Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act	\$900,953				\$900,953	
5	ND000014	2024 Dakota Collieries	Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act	\$202,120				\$202,120	
6	ND000033	2024 Sinkhole Filling - Bowman	State Grant Authority	\$6,010				\$6,010	
7	ND000528	2024 Sinkhole Filling - Scranton	State Grant Authority	\$4,393				\$4,393	
8	ND000003	2024 Sinkhole Filling - South Scranton	State Grant Authority	\$2,842				\$2,842	
9	ND000124	2024 Sinkhole Filling - Haynes	State Grant Authority	\$9,245				\$9,245	
10	ND000009	2024 Sinkhole Filling - Beach	State Grant Authority	\$5,200				\$5,200	
11	ND000024	2024 Sinkhole Filling - Dickinson	State Grant Authority	\$19,011				\$19,011	
12	ND000025	2024 Sinkhole Filling - Richardton	State Grant Authority	\$3,100				\$3,100	
13	ND000014	2024 Sinkhole Filling - Beulah	State Grant Authority	\$29,105				\$29,105	
14	ND000006	2024 Sinkhole Filling - Washburn	State Grant Authority	\$9,650				\$9,650	
15	ND000054	2025 Exploratory Drilling - New Salem	State Grant Authority	\$390,176				\$390,176	
16	ND000026	2025 Sinkhole Filling - Ruck (New Leipzig)	State Grant Authority	\$2,125				\$2,125	
17	ND000030	2025 Sinkhole Filling - New Leipzig	State Grant Authority	\$2,783				\$2,783	
18	ND000109	2025 Sinkhole Filling - Heil	State Grant Authority	\$3,333				\$3,333	
19	ND000014	2024 Dakota Collieries (Maintenance)	Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act	\$5,010				\$5,010	
20	ND000001	2025 Sinkhole Filling - Wilton	State Grant Authority	\$28,461				\$28,461	
21	ND000012	2025 Sinkhole Filling - Turtle Lake	State Grant Authority	\$6,349				\$6,349	
22	ND000136	2025 Sinkhole Filling - Garrison	State Grant Authority	\$5,300				\$5,300	
23	ND000029	2025 Sinkhole Filling - Noonan	State Grant Authority	\$17,230				\$17,230	
24	ND000100	2025 Maintenece Project - North New Salem	State Grant Authority	\$48,935				\$48,935	
TOTAL				\$3,248,824		0	0	\$3,248,824	

Table 6 – North Dakota – Reclamation Projects Started and/or Completed (AML projects started and/or Completed during EY 2025)

Project Type	Projects Started	Projects Completed
State/Tribe (EY 2025):	8	5
Federal (EY 2025):		
Total (EY 2025):	8	5

**Table 7 – North Dakota – AML Program Grant Awards and Staffing
(During EY 2025)**

AML Program Costs	
Administration (AML Consolidated Grant S25AF00151)	\$ 458,057.00
Construction (AML Consolidated Grant S25AF00151)	\$ 2,370,943.00
Water Supply Construction	0
Administration (IIJA Consolidated Grant S25AF00127)	\$ 150,852.00
Construction (IIJA Consolidated Grant S25AF00127)	\$ 2,019,295.00
AMD Set-Aside	0
Other(s) (IIJA Consolidated Grant S25AF00127 - Long Term AML Fund)	\$ 930,063.00
Total AML Funding	\$ 5,929,210.00
AML Program Staffing (full-time equivalents on June 30, 2025):	4.5

APPENDIX 2: Comments from State of North Dakota on the Report

North Dakota Annual Evaluation Report

Evaluation Year 2025

North Dakota responded on September 12th and 16th, 2025, with the following comments or suggestions:

NDPSC verified the number of projects completed during EY2025. They also updated some site data, including beginning and end dates, and verification of funding source. They also verified which sinkhole filling and maintenance sites they intend to pursue this next year.

The OSMRE Casper Area Office would like to thank the staff of the North Dakota AML Division for their assistance and cooperation in gathering the information required to produce this report.