

# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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IN REPLY REFER TO:  
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November 2, 2000

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Instruction Memorandum No. NV-2001-007  
Expires: 9/30/2002

To: Field Managers, Nevada

From: State Director, Nevada

Subject: Amendment to the Statewide Cultural Resource Protocol

Based on negotiations over dealing with emergency mine shaft closures, the BLM and State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) have agreed to amend Appendix F: Categorical No Adverse Effect Situations of our protocol for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Specifically, the existing Appendix F, Section B(3)(B) has been replaced as follows:

B. Permanent closure of abandoned mines over 50 years old, identified on a BLM list of proposed closures for a given fiscal year, can be done without prior BLM/SHPO consultation if:

1. A professional historical archaeologist prepares a resource assessment of (1) the individual mine site(s) targeted for permanent closure; or (2) of the mining district (if the sites are located in a historical mining district). The assessment must record the shafts/adits to be closed and define the historical attributes of these shafts/adits. If the sites are determined to be historically significant, items 2 through 6 must be done:
2. The historical archaeologist takes 5 x 7-inch black and white photographs (prints) of the shafts/adits before and after closure. The pictures must sufficiently illustrate the construction/engineering features of each shaft/adit, artifact concentrations, as well as an overview depicting its setting within the landscape.
3. The historical archaeologist surface maps each shaft/adit on a 7.5' USGS topographic map, as well as all areas from which fill has been gathered. An archival copy of the resource assessment, photographs, and maps must be provided to the appropriate BLM Field Office within 60 days of finishing the project. The BLM will provide the report to the Nevada SHPO on an annual basis.

4. A professional historical archaeologist monitors placement of fill into each shaft/adit to ensure that significant historical archaeological features are not damaged by the activities. The archaeologist will file a final monitoring report with the BLM and SHPO that outlines field procedures employed to ensure compliance with this item.
5. A professional historical archaeologist ensures that fill, if taken from off site, is not part of another archaeological/historic site. The archaeologist will file a final monitoring report with BLM and SHPO that outlines field procedures employed to ensure compliance with this item.
6. The landscape is restored to BLM Visual Resource Management Class II standards (i.e. substantially unnoticeable within the historic landscape).

Please amend your copy of the protocol and implement these procedures. If you have any questions contact Pat Barker at 775-861-6482

Signed By:  
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Associate State Director, Nevada

Authenticated By:  
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