What We Do

A Federally funded section of the Department of Environmental Quality tasked to reclaim pre-1977 abandoned coal mines located on private land. Also allowed to reclaim hardrock mines if all coal issues are resolved.
Problems We Face
Noteworthy AML Projects

- Sand Coulee Water Supply
  Cascade County
- McLaren Tailings
  Park County
- Settlers Stripping Coal
  Fire
  Treasure County
Sand Coulee Water System

- Two New Supply Wells
- 8,900 Feet of New Mains
- 4,000 Feet of Service Lines
- 75 Home Hookups

- New Well House
- 150,000-Gallon Storage Tank
- 22 Fire Hydrants
- New Water Rights

Total Cost: $2.8 Million
Seven Year Project
One half million tons of wet tailings
Largest Source of Pollution into YNP

- Averted a tailings dam failure
- Restored Soda Butte Creek
- Will be the First Stream “Delisted” in Montana History

Total Cost: $24.5 Million
Settler’s Stripping Coal Fire

- Burning for About 80 Years
- Near 500KV Transmission Lines
- Potential for starting Wildfires

- Five Acres Reclaimed
- Danger of Wildfires Removed
- Wildlife and Cattle Habitat

Total Cost: $577,200
Current Projects

- Belt Water Treatment
- Roundup Area Mines
- Wibaux County Mines
Wibaux County Mines

Belt Water Treatment

Jeffries Mine
Montana AML Funding

OSM Grants Awarded by Year (2006 - 2022)

Projected Grant Award Dependant on Coal Production

THE END
Montana AML Grant
2012 - 2016

- Construction and Engineering: $51,774,908 (94%)
- Administration: $3,242,522 (6%)
If the fee collection is not reauthorized, abandoned coal mine reclamation will essentially end in Montana in 2022.

Federal campaign to reauthorize AML.

Nationwide effort involving counties, watershed groups and State AML Programs.
Reauthorization is NOT simple for Montana!

- Montana is a Certified State.
- Certified State/Tribe funding in jeopardy.
- Western States produce over 60% of the coal in the US.
- Eastern States have the largest AML problem.
"The problem with abandoned mines is that they are everyone's problem but nobody's responsibility."