



# Department of the Interior

## Recovery Investments

*Investing in America's Economic Recovery*



## Deer Creek Brownfields

### Bureau of Land Management, California

### Mother Lode Field Office

#### Need

The project objective is to reduce the migration of mercury and heavy metal contaminants into the Deer Creek watershed, located near the historic town of Nevada City, Nevada City Mining District, Nevada County, California.

#### Recovery Act Funding

The project received \$520,000 in Recovery Act funding.

#### Benefits

This CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Recovery Compensation and Liability Act) project will undertake environmental remediation on BLM-administered portions of the Deer Creek Brownfields Project. This is the only EPA approved Brownfields Mine-Scarred Lands Initiative project involving BLM lands in California. A strong partnership exists among BLM, Nevada City and various local watershed groups and stakeholders. Stream bank restoration methods may be applied to BLM land bordering Deer Creek in order to reduce downstream migration of heavy metal and mercury. Post-remediation monitoring at the site will be used to evaluate the success of the cleanup.

**STATUS:** The Removal Site Evaluation (RSE) for this project was completed in May 2010 and the final report to the BLM was submitted in September 2010. BLM also complete a Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) search in 2010. Based on the results in the RSE, the BLM contracted with URS Corporation to complete an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) and a Human Health and Risk Assessment (HE/RA) for the project in November 2010. Work started in December 2010 on the EE/CA and is expected to last until Sept. 30, 2012.

#### More Information

Peter Graves, Project Manager  
Central California District Mother Lode Field Office  
(916) 941-3141  
[p15grave@blm.gov](mailto:p15grave@blm.gov)