# Navajo Abandoned Uranium Mine

# Site Screen Report

This form is for use at the site of abandoned uranium mines (AUM) located on Navajo Nation lands. Applicable sites include all mine and mine features that have or have not undergone reclamation by the Navajo Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program, including features, adits, pits and waste piles. Applicable sites also include all AUM sites listed in the USEPA CERCLIS database, all sites listed in the 2008 AUM GIS Report issued by USACOE and USEPA, all AUM sites on allotment lands associated with the Navajo Nation, and any and all AUM sites not listed in any database located on Navajo lands. Reconnaissance of any sites located on lands adjacent to Navajo lands that may be impacting Navajo lands will need to be coordinated with the authorities appropriate to those lands.

The purpose of the form is to ascertain the status and location of the identified AUM site, and record all immediate site information associated with the mine site. Decisions and recommendations on what additional steps are needed will be provided on a separate document.

Mine Name: **Charles Huskon No. 6**Mine ID: **92** 

Navajo AUM Western Region

Prepared by:

Weston Solutions, Inc.

Contract: W91238-06-F-0083

20074.063.017.0020

August 2011

Part I	Site Identification, Location and Status				
Site Names ar	nd ID numbers	s as applicable			
Mine ID:	92				
Map ID:	W18				
CERCLIS:	NNN0009092	05			
Navajo Aban	doned Mine L	and Reclamati	on Program: N	A-0104	
Local name /	Aliases: Charl	es Huskon #6;	Huskon No. 6		
Chapter and	local area: Co	almine Mesa			
County: Coco	onino	State: Arizon	a		
Lat/Long:	35.953289532	1 N / -111.414	123061 W		
Nearby road	and highway:	US-89	<b>Local Post Offic</b>	e: Camero	on, AZ
Surface Land below	Status: check	one or more a	nd provide own	ership and	contact information
Tribal Trust I Private Bureau of La State			Public lands Tribal Fee Land Allotment Fee land	l	
Subsurface Mineral Rights:					
No information on subsurface mineral rights ownership was found in the EPA/AUM Database.					
Claim and operator information:					

The mine surface land status is classified as Tribal Trust Land. Historical documents identified the operator of the mine as Arrowhead Uranium Company in 1953, and Rare Metals Corporation of America from 1956 to 1961. No additional historical ownership / lease information was identified in the EPA / AUM database.

Number of residential structures within 200 feet of mine: None

## Part II Summary of Radiological Readings

Mine ID: 92

**Highest gamma radiation measurement:** 381,264 counts per minute (cpm)

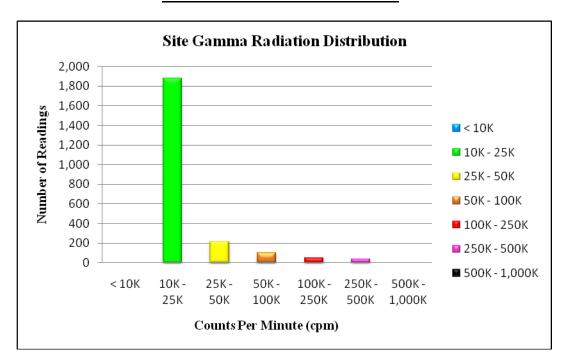
**Background Average:** 14,485cpm **Two Times Background:** 28,970 cpm

## Describe any other radiological measurements:

A total of 2,288 gamma radiation measurements were collected from the mine site, ranging from 11,842 cpm to 381,264 cpm. The measurements are represented in Figures 1 and 2.

#### **Distribution Chart and Statistics:**

<b>Site Gamma Radiation Statistics</b>				
Number of Readings	2,288			
Minimum (cpm)	11,842			
Maximum (cpm)	381,264			
Mean (cpm)	29,648			
Median (cpm)	17,613			
Standard Deviation	45,610			



#### Part III Status of Reclamation and Mine Waste

Mine ID: 92

The following information was obtained from the Navajo Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program (NAMLRP) Point Features Database:

NAMLRP Status of the mine site: Reclaimed: Yes Waste Pile onsite: No

**NAMLRP Project Number:** NA-0104

**NAMLRP Mine features:** 1 Rim Strip / Pit

The following information was obtained from field observations collected during the 2011 site screening:

Provide description and status of all mine sites and features at site. Include all waste piles, adits, pits and other features, and indicate whether they are open, closed, covered, capped, buried or unreclaimed. Indicate approximate size, shape and extent, including description of any reclamation caps. Note condition of all caps.

#### Observed reclamation work and status:

#### **Adits:**

None observed

#### **Waste Piles:**

None observed

#### Pits:

None observed

## **Shafts:**

None observed

## **Other Debris and Mine Features:**

Some vent holes in center of site

#### Part IV Site Observations and Environs

Observed Residential Structures (number and human habitation status of structures at the following distances from the mine site):

0 to 200 feet: None observed

**200 feet to 0.25 mile:** None observed

Observed Public or Commercial Structures (schools, clinics, Chapter Houses, places of business and any other structures used by members of the community at the following distances from the mine site):

0 to 200 feet: None observed

**200 feet to 0.25 mile:** None observed

Levels measured around the perimeter(s) of the identified structure(s):

None

Observed Water Sources (number and type of wells and surface water sources that are potentially used for human consumption at the following distances from the mine site):

**0 to 0.25 miles:** Seasonal tributary to Little Colorado River approximately 50 ft SW of site

0.25 miles to 4 miles: None observed

Sensitive Environments (all sensitive environments located within visible range of the mine site, including: wetlands, endangered species, habitats and approximate locations of sites that may be under protection of the government of the Navajo Nation):

None observed

Known Site History (information from interviews with Chapter officials and residents and database review, includes: mine ownership, type of mining operation, period of operation, known amount of production, and any other information provided):

The Charles Huskon No. 6 mine claim consists of an area of 80,205.99 m<sup>2</sup>. The mine was identified as being operational from 1953 to 1956. While operational, the mine had a total reported production volume of 747 tons. The mine surface land status is classified as Tribal Trust Land. Historical documents identified the operator of the mine as Arrowhead Uranium Company in 1953, and Rare Metals Corporation of America from 1956 to 1961. No additional historical ownership / lease information was identified in the EPA / AUM database.

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## Part V Response Action Summary

## **Summary of Evaluation Factors:**

## Accessibility:

Was the mine easily accessible to potential human activity?

Yes

## Radiological Measurements:

Were any gamma radiation measurements collected at the mine greater than two times the site-specific background levels?

Yes

## Waste Piles:

Were any unreclaimed waste piles observed at the mine with gamma radiation measurements greater than two times the site-specific background levels? No

#### Structures:

Were any structures observed within 200 feet of the mine?

No

## Potential Drinking Water Sources:

Were any potential drinking water sources observed within 4 miles of the mine? Yes

#### Reclamation:

Was the mine reported to be previously reclaimed, or did the mine appear to be reclaimed?

Yes

## Part VI Photos



**Photo 1:** Mine Site #92



Photo 2: Mine Site #92; South drainage



**Photo 3:** Mine Site #92; Southeast corner, elevated readings





**Photo 5:** Mine Site #92; Dry river bed

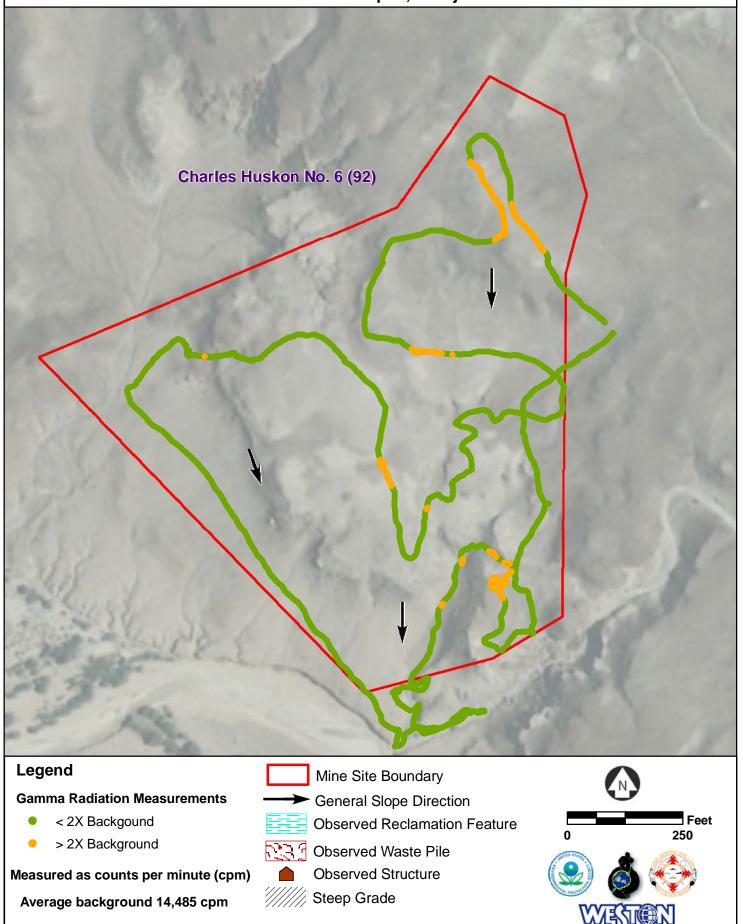


Photo 6: Mine Site #92; North ridge

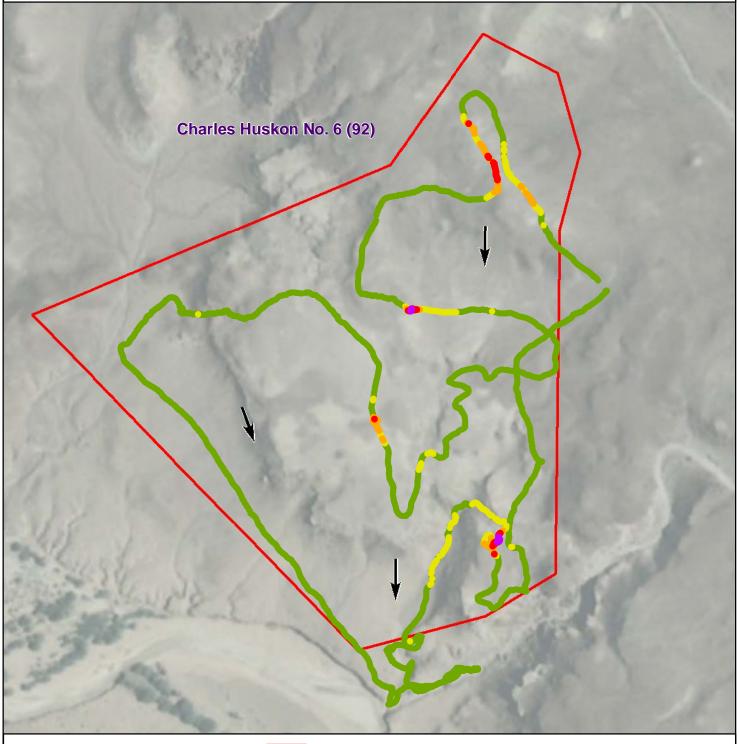
## Part VII Contacts Reports and Information

Name:	Eugene Esplain		
Title or official role (if any):	Navajo EPA Superfund Program		
Telephone number:	(928) 871-7331		
Address:	PO Box 2946, Window Rock, AZ 86515		
Information provided:	Lead Regulatory Agency		
Name:			
Title or official role (if any):			
Telephone number:			
Address:			
Information provided:			
Name:			
Title or official role (if any):			
Telephone number:			
Address:			
Information provided:			

Figure 1 - Gamma Radiation Measurements, Above Two Times Background
Charles Huskon No. 6 (92)
Coalmine Mesa Chapter, Navajo Nation

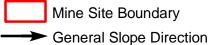


**Figure 2 - Gamma Radiation Measurements** Charles Huskon No. 6 (92) **Coalmine Mesa Chapter, Navajo Nation** 

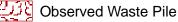


## **Gamma Radiation Measurements**

- 0 10,000 cpm
- 10,000 25,000 cpm
- 25,000 50,000 cpm
- 50,000 100,000 cpm
- 100,000 250,000 cpm
- 250,000 500,000 cpm
- 500,000 1,000,000 cpm



Observed Reclamation Feature



**Observed Structure** 









Measured as counts per minute (cpm) Average background 14,485 cpm