



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Pacific Southwest Region 9

Abandoned Uranium Mines In Cove, Sweetwater, & Tse Tah Areas In Arizona

75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105 | April 2015

U.S. EPA to Perform Aerial Radiation and Imagery Survey of Abandoned Uranium Mines

What?

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) from Region 9 office in San Francisco will be sending a team to perform an aerial radiation and imagery survey of the Navajo Nation abandoned uranium mines in the Cove, Sweetwater, and Tse Tah areas. These areas include the Lukachukai Mountains containing the Kerr McGee/Tronox associated mine sites as well as the drainages and flat lands north of the mountains, extending past the Cove Chapter house. The survey will be performed by a low-flying white USEPA airplane.

Why?

The purpose of this survey is to identify potential additional radiation coming from the dozens of old mines scattered over many miles around the Cove, Sweetwater, Tse Tah areas. The survey will assist EPA and the Navajo Nation (NNEPA) to prioritize areas for additional environmental assessment activities that will be used to determine if these sites pose a risk to people in the area and, if so, what measures should be taken to minimize that risk.

Who to Contact for Questions or Concerns

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When?

May 4th through 15th, 2015. The exact schedule and sequence of aerial surveys will be dependent on local weather conditions.

