

## Molycorp Mine

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**Case History:** The [Molybdenum Corporation of America \(Molycorp\) molybdenum](#) mine and mill has been in operation since 1923. Numerous waste-rock dumps and tailings are distributed over ~1500 acres. Investigations of the site have revealed elevated levels of numerous metals within the vicinity of the Site, including cadmium, copper, lead, silver, and zinc. Other contaminants of concern include arsenic, chromium, cobalt, and manganese. The Trustees negotiated an MOA with Molycorp for cooperative assessment for injuries to trust resources and the parties have worked cooperatively to identify several restoration projects to compensate for injuries. Potential restoration projects design, implementation, monitoring, and maintenance associated with six habitat enhancement projects near the Questa/Red River area. Habitat enhancement projects being considered are combinations of fisheries enhancement (non-native removal, barriers/passages, instream enhancement), riparian enhancement, and an easement to protect approximately 300 acres of open water, marsh, and upland habitat.



**Responsible Party:** Molycorp, Unocal

**Trustees:** [DOI- FWS](#), [BLM](#), [BIA](#), [State of New Mexico](#), [U.S. Forest Service](#)

**Current Status:** The Trustees have reached a “settlement in principle” with regard to the amount of restoration necessary, and the types of restoration projects that will meet needs for settlement. A consent decree is being drafted in cooperation with Molycorp which will provide cash-out settlement to be used in restoration activities. A restoration plan is being prepared for public review and input to the restoration planning process. Settlement is expected in the Spring of 2007; the request for public review of the draft restoration plan will follow shortly thereafter.

**Point of Contact:** [Russ MacRae](#), [New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office](#) (505) 346-2525 extension 124; or [Karen Cathey](#), [FWS Southwest Regional Office](#) (505) 248-6648.