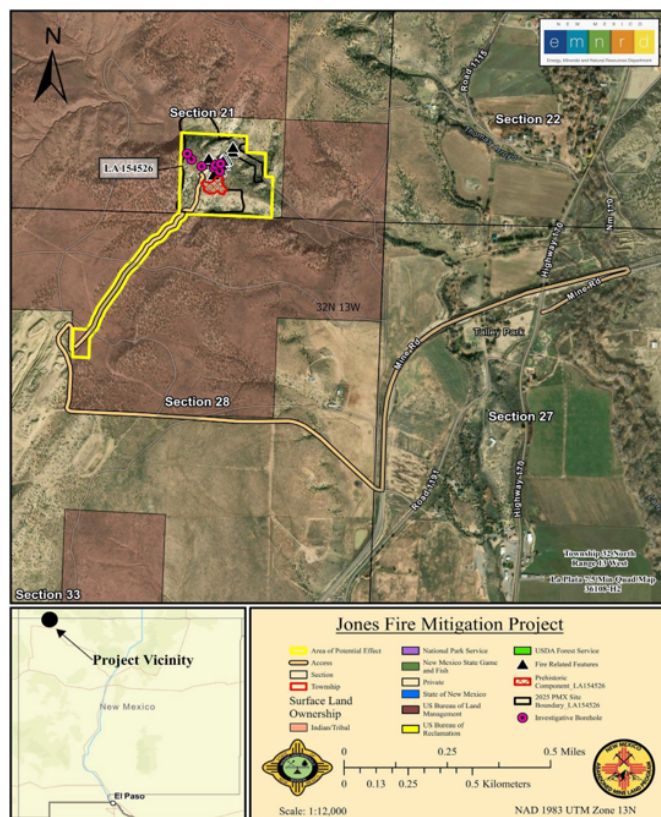


Jones Coal Mine Fire Geo-technical Drilling Project

The New Mexico Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Program proposes to conduct geotechnical exploration drilling to advance subsurface boreholes at the Jones Mine Fire Mitigation Project, an active underground abandoned coal mine fire. Environmental reviews of the project including cultural and biological resources evaluations, and tribal consultation have been completed as part of supporting documentation for the preparation of a Categorical Exclusion (CE).

Project

The project area/APE lies at approximately 7,120 feet above mean sea level and supports vegetation including sagebrush, rabbitbrush, western ragweed, and cheatgrass. The APE consists of approximately 34 acres of private land owned by Patricia Ida Mead and is accessed through Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Farmington Field Office lands. The project is located three miles north-northwest of La Plata (USGS La Plata 7.5' quadrangle), within Township 32N, Range 13W, Sections 21 and 28 (36.96701, -108.20707), and approximately one mile northwest of Talley Park.



You are invited to review the draft CE and provide comments on the project at the following link:
<https://www.emnrd.nm.gov/mmd/public-notices/> Public comments will be accepted until August 31, 2026. You may contact James Hollen at james.hollen@emnrd.nm.gov or (505) 231-8332 with questions, comments, or for more information.

Thank you for your interest.

Abandoned Mine Land Program