

## Chapter 1 : abandoned gold mines in pa “ Grinding Mill China

*The abandoned gold mines of Rodalquilar, Spain The gold mines of Rodalquilar are located in the very south of Spain, within the Cabo de Gata National Park in the province of Almeria. Gold was discovered near the town by chance, in the middle of the 19th century.*

This unpatented mining claim is set near several abandoned gold mines the beautiful area of Prescott AZ near Pine Flat. You are surrounded by pine trees, mountains and streams. The Access to this claim is very easy! There is also a dirt road that can be used as direct access to all parts of the claim. A Truck or vehicle with plenty of clearance is recommended and obviously there is a walking path where you can park directly off of Senator HWY and simply walk into the claim carrying your mining equipment or using a small cart. There are several close amenities such as hotels gas stations and shopping centers within just 15 miles from the claim. Essentially from the town of Goodwin to a point near Turkey Creek station on the railroad line to Crown King. The rocks of the district are mainly Yavapai Schist of sedimentary origin, intruded on the East and West by Bradshaw Granite, and on the South by the monzonite-porphyry stock of Battle Flat. There are also historical gold finds in the washes, tributaries, benches and tailings. What we found while testing: Water flows about months out of the year depending on how much snow the Bradshaw mountains receive during the winter. We tested the hill sides and the center of the wash, we ran 3 buckets of material and found a minimum of 1 color per pan up to 18 colors per pan! Larger nuggets and pickers are found all the time on Turkey Creek. Also additional information concerning finds in this area can be found in nugget hunting and prospecting forums. Information concerning your purchase: This purchase is for all interest in the claim. The claim have been examined and documented by professional mineral field surveyors. They have verified the information and potential mineral content of the site. The claim is as represented and documented above. Each Placer claim measures ft by ft or For more information on this, please contact the Arizona BLM on their website. This mining claim gives the owner full control of the minerals and ownership of all minerals and gems on the claim for as long as the purchaser maintains ownership. These fees are per claim, per year. This claim has been paid in full until September 1st of Binding and Legal notes: The claim has been staked according to state law to include all of the mines and land as pictured. The claim s has been described professionally and according to the BLM. They have been measured, staked and validated by professional Mineral and Mining Claim Surveyors. Ownership of this placer claim gives the registered owner full control and ownership of all locatable minerals that may be located on the claim. The sale of this claim s does not constitute any speculative investment or security. The sale of this claim and the information contained therein does not imply or guarantee values, assay reports, or future earnings. The sale of this claim does not account for any land or access issues that may arise. Our offices are open from 9am to 5pm Monday through Friday.

Chapter 2 : Home | AbandonedMines

*Get this from a library! The abandoned gold mine. [John C Souter] -- The reader's decisions control the adventures of a group of children in and around an abandoned gold mine, as they find out more about themselves and God.*

Some worry that more mine tragedies could result from an emerging trend. With the price of gold soaring, and the economy lagging, California may see a fresh wave of gold fever. Rise in price Industry sources and government officials say there is renewed interest in gold. The major players in the industry are large mining companies that now are engaged in new drilling programs or working to reopen closed gold mines. Authorities say professional mining generally involves experts and an array of safety regulations. State and federal authorities are working to close hazardous mines but annually seal off fewer than tunnels, pits or shafts. Gold mines constitute more than half the abandoned mines around the state. Early prospectors panned for gold along rivers and creeks, quickly clearing out the most obvious nuggets. As mining grew more expensive and complex, partnerships and businesses formed to coax gold from the ground. Many companies followed quartz veins " long associated with gold " deep into the earth, sometimes using explosives to open up holes. Unproductive or failed exploratory shafts and tunnels were quickly abandoned. During the Great Depression, people driven by desperation sometimes returned to abandoned mines in hopes of scratching out enough gold to make a living. Gold mining virtually stopped during World War II because the government considered it a nonessential industry. The price of gold also began to drop, just as the cost of mining continued to escalate. But many of those abandoned mines still exist. And, with more residential development in formerly remote areas where mines exist, shafts and tunnels often are more easily noticed. Since , nine accidents at abandoned mines have been reported in California. According to the U. Department of Labor, nearly people have died over the past five years in accidents associated with both active and abandoned mines. For example, mines may hold deadly gases, unseen or unexpectedly deep shafts, illegal drug labs and even unused explosives. Animals ranging from bats to rattlesnakes may make their homes in tunnels and shafts. State and federal officials maintain priority closure lists of dangerous mines. Sites climb higher on the list mainly because of accidents or proximity to parks, campgrounds or other population centers. Wilkerson, the senior mining geologist in Bakersfield, said he knows of hundreds of abandoned mines on bureau land within a region that includes Kern, Fresno, Madera, Tulare and several other counties. The abandoned mines unit also works in partnership with other agencies, including the bureau. Mine closure costs are influenced by the number of features " such as shafts or adits, which are vertical or horizontal openings " at a single mine. Authorities also must conduct a variety of environmental studies. The acreage sits in the Coarsegold area " so named for the nuggets that put it on the map. The federally owned Quartz Mountain property includes a mine developed during the Gold Rush; it later became a popular hunting ground for quartz crystals. Authorities closed it because the Yosemite Unified School District has an option to buy the acreage for a school site. But officials recognized the hazards, along with the educational opportunities, the mine offered. Hidden holes Today, old shafts and tunnels are easily overlooked amid pockets of manzanita and poison oak. Some holes are covered with dirt; others are blocked with metal grates that preserve access for bats and other small wildlife. Several holes bored into the hillside are surprisingly small. Wilkerson described them as a suitable for Bilbo Baggins, one of the hobbits in J. He pointed out pick marks on tunnel walls, a sign the hole was hollowed out by hand likely in the mids. As he talked, crews about yards away worked on construction of a new home. Tim Roche, a family friend, said the mine was abandoned long ago because it kept filling with water. They discovered the bodies about 20 feet from the entrance, water already lapping against them. Authorities only hear about them when there is an accident, she said. But the lure of gold draws people to the foothills, and especially to places with promising names such as Coarsegold. But its focus is family.

**Chapter 3 : State | AbandonedMines**

*The currently abandoned Stratton's Independence mine and mill is a historic gold deposit near Victor, Colorado (USA). Just between late and April , the mine provided almost , ounces of gold.*

The Abandoned Mine Problem: Who Should Bear the Burden? They pose a danger to both public and environmental health, and responsible parties are difficult to find, differentiate, or hold accountable. Why do inactive mines continue to pose safety hazards and pollute our waterways? The Gold King Mine wastewater spill in southwestern Colorado in was a good reminder of the scope of the problem of abandoned and orphaned mines and how our current regulatory framework falls short. There are three laws that generally govern mining law in the United States: These laws lack concrete measures to prevent mine spills from occurring as well as reliable methods to ensure that all mines receive the necessary attention in the case of a spill or better yet, to prevent one. In addition, these laws can create liabilities and disincentives on parties who might otherwise be willing to come in and remediate the mine on their own. However, some states are turning towards a non-traditional form of legislation: Good Samaritan laws, in which citizens, companies, and organizations would be not liable in the case they decide to take on the task of cleaning up acid mine drainage. The abandoned mine problem in the United States is striking. Specifically, hard rock mines including metals like gold, silver, iron, copper, and zinc are predominant in the West as a result of the discovery of gold and silver during the era of western expansion. Up until the s, the federal government engaged in little oversight on mining across much of the West. During the mining era, there were few expectations about environmental safeguards, and as a result, historic mining operations often went largely unregulated. Before the s, it was common for mining companies to abandon mine sites after mineral extraction was completed or no longer profitable. The land was often left exposed, with waste materials in piles or dumped into mine cavities and pits. At the time, mining companies had no requirement to restore mine lands to their original condition. Today, it is almost impossible to hold these mine owners financially responsible because records of original ownership have been lost and accountable individuals have long passed away. Today, these abandoned mines are capable of polluting adjacent streams, lakes, and groundwater with high volumes of toxic waste. In doing so, contamination from spills has the potential to "and often does" harm marine ecosystems, poison local drinking water, and pose serious health risks to local communities. What Laws Are in Place? The Mining Law of , or the General Mining Law, governs the transfer of rights to mine gold, silver, copper, uranium and other hardrock minerals from federal lands. Under the law, citizens may enter and explore the public domain, and if they find valuable mineral deposits, they may obtain title to the land through the Department of the Interior. The law has jurisdictional coverage over million acres of publicly owned land , which is almost one-fourth of all land in the United States. In essence, mining companies are able to search for minerals without any authorization from any government agency. The law contains little to no environmental protections for using use of the land and it does not include any royalty or bonding provisions to help fund cleanup in case of an accident. As a result, many have criticized the law for giving away public land to private companies practically for free, leaving the public to bear the burden for cleaning up the spills. Since there is no requirement to pay royalties or report extraction volume, the government does not keep track of the volume of hardrock minerals being extracted from federal public lands each year. Consequently, this aspect of mines is largely unchecked and has disparate effects. But the issue of abandoned mines has not entirely been overlooked. If passed, the legislation would help fund clean-up activities through fees and royalties. In March , the House Committee on Natural Resources held a hearing on the issue of abandoned mines. The Act splits the responsibility to state agencies and some responsibility to the EPA to carry out the regulatory purposes. The Act requires would-be polluters to obtain a permit for any kind of discharge of a pollutant from a point source such as mine waste into the navigable waters of the United States. While the structure of the Act enforces a basic foundation for protecting water resources, one consequence of the permitting system is that parties who own or attempt to clean up mines will likely become subject to its extensive permitting requirements and face liability. This being said, when parties do attempt to clean up mines, their actions could still constitute a

violation of the CWA. Under the Act, a party seeking to engage in cleanup activity would need a permit regardless of whether their actions aggravate or improve the water quality. CERCLA allows for the cleanup of sites that are already contaminated with hazardous substances and pollutants. CERCLA is intended to spread the cost of cleanup among responsible parties, and allows the government to undertake cleanup of contaminated property or compel private parties to undertake the cleanup themselves. Even with some liability defense for certain types of innocent landowners and bonafide prospective purchaser, CERCLA has in effect discouraged the purchase and reuse of properties that may be contaminated. As a result, the overwhelming costs of cleanups and potential liability have been the primary restraining factors for people otherwise interested in reusing and restoring contaminated properties. Good Samaritan Legislation There has been no shortage of offered fixes to the problem of abandoned and orphaned mines, but one solution that has seemed to be getting more traction recently is the idea of Good Samaritan legislation. While potential liability under the CWA and CERCLA has discouraged parties from cleaning up abandoned mines or reusing and restoring contaminated properties, Good Samaritan legislation may provide new hope for parties who want to attempt to clean up mines but do not have the resources to take on the liability that might accompany cleanup efforts. These parties may include citizens, government agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and mining companies. Pennsylvania implemented the Environmental Good Samaritan Act in and has completed fifty projects since. Those protected by this legislation include individuals, corporations, nonprofit organizations, and government entities. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection DEP administers and reviews project proposals to determine project eligibility. While the Act has been used for mine reclamation in the past, DEP has also applied it to other environmental remediation projects, achieving success so far. Three more projects are currently under review. Recently, members of Congress have made efforts to enact something similar at the federal level. The bill, ultimately, was not successful. The practical reality of Good Samaritan legislation is that most parties who are interested in cleaning up the spills will not have the funds to effectuate a successful cleanup. While Good Samaritan laws appear to be a reasonable way to encourage cleanups, they are not enough to solve the multifaceted abandoned mine issue that has a variety of stakeholders- including the mining companies who are often let off the hook. This is why most environmental advocates tend to reject Good Samaritan proposals, as they distract from the bigger picture that the mining companies are causing the spills and are not taking responsibility to clean them up. While the EPA has issued guidance on Good Samaritan laws, few parties are willing to proceed with cleanup projects because the EPA has failed to engage in regulatory rulemaking and enforce law on the subject. This being said, Good Samaritan legislation alone will not solve the abandoned and orphaned mine issue. Conservation groups have proposed increased liability for mining companies. At the state level, conservation groups like San Juan Citizens Alliance and Conservation Colorado have supported the Thus, what seems to be the closest thing to an answer to the abandoned and orphaned mine problem is some sort of combination of many proposed solutions: Good Samaritan laws, imposition of royalties, creation of a hardrock reclamation fund, etc. Wikimedia Commons user Riverhugger , Creative Commons. Navigating the Intersection of Sections a and f , 5 Mich. American Mining Congress v. Protection Agency, F. Committee to Save Mokelumne River v. East Bay Municipal Utility Dist. Mineral Volume, Value, and Revenue , <https://dep.launchesprogramtocapabandonedwells.com/>, The Bradford Era Jan. This entry was posted in Blog , Online Posts.

## Chapter 4 : Abandoned Mines -TOP 14

*Thousands of abandoned gold mines are scattered across South Africa, polluting the water with toxics and filling the air with noxious dust. For the millions of people who live around these derelict sites, the health impacts can be severe.*

Gold was discovered near the town by chance, in the middle of the 19th century. The many mines were established and the mountains were being exploited for more than one hundred years before exhaustion. Their history goes back to when, out of necessity as Europe lost the Byzantine alum mines to the Ottomans, alum was discovered in the municipality of Rodalquilar. Soon a factory and with it a mining town, also named Rodalquilar, flourished on the spot. Rodalquilar was often a target of attacks and pillages by Barbary pirates. In order to be more protected and secure, a castle was constructed next to the El Playazo road. Many different companies, prospectors, and complete amateur individuals from different parts of the world started arriving, and with the flow of people came better infrastructure. As the population grew, the town had more and more houses, more community buildings, hotels, boarding houses, two smelters, a school, and a municipality building. At the peak of popularity in 1860, Rodalquilar had 1,000 inhabitants. The main reason for nationalization of the mines was the lack of gold in the national gold reserves held by the Bank of Spain. This deficit came about because Spain sold much of its gold to the Soviet Union during the war in order to buy military support. Ruins of former mining workers' homes at Rodalquilar in Andalusia, Spain

Author: There were and there still are large quantities of gold in the mountain and under the mine shafts, but the percentage of gold in the ore is too low for it to turn any profit. When the Rodalquilar mines were closed, the concentration was around 5 grams, when they needed at least 7 so that the mines could keep on working. Old Gold Mines in Rodalquilar

Author: But, even faster than it started, came the end of this operation. Experts on this subject say that if the mines are to be reopened today they could turn quite a profit due to the high prices of gold today in comparison to those 30 years ago. But for now this operation is completely impossible, as the area was declared a national park in 1987 and mining activity of any sort cannot be conducted. Minas de oro de Rodalquilar

Author: Mekanoide CC BY 2. However many people interested in mineralogy, searching for gems, and ghost mine enthusiasts visit the mines every year. There are signs and public warnings from the local municipality that advise tourists and locals of the hidden dangers: Still some tourist companies organize guided tours of the area, both inside and out of the mines.

**Chapter 5 : What happens to abandoned mines? | HowStuffWorks**

*Silver City, Kern, California, a Gold Rush ghost town Find this Pin and more on The abandoned gold mine by Farbica. Silver City, California - to build a whole town like this for photo backdrops but still functional as sheds and forts for the kids.*

Source Fun Hunting for Gold A photo of an abandoned mine motivated me to explore the foothills and mountains near my home for an abandoned gold mine. I drove to an area that looked promising when I found a gate with a broken cable and two large pipe end posts. One was marked with an XXX, so that was also promising. The sides of the path leading up were strewn with tailings, white tailings. That was also promising. Frequently gold is found along with white quartz or another white powdery substance that can be easily chipped. With my juices on max, I hoped for a great day on the trail, seeing the wild flowers, smelling the fresh air, and enjoying the sun on my back. More white quartz and porphyry Source An Adventure As I walked up the trail, I could see evidence of two wheeled vehicle travel. Perhaps it was ATVs, or perhaps it was evidence of old trucks or carts. Sometimes the trails in Arizona have vehicular evidence caused by traffic from many years before. The wheels from that yesteryear compacted the earth very hard. That was another good sign. The other tell tale thing was to the right near a wash that was getting farther and farther away from view, beer cans, about 20, were gathered near a dip in the sand, and they were very rusted. Recall that aluminum cans for beer were brought out in Can corrosion was evidence of old beer! This was another good omen. Bull snakes are immune to rattler venom, and if attacked, will wrap around the rattlesnake and constrict until dead. This boy was not intimidated by me at all. Under a magnifier you can see its head in the upper left corner area. I suggest prospectors and hikers walk slowly and warily. This kind of walk is helpful in case of unforeseen circumstances. As I popped over the rise, my heart jumped about 2 inches inside my chest. A snake, about 8 feet long, was standing on two coils in the middle of the road. Turning and darting down the rise, I stopped because that was no way to get a photo. Inching my way up the rise again I peeped over. The snake was meandering to the left into the brush, having markings on its back similar to a diamond back rattlesnake. The photo below is of the snake as it lay to the side. If you look in the grass, you can see it extends from the right bottom to the left side past the rock in the upper left-hand corner. It was a gutsy snake, as it appeared I did not scare it very much. He stayed there even as I walked past. Later, I found a photo on the Internet and identified it as a bull snake. Bull snakes are the longest variety in Arizona. They can reach up to 9 feet in length. But this day, the one to the left was, for whatever reason, used less. The trail rose quickly. To my right was the gorge, and it was looking deeper and deeper. The maroon rock walls ahead were too sheer, so I scaled down carefully on outcroppings that were quite fractured. The opposite canyon wall seemed to have a long shadow cast on it at the bottom. I continued ever so slowly and methodically down. Just about to the bottom, I could see the sandy wash clearly. I leapt the last 4 feet. Turning around in the soft, warm sand gave me another heart raising start. Once again, I paused to take a photo. Directly in front of me was a mountain lion lair with fresh scat at the entrance. Two boulders too large to scale were on my left in the wash. It was time to skinny up the rocks back to the trail. Sometimes there is a reason the trail is less wandered! And then there was a den. Source An 80 acre mining claim Source Back at the fork I proceeded to hike north along the other edge of the ravine. So far, I had encountered a lion den and a bull snake. I had had a different kind of excitement as compared to the discovery of gold. But the experience had been a treasure nevertheless. Wild flowers were everywhere. All of the desert flower colors were extremely bright. It had a thin aluminum plate attached to it. Because it was down off the road on loose dirt and rock, I could not get close enough for a good photo. It was a rectangular plate with an X in the top left corner with the number 80 and the letters MRR. This was an 80 acre mineral and oil claim. This kind of claim is usually for hard rock mining. Placer mining is limited to 20 acres per locator. Locators are spots within a larger claim that are designated for placer mining. If you want to hunt for placer outside that location, you must file another placer claim. Here was more evidence that I might find a mine if I mossied further up the trail. Source Rust Everywhere Continuing to move up the trail, I was seeing relics of heavy equipment. But there had been signs of a past full of action A cable extended

from a 3-legged iron mooring across to my side of the gorge. I have seen this arrangement before in Arizona. Supplies could be brought across, while ore moved over such devices. All indications were that gold mining had taken place in the vicinity. The cable spanned the gorge. And then, peering at the other side I saw what I had hoped for. A huge section of the rock face changed from granite to red porphyry speckled with white quartz. At the bottom was evidence of human workings. There were several large mine openings dug out of the rock. The arched openings were more than feet below. Black objects, perhaps old tires, were near the entrances. I have a theory that if explosives were used to open up those mines, there might be gold powder on the mine floors and outside each mine. My hikes invariably give me a location to sample. Even better, by chance there might be an ore pile down there that I could pick through. Other sites with ore piles have yielded a tiny bit of gold. I will remember the place and return someday soon.

### Chapter 6 : The abandoned gold mines of Rodalquilar, Spain - Abandoned Spaces

*(An Abandoned Gold Mine Adventure) October 13, // Esther Filbrun 1 Comment Last Sunday, several people in our family had colds, so we had a family worship time together instead of meeting with our normal church group.*

Abandoned mine lands pose serious threats to human health, safety, Pennsylvania, and West ia. Geology of Bedford County, Pennsylvania View of water gaps cut by. There are abandoned mines in both areas and acid mine drainage is an environmental problem in. Pennsylvania Mines and Mining. This index contains over 11, entries for maps of abandoned mines in Pennsylvania. For a map of abandoned mine locations in a particular western state,. Was it a coal mine, gold mine? Hazardous abandoned mine problems include open shafts and horizontal openings resulting from. Oh jeez, things have gone sideways. Abandoned mine land related problems include landslides,. Current status of the mine. Values are Abandoned, Abandoned and Sealed, Active,. El Dorado Gold Mine Website: Want to see more of the abandoned mining town of Centralia,. Subsidence â€” Abandoned Mines In Pennsylvania. Risk of lawsuits preventing cleanup of abandoned mines in Colorado. As the result of an ongoing effort to capture mining history on film, IronMiners. More than 1 million homes in Pennsylvania sit atop abandoned mines. The enhanced Web site,.

**Chapter 7 : Old Abandoned Gold Mine In Stock Photos & Old Abandoned Gold Mine In Stock Images - Ala**

*The Gold Dust Mine was a small-time operation that dates back to the s. Supposedly one of the early miners was killed in the mine by a collapse. His ghost is said to haunt the mine and mining.*

Friday, January 15, - The name is derived from "happy prospect" in Afrikaans, and once upon a time, life and the gold haul were both good at the Blyvooruitzicht Gold Mine, 50 miles west of Johannesburg. He raises his shotgun and shatters the afternoon calm with several blasts. Blyvooruitzicht is but one of thousands of abandoned mines scattered across South Africa, many from the gold industry. With recently shuttered mines adding to the massive impact of those left derelict years ago, the country faces a growing environmental, health and social crisis created by a withering gold industry and inadequate oversight. While the DMR slowly rehabilitates those mines at a rate of about 10 per year, companies continue to walk away from operations such as Blyvooruitzicht, and both mining companies and the government are slow to accept responsibility. In the meantime, millions of South Africans live around waste facilities and many deal with respiratory, skin and other health effects that they blame on the mine waste piled in and around their communities. In , mining companies produced , times as much waste as gold, according to the South African Chamber of Mines. A decade before, that same ratio was less than half as large, at ,to This produces more waste and leads to higher production costs, more mining debris and increased acid mine drainage. The former apartheid government placed many settlements near or even on top of the mining waste dumps. Around Johannesburg, some tailings piles, most of them unlined, contain that waste, which weighs in at an estimated 6 billion metric tons. According to the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development in Gauteng, the province that includes Johannesburg and Pretoria, toxic and radioactive mine residue areas cover square miles. At Blyvooruitzicht, about 11, people live around the abandoned mine, many of them unemployed miners unable to afford housing elsewhere. Throughout its lifetime, the mine generated about 2. Just outside the main mining village, unremediated tailings piles stretch like monstrous sandy beaches. Children are known to swim in puddles of water on the dumps. Residents live in constant fear of electricity and water shutoffs, and illegal miners frequently engage mine security in gun battles. Sikeme Lekhooana, chairman of the Blyvooruitzicht Community Committee, said his 5-year-old son knows the sound of gunfire all too well. Blyvooruitzicht operated from until , when a slumping market and labor disputes forced it into liquidation 14 years ahead of schedule. But each company has walked away, claiming the other is the owner and therefore responsible for the cleanup. One of the major environmental and health concerns is the vast production of acid mine drainage. Lekhooana worked at the mine for 32 years before being laid off when the operation was liquidated. More than 1, employees from the mine face the same situation, unable to find work in a shrinking industry. Between November and February , for example, thousands of metric tons of tailings pond material spilled from Blyvooruitzicht on four occasions, some of the waste washing into a nearby residential area. These spills occurred with relative frequency, and while mine reports from the time noted crews being sent to clean roads and calls being made to the proper authorities, they do not mention any other measures taken to protect the community. One major environmental and health concern is the vast production of acid mine drainage, especially around Johannesburg, which the water department estimates at up to 92 million gallons per day. Acid mine drainage mobilizes heavy metals in the environment, creates sinkholes and pollutes water supplies. The district just west of Johannesburg recorded 42 metric tons of tailings-piles dust blowing into the air daily. And the air is no cleaner. Residents say that these piles cause health problems ranging from rashes to asthma to cancer. The list goes on, but a lack of local epidemiological studies has made it nearly impossible for communities near mine dumps to pursue litigation against mining companies. Tudor Shaft is one such community, an informal settlement sitting atop a partially removed tailings facility just west of Johannesburg. An estimated 1, people live in shacks built on the radioactive and toxic soil. An orange hill of mine residue marks the center of the community, and sludge washes through the settlement when it rains. Heavy metals and other pollutants in mine waste pose the most immediate threat to human health, but experts say consistent exposure to large amounts of low-level radiation might have long-term effects, too. Some Tudor Shaft

residents mix the soil with lotion and apply it to their faces as a skin cream. Some are baptized in polluted streams, and others — often pregnant women — follow a traditional practice in which they eat cakes made from the toxic dirt. Proper mitigation has the potential to reduce health risks, but current mining closure legislation only came into effect between the s and s so governments are playing catch-up, according to Digby. Proper rehabilitation includes sealing shafts to prevent entry, vegetating waste dumps or covering them in nets to prevent dust polluting the air, and using linings or trenches to keep contaminated water from seeping into aquifers, creeks and rivers. Statistics from the Chamber of Mines highlight a failing industry, which has been squeezed in recent years by declining gold prices, labor disputes, government interference and increasing costs associated with having to drill more deeply to find rich lodes. The amount of gold produced in the country decreased from metric tons in to metric tons last year. The grade of ore mined has fallen every year since. With tight profit margins, companies find it difficult to fund remediation. The system of regulations governing mine closure is set to receive an overhaul that experts say could help reduce pollution problems. For example, late last year, the power to write most of the rules around closure shifted from the DMR to the Department of Environmental Affairs. Urban planners, though, argue that it will take more than money and politics to properly remediate the hundreds of pale yellow dumps dotting the landscape. Numerous plans exist to productively integrate the city with its mining past, from converting tailings piles into solar farms to developing a new economic district on rehabilitated mine land. This story first appeared on:

### Chapter 8 : Hiking to an Abandoned Gold Mine | SkyAboveUs

*This abandoned gold mine on Quartz Mountain in California dates from the mids. More than 47, abandoned mines are a treacherous legacy of the search for gold and other minerals and metals.*

### Chapter 9 : What's left in the wake of South Africa's abandoned gold mines | GreenBiz

*Abandoned hardrock mines include gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc and nickel mines. The USGS maintains a digital database of rivers, streams and mine related sites. The digital database is available on CD-ROM.*