



A Profile in Using Green Remediation Strategies

Additional profiles available at www.clu-in.org/greenremediation

California Gulch Superfund Site
Leadville, CO

Superfund NPL

Cleanup Objectives: Address metals-contaminated soil at a former mining site

Green Remediation Strategy: Constructed a recreational trail serving as a cap for contaminated soil

- Conducted a risk-based assessment to confirm trail interception of exposure pathways for waste left in place
- Demonstrated the trail would not harm adjacent wetlands and streams
- Completed a cultural resource inventory and mitigation plan to meet historic preservation requirements
- Consolidated slag-contaminated soil into a platform running along the site's former rail and haul-road corridor
- Covered the soil platform with a six-inch layer of gravel spanning a width of 12 feet with additional three-foot shoulders
- Installed six inches of asphalt above the gravel layer

Results:

- Avoided invasive soil excavation and costly offsite disposal
- Reduced consumption and cost of imported construction material through use of contained waste-in-place
- Increased user safety and remedy integrity through trail restriction to non-motorized use
- Relied on an integrated remediation and reuse plan involving extensive community input, donation of land and construction material by the property owner, and long-term trail and remedy maintenance by Lake County, CO
- Avoided mobile source air emissions associated with off-site disposal of contaminated soil

Property End Use: Recreation

Point of Contact: [Rebecca Thomas](#), U.S. EPA Region 8



Formerly mine-scarred land of California Gulch now constitutes a portion of the Mineral Belt Trail, a 12.5-mile paved bike path looping around historic mining artifacts and through the city of Leadville. Colorado's State Trails Committee recently nominated the trail for National Recreational Trail status.

California Gulch Superfund Site

Update: June 2008

http://www.cluin.org/greenremediation/profiles/subtab_d14.cfm



**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (5202P)**

For more information:
www.cluin.org/greenremediation
Carlos Pachon (pachon.carlos@epa.gov)