

# **Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) Abandoned Mine Lands Program**

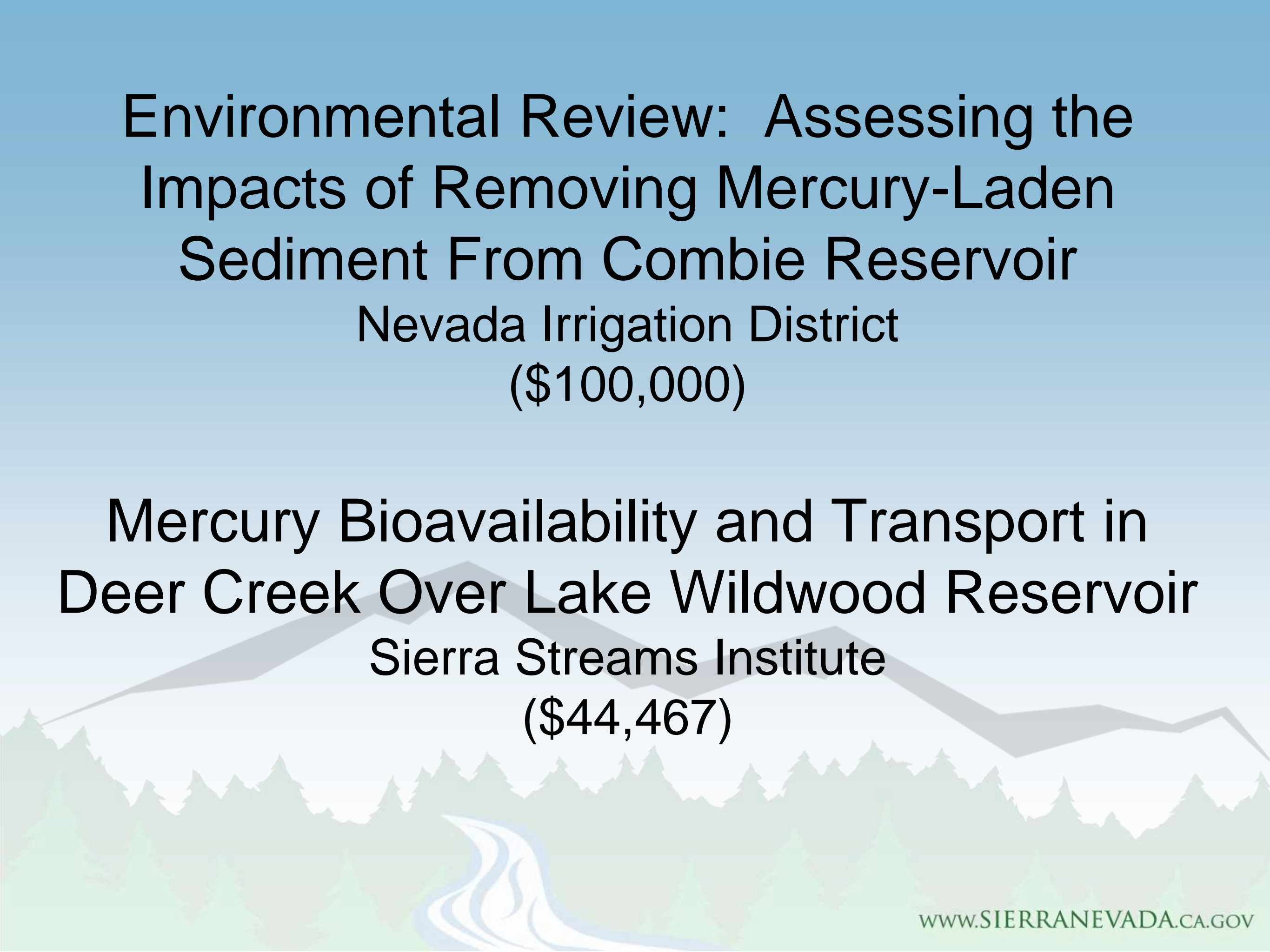
Reclaiming the Sierra 2015: The New Gold Rush  
April 21, 2015

# Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) Sierra Nevada Region

- Over half of inventoried AML sites in California are located in the Sierra Nevada.
- More than 3,000 sites in the Sierra Nevada contain chemical hazards, including mercury.
- Between 10 and 30% of the 26 million pounds of mercury brought to the Region was lost to the environment.
- Mercury, sediment, and other substances continue to travel downstream into the Delta and SF Bay.
- Many of the mercury-impaired reservoirs in the foothills and central California store water that comes from Sierra Nevada watersheds.

# SNC Proposition 84 Funding AML Projects

- Two AML projects were awarded funding prior to the initiation of SNC's AML program – both addressed mercury in reservoirs.
- Fiscal Year 2013-14 grant round included an AML project area focus.
- Eligible projects contributed to improved water quality and reliability by removing toxins associated with historic AML from waterways, and/or preventing them from entering waters and waterways.
- Five grants for a total of \$744,044 were awarded.



**Environmental Review: Assessing the  
Impacts of Removing Mercury-Laden  
Sediment From Combie Reservoir  
Nevada Irrigation District  
(\$100,000)**

**Mercury Bioavailability and Transport in  
Deer Creek Over Lake Wildwood Reservoir  
Sierra Streams Institute  
(\$44,467)**

# Oro De Amador Removal Action Workplan Project

City of Jackson (\$75,000)



# Environs Mining Legacy Assessment Project

Sierra Streams Institute (\$74,980)



# Robinson Mine

Department of Conservation and  
Plumas National Forest (\$75,000)



# Providence Mine Remediation Project

Sierra Streams Institute (\$342,211)





# Wood Chip Hydraulic Mine Restoration Project

Tahoe National Forest (\$176,853)



# AML Funding Opportunities

- Proposition I Funding
- EPA – Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Grants
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- National Forest Foundation Matching Awards Program
- DWR – Integrated Regional Water Management Grants
- State Water Resources Control Board 319 (h) Nonpoint Source Grants