

## PROJECT PROFILE: MINE EIS

**PROJECT:** Spring Creek Mine EIS  
Decker, Montana

Big Sky Acoustics developed the EIS noise sections for the addition of a 9-mile transportation corridor to the Spring Creek Mine. The haul road would connect with the Youngs Creek Mine in Wyoming, to transport ore and share equipment and processing.

### BSA's SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS:

- Reviewed the project documents, maps and aerial photography. Identified existing man-made and natural noise sources and receptors within 2 miles of the corridor, including residences, noise-sensitive wildlife species, and greater sage grouse leks.
- Determined noise levels of diesel-powered construction equipment and 240-ton haul trucks, and predicted the Project construction, operation and reclamation noise levels using Cadna-A software.
- Compared the Proposed Action noise levels to federal and state noise guidelines, including the Montana Executive Order *Greater Sage Grouse Core Area and General Habitat Stipulations*, to determine impacts at receptors.
- Compared the predicted noise levels to the estimated baseline noise levels to evaluate audibility at the receptors, and determined how significantly the ambient environment will change due to the new noise sources.
- Contoured the increase in noise levels at the nine greater sage grouse leks. Proposed noise mitigation measures for the Agency Mitigated Alternative, to reduce the Project noise.

BSA's comprehensive analysis expertly evaluated the noise impacts and mitigation measures, so the various agencies can make informed environmental decisions on the proposed Project.

