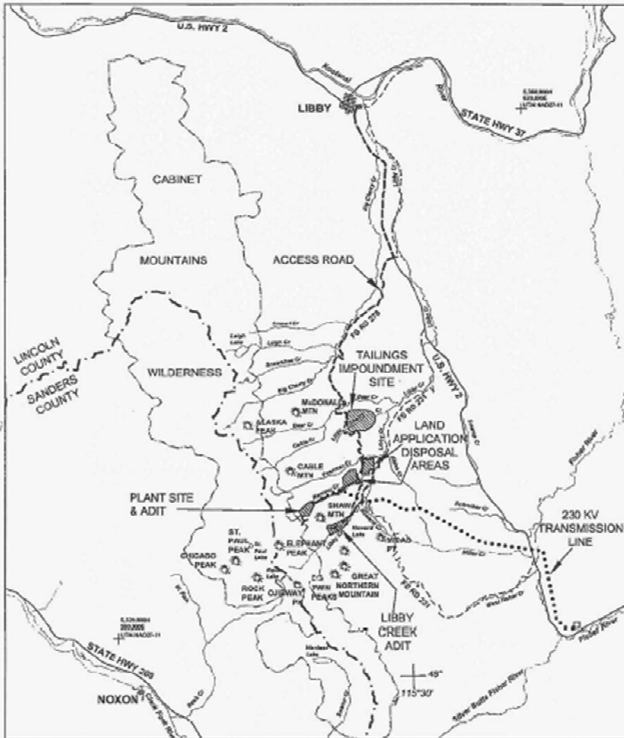


Big Sky Acoustics

PROJECT PROFILE: MINE



PROJECT: Montanore Project Libby, Montana

Due to the Project's proximity to the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness, noise was a major concern and required the experience of a qualified acoustical consultant. Big Sky Acoustics was hired to complete the Environmental Noise Study of the proposed under-ground silver-copper mine.

BSA's SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS:

- ◆ Evaluated the previous Baseline Noise Study to determine what data and information needed to be updated according to the new Plan of Operations.
- ◆ Conducted noise level measurements of a similar nearby underground mine for comparison.
- ◆ Used noise modeling software that incorporated the topographic data and developed noise contour maps for the various noise sources in the preproduction, production and reclamation phases of the Project, including the:
 - Ventilation fans,
 - Generators,
 - Mill facility and
 - Earth-moving equipment.
- ◆ Predicted the noise levels of increased traffic due to waste and product hauling, as well as employee transport along the local roadways.
- ◆ Developed best management practices and mitigation measures for the noise sources to reduce the Project noise levels, and summarized the analysis in a report used for the EIS.
- ◆ Once the EIS alternatives were selected, reevaluated the potential noise impacts on nearby human and wildlife receptors.

