
Bay Area Mineralogists

January 2010

January 13, 2010, 7:00 pm
USGS Menlo Park, Bldg 3, Rm 3-237
<http://www.baymin.org>



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The Bay Area Mineralogists assemble on the second Wednesday of every month during the school year, unless diverted by extenuating circumstances. We now meet at the USGS Menlo Park in Building 3. See campus map at <http://online.wr.usgs.gov/kiosk/mparea3.html>. Our room is located in Building 3, second floor where this map says "Conference Room" – note that the front doors are locked and you will have to come up the stairs on the Middlefield side of the building. Parking is free.

January Program: The Continuing Exploits of David Lowe: Britain!

Twelve months after his South Africa travelogue, Dave Lowe will switch hemispheres and give us a virtual tour of his trip to Great Britain – more specifically, London's Natural History Museum and their extensive mineral collection. If you've ever visited there, you know it's a staggering display – when there's more than you can take in at once, it's always fun to see what catches someone else's eye.



*Mineral Gallery at the Natural History Museum
(photo: <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/visit-us/galleries/green-zone/minerals/index.html>)*

December's Silent Auction Results

For those who were there (or not!) and are curious... After last month's program, the silent auction cranked up in earnest. With two full tables of donated minerals and other goodies, there were plenty of options to go around. When the dust had settled, BAM's coffers had expanded by \$233. Thank you to all who donated and bid on items!

Clear Creek Updates

News from President Spence: The BLM released the announcement below regarding their Draft Resource Management Plan for the Clear Creek area. While lengthy, it's reproduced

in its entirety for the benefit of the club; please note highlighted section and additional comments at the end.

CCMA RMP/EIS STATUS UPDATE:

BLM is pleased to announce the release of the Clear Creek Management Area Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement. A 90-day public comment period on the CCMA Draft RMP/EIS began on December 4, 2009 and runs through March 5, 2010. During this period, any person with an interest in the range of alternatives considered in the draft RMP/EIS is encouraged to submit written comments.

The BLM Hollister Field Office will host three public meetings to gather comments on the CCMA Draft RMP/EIS in January 2010. Each public meeting will begin with an open house where the public can gather information, talk with BLM specialists, and provide written comments on the draft RMP/EIS. Following the open house, the BLM will give a brief introduction followed by an opportunity for the public to provide oral comments on the draft RMP/EIS.

Although oral comments will be noted on flip charts, **BLM will only respond to written public comments in the Proposed RMP and Final EIS. Comments must be postmarked or received by BLM no later than March 5, 2010.** The public is encouraged to attend the public meetings to gather information and provide comments on the draft RMP/EIS.

All public meetings will take place from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. at:

January 13, 2010:

Harris Ranch Garden Ballroom, 24505 W. Dorris Ave., Coalinga

January 14, 2010:

Veterans Memorial Hall, 649 San Benito St. Hollister

January 20, 2010:

Santa Clara Convention Center, Great America Meeting Rooms, 5001 Great America Parkway, Santa Clara

Written public comments may be submitted to BLM at public meetings or by any of the following methods:

Mail: Bureau of Land Management
Attn: CCMA RMP/EIS
20 Hamilton Court
Hollister, CA 95023

E-mail: cahormp@ca.blm.gov

Fax: (831) 630-5055 Attn: CCMA RMP/EIS

If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

As per Bill's e-mail to many of you, he and others in BAM intend to respond to the request for comments. Bill will be attending the Coalinga meeting; please contact him if you would like to carpool (bill.spence777@sbcglobal.net). A strategy / drafting meeting is in the works, with January 16 at Stan Bogosian's in Saratoga the provisional date. Contact Bill at the e-mail above or at the BAM meeting if you want to get involved – let's get this mineralogical Mecca back open again!

Reminder: No February Meeting

As per norm, we'll skip the February meeting in favor of Tucson pursuits. See you in March with treasures in hand!

Letters to the BAM Editor

Please send your comments, content, compliments, and/or complaints to Don Windeler, don.windeler@rms.com, 650-591-1644.