

# Mining Hotspots

Thousands of metals mines now pockmark the surface of the planet, displacing communities, poisoning rivers, and ruining the lands of indigenous peoples. This map shows a small sample of the industry's activities.

**Alaska: Red Dog**  
The world's largest zinc mine, Red Dog, is also the largest polluter in Alaska, releasing 196,000 metric tons of toxic pollutants a year.

**Nevada: Carlin Trend**  
The mining of Nevada's Carlin Trend, the world's second largest gold deposit, has damaged Western Shoshone lands while making the state the world's third largest gold producer.

**Utah: Bingham Canyon**  
This copper and gold mine is now the world's largest open pit, measuring 1.5 kilometers deep and 4 kilometers across. The company is responsible for mass layoffs in violation of its contract with the employees' union.

**Honduras: San Martin**  
This open-pit gold and silver mine, run by Canada's Glamis Gold, is destroying forests and drying up local farmland. The mine consumes 1.5 million liters of water a day.

**Peru: Tambogrande**  
A proposed gold mine was rejected by this rural community in Peru's top fruit-growing region.



**Peru: Yanacocha**  
Residents of Choropampa, a town near the Newmont-owned Yanacocha gold mine, still suffer the effects of a mercury spill in 2000.

**Argentina: Esquel**  
In a 2003 referendum, 81 percent of this Patagonian town's residents voted against a proposed open-pit gold mine.

**Montana: Zortman-Landusky**  
Gold mining has destroyed Spirit Mountain, a sacred site for the Assiniboine and Gros Ventre tribes. The most recent mine was abandoned by the Pegasus Gold company in 1998, when it went bankrupt.



**Romania: Rosia Montana**  
If built, this proposed gold mine would create Europe's largest open pit, displacing 2,000 people and destroying Roman archeological sites.

**Spain: Los Frailes**  
A 1998 accident from this lead and zinc mine sent toxic sludge into the Guadiamar river and contaminated portions of the Doñana National Park.

**Guyana: Omai**  
A 1995 tailings spill sent 3 billion liters of contaminated effluent from this gold mine into the Essequibo, Guyana's largest river.

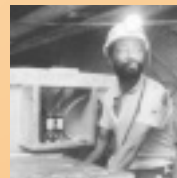
**Brazil: Small-Scale Mining**  
Tens of thousands of small-scale miners work the Amazon region for gold, using mercury and little protective equipment.



**Bolivia: Don Mario**  
Indigenous communities are protesting the development of this gold and silver mine in the Chiquitano Forest.

**Ghana: Tarkwa**  
Between 1990 and 1998, more than 30,000 people in Tarkwa were displaced by gold mining operations.

**South Africa**  
The world's largest gold producer, South Africa laid off nearly half its mining workforce between 1985 and 2000.



**Mali: Syama**  
The first large-scale mining operation in Mali, this gold mine is responsible for extensive groundwater contamination.



**Romania: Baia Mare**  
In 2000, the tailings dam from this gold mine spilled 100,000 metric tons of toxic wastewater, killing fish and poisoning the drinking water of 2.5 million people.

**Orissa, India: Utkal Project**  
Proposed bauxite mines and an aluminum smelter would displace three villages in an ecologically sensitive area inhabited by tribal people. Police fired upon a public protest, killing three tribal members in 2000.

**Zambia: Copperbelt**  
Local communities suffer from asthma, lung diseases, and other health problems caused by pollution from copper mines and smelters run by Anglo-American and other companies.

**Philippines: Marcopper**  
This copper mine dumped 200 million tons of waste rock directly into the sea over a 16-year period.

**Indonesia: PT Kelian**  
Hundreds of families were forcibly evicted to make way for this gold mine in Kalimantan.



**Kyrgyzstan: Kumtor**  
Cyanide spills and worker injuries and deaths have raised concerns about this enormous, World Bank-financed gold mining project.

**Mongolia: Turquoise Hill**  
Ivanoe's proposed copper mine is part of a mining boom in Mongolia, where the number of prospecting licenses has tripled to 3,000 in two years.

**Burma: Monywa**  
The infrastructure for this copper mine, run by Canada's Ivanhoe company, was built by nearly a million forced laborers.

**Laos: Sepon**  
This gold and copper project straddles a tributary of the Mekong river, threatening local forests and the traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples.



**Papua New Guinea: Ok Tedi**  
This mine sends 200,000 tons of waste into the Ok Tedi river each day.

**West Papua, Indonesia: Grasberg**  
The operators of this giant gold and copper mine, owned by US-based Freeport McMoRan, have been implicated in human rights violations, including forced evictions and murders.