



## **In This Issue: February 18, 2025**

- Update on Rise Gold's Lawsuit Against Nevada County
  - Clean Up Mine Water Polluting Wolf Creek
  - Rise Sells 66 acres
  - CEA Launches New Website
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### **Update on Rise Gold's Lawsuit Against Nevada County**

On February 3, a hearing was held in Nevada County Superior Court to set the calendar for Rise's lawsuit against the county. Presiding Judge S. Robert Tice-Raskin requested that the parties involved produce a three page summary document outlining the essential points of the case. The calendar hearing was reset for March 24. CEA Foundation continues to monitor the case closely in order to best support the County's defense, including a proposed amicus brief filing.

**Background** - The Nevada County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to deny Rise Gold's claim of vested rights on Dec 14, 2023, and on Feb 16, 2024 the Board unanimously voted to deny Rise Gold's application for a Use Permit to open the mine and denied certification of the Environmental Impact Report. See <https://www.minewatchnc.org> or <https://website.cea-nc.org/projects/idaho-maryland-mine> for additional information. Subsequently, Rise filed a lawsuit on May 10, 2024, claiming "bias" by the county and seeking to overturn both decisions. The massive records for the case (59,000 pages) were assembled by the County and submitted in November of 2024.

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### **Clean Up Mine Water Polluting Wolf Creek**

CEA Foundation is taking action to clean up contaminated mine water flowing into Wolf Creek from the Idaho-Maryland Mine. During the lengthy process in which Rise Gold Corp's effort to reopen the Idaho-Maryland Mine was initialized, reviewed, and ultimately rejected by the Nevada County Board of

Supervisors, public awareness of the two mine sites – Brunswick and Centennial – became well established. There is less awareness of the legacy shafts that are part of the Idaho-Maryland Mine complex. The Eureka and the East Eureka shafts drain 73 miles of tunnels and surface at the north side of Idaho-Maryland Road onto properties not owned by Rise. The effluent from these gravity-fed drains flows directly into Wolf Creek, with levels exceeding safe thresholds for Arsenic, Lead and other toxic metals. As the owner of the subsurface mineral rights, Rise Gold is responsible for this pollution.

On September 5, 2024, CEA notified Rise Gold that the mine drain effluent violated the Clean Water Act and, to avoid legal action, the company was required to respond within 60 days, either by acquiring a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit or by entering into a consent agreement with CEA. A NPDES permit is the first step to bring the illegal discharge into conformance with the law and eventually lead to the analysis and design of a remediation project.

Throughout the 60 day notice period, CEA Foundation encouraged Rise to enter into a consent agreement. Finally, after no meaningful response from the company, CEA filed the lawsuit with the U.S. District Court in Sacramento on December 20, 2024. The lawsuit simply requires that Rise obtain a NPDES permit and cease violating the Clean Water Act, a key step towards developing a long-term solution that will restore clean water flowing into Wolf Creek now and into the future.

CEA continues to provide Rise Gold the option to reach a voluntary agreement and minimize the cost of fighting the case in the courts before proceeding. See <https://website.cea-nc.org/projects/imm-toxic-mine-drain-cleanup> for further details.

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## **Rise Sells 66 acres**

Rise Gold Corp. has sold 66 acres of the 119 acre Brunswick site, ending its relatively short-lived ownership of two former Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI) parcels located along Brunswick Road. The sale leaves Rise with the adjacent 53 acre historic Brunswick Mine property, a key part of the Idaho-Maryland Mine.

Figure 3: Brunswick Parcels Offered for Sale



According to Rise Gold's [Nov 27, 2024 press release](#), the real estate transaction is divided into two parts; a contract to sell 16 acres for \$1.8 million executed in November 2024, and a second contract to sell 50 acres for \$2.5 million which is expected to close on May 26, 2025. Rise initially received half of the sale proceeds (\$900K minus certain deductions) on the 16 acre sale with the balance due on January 15, 2025. The purpose of the transaction is to obtain working capital for the company.

Selling the lumber mill site parcels could create an obstacle to future mine development. When Rise Gold applied for a Use Permit to reopen the Idaho-Maryland Mine in 2019, the application included the 119 acre Brunswick site, the Centennial site, and 2585 acres of subsurface mineral rights. A substantial portion of the proposed ore processing facilities is situated on the 66-acre SPI parcels that were sold.

When the Use Permit was denied by a unanimous vote of the Nevada County Board of Supervisors in February 2024, Rise Gold Corp. subsequently sued

the county in an effort to overturn that decision. However, even if Rise prevails in the lawsuit, without the sold SPI parcels it would be impossible for the company to obtain permits without a complete redesign of the facilities. Apparently for this reason, the sale agreement includes an option for Rise to repurchase the land if it prevails in the lawsuit.

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## **CEA Launches New Website**

CEA Foundation has a new website <https://website.cea-nc.org/>. Please visit! We are also supporting a new contact point through which the community can express concerns, share ideas, and ask questions about current projects and local issues. Send your thoughts to [CommunityVoices@cea-nc.org](mailto:CommunityVoices@cea-nc.org).

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We can only continue to be an effective voice on these issues with your help!

## **Support CEA Foundation**

Please donate today!

Thank you.

[Donate online](#) or send a check to:

CEA Foundation  
PO Box 972  
Cedar Ridge, CA 95924

All donations are tax-deductible.

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CEA Foundation is funded in part due to the generous support of the California Wildlands Grassroots Fund of Rose Foundation & Patagonia.

[Learn about CEA Foundation](#)

Inquiries may be directed to [CommunityVoices@cea-nc.org](mailto:CommunityVoices@cea-nc.org)

Mine related inquiries may be directed to [MineConcerns@cea-nc.org](mailto:MineConcerns@cea-nc.org)

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