

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

July 5, 2001

In Reply Refer To:  
7250 (220) P

EMS TRANSMISSION 07/09/2001  
Instruction Memorandum No. 2001-167  
Expires: 09/30/2002

To: State Directors

From: Assistant Director, Renewable Resources and Planning

Subject: Water Rights Annual Activity/Summary Report

DD: 02/15/2002

**Program Area:** 7250 - Water Rights

**Purpose:** The purpose of this Instruction Memorandum (IM) is to request an annual water rights activity/summary report and to provide the report format (See Attachment 1).

**Policy:** Each State water rights lead is now required to submit an annual water rights activity/summary report. The initial report is due February 15, 2002, and requires totals and the Fiscal Year (FY) 2001 accomplishments. In future years the report will be due on the last business day of February and will include the accomplishments of the proceeding FY and updated totals. As we develop corporate data standards and data bases in the future, we expect to automate this water rights activity report.

**Time frame:** This IM is effective immediately and has a due date of February 15, 2002. This IM will remain in effect unless formally modified.

**Budget Impact:** The report will improve the BLM's ability to answer inquiries, improve communications, and maintain a better level of awareness throughout the water rights program. It is recognized that the initial report will require substantially more time and effort to complete than simply updating the report in future years. Consequently, the initial report is not due for approximately 5 months.

**Background:** Water rights are extremely complicated and controversial. Inquiries regarding water rights and the BLM's activities are frequently raised by congressional staffs and various other parties. Currently, there is not a single, consolidated source of water rights information to consult and the current management information system (MIS) does not contain enough

information to adequately reflect all of the activities and accomplishments in the water rights program or to address many of these inquiries. The report consists of 20 questions that each water rights lead should be fairly familiar with but will still require the leads to contact field office staffs to help assemble and verify the requested information. It should be noted that there is a new water rights lead in the Washington Office (WO 220), four new State water rights leads, and numerous other employees unfamiliar with water rights that will all benefit from gathering the requested information. The annual report will be a very useful tool at all levels and will more completely document the accomplishments of the water rights program.

**Manual/Handbook Sections Affected:** None.

**Coordination:** This IM was coordinated with the water rights leads in Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, and Oregon.

**Contact:** If you have any questions or concerns about the Water Rights Activity/Summary Report or any aspect of the water rights program you should contact Mark Storzer at 202-452-7714.

Signed by:  
Elena C. Daly  
Acting Assistant Director  
Renewable Resources and Planning

Authenticated by:  
Barbara J. Brown  
Policy & Records Group, WO-560

1 Attachment

1 - Annual Water Rights Activity/Summary Report (2 pp)

<b>STATE</b>		
	FY 2001	Total
1. Number of surface water rights applied for through the state appropriative process, not including adjudication claims. [Surface water as defined by the state statutes.]		
2. Number of ground water rights or well permits (if applicable) applied for through the state appropriative process, not including adjudication claims. [Ground water as defined by the state statutes.]		
3. Number of adjudications (not applicable to Colorado) that are currently ongoing.		
4. Number of surface water right applications filed in general adjudication(s).		
5. Number of ground water right or well permit applications (if applicable) filed in general adjudication(s).		
6. Number of protests filed in opposition to BLM applications within general adjudication(s). [Protests filed in opposition to a specific type of application, for example, a stockwater application, will count as a single protest despite the fact that it may involve numerous applications].		
7. Number of protests filed by the BLM against other parties within general adjudication(s).		
8. Number of protests filed in opposition to BLM applications outside of general adjudication(s). [Protests filed in opposition to a specific type of application, for example, a stockwater application, will count as a single protest despite the fact that it may involve numerous applications].		
9. Number of protests filed by the BLM against other parties outside of general adjudications.		
10. Number of instream flow rights applied for by the BLM (if applicable) within the state appropriative process.		
11. Number of instream flow rights applied for that only involve the BLM as a partner or as a resource adviser (i.e. the BLM cannot hold the instream flow right but has been involved in the instream flow process).		
12. Number of perfected/certificate d/decree d instream flow rights held solely or jointly by the BLM.		
13. Number of "PWR 107 Federal Reserved Water Rights" asserted by the BLM (i.e. notified the appropriate state agency).		

<b>STATE</b>		
14. Number of the asserted "PWR 107 Federal Reserved Water Rights" recognized by the State.		
15. Number of <b>Non-PWR 107</b> Federal Reserved Water Right applications filed by the BLM.		
16. Number of perfected/certificated/decreed <b>Non-PWR 107</b> Federal Reserve Water Rights held by the BLM	<del> </del>	
17. Number of water rights acquired by the BLM due to lands actions such as exchanges, transfers or acquisitions.		
18. Number of water rights relinquished by the BLM due to lands actions such as exchanges, transfers or sales.		
19. Number of water sources inventoried.		
20. Total number of all types of perfected/certificated/decreed water rights held by the BLM.	<del> </del>	