



United States Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management
New Mexico State Office
1474 Rodeo Road
P.O. Box 27115
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-0115

IN REPLY REFER TO:
8100 (93000) P

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To: All FMs, NM/OK/TX

From: DSD, Resources Planning, Use, and Protection

Subject: Distribution of Cultural Resources Use Permittees List

Periodically, current or potential land use applicants request lists of cultural resource firms permitted to work on public lands administered by the New Mexico Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In the past, inconsistencies and occasional inaccuracies in the data provided to the public from lists maintained by individual Field Offices have raised concerns with cultural permittees. This Instruction Memorandum will establish a consistent policy for handling such requests.

Current information concerning the status of cultural resource use permittees is not considered proprietary. If requested under the authority of the Freedom of Information Act, the New Mexico Bureau of Land Management would be obligated to provide it. Up-to-date contact information (including firm names, addresses, phone and fax numbers, permit expiration dates, and the areas in which each firm is authorized to conduct survey work) is now maintained in a statewide database. It is referred to as the "Cultural Resources Use Permit Statewide Application." Data are entered by the State Office and each Field Office can access and print out the records.

When requested by a member of the public, Field Offices shall provide a list of our current permittees by calling up this statewide database and printing out the most current report of firms currently authorized to conduct inventories for all or portions of public lands administered by the New Mexico BLM. No informal lists maintained by individual Field Offices should be provided. Each page that is printed out from the statewide database contains a date on upper right hand corner indicating the date on which the printout was generated. In addition, on the bottom of each page, a disclaimer is printed stating, "The New Mexico Bureau of Land Management maintains the records from which this list was developed for administrative purposes only; these lists do not

constitute recommendations or endorsements of any kind. Contact information, including addresses, telephone, fax, and email numbers, reflect current file data; any changes or updates should be reported through the use of the Request for Modification of Cultural Resource Use Permit form and application process. Firms with expired Cultural Resource Use Permits are not eligible to undertake fieldwork projects on public lands administered by the New Mexico Bureau of Land Management.” Bureau employees, when providing this information to a member of the public, should make it clear that the BLM does not specifically recommend any particular permittee; that the list reflects those firms currently holding permits; and that it is possible that new firms could apply for and receive a permit to work on lands administered by the New Mexico BLM. If discrepancies or errors are noted in the contact information, please invite the firm’s Administrator to submit a “Request for Modification of Cultural Resource Use Permit” form to Sarah Schlanger, NM 930.

Data from the Cultural Resource Use Permit Statewide Application have only recently been made available to every office. This database gives us the capability to provide contact information on our current permittees to interested land use applicants without endorsing any particular cultural resource firm. If you have any questions concerning this policy, feel free to contact Stephen Fosberg at 505-438-7415 or Sarah Schlanger at 505-438-7454.



Carsten F. Goff

Distribution

WO (240, John Douglas), LS, Rm. 204 - 1
RS-100 - 1
NM (950, DSD) - 1
NM (912, OEA, Attn: Mary White) - 1
NM (930, Stephen Fosberg) - 1
NM (930, Sarah Schlanger) - 1