



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Oregon State Office

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In Reply Refer to:

1703/3720 (OR-936.2) P

March 7, 2006

EMS TRANSMISSION 03/14/06

Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2006-032

Expires: 9/30/2007

To: All District Managers

From: State Director, Oregon/Washington

Subject: Identification of Hazardous Sites Near Populated and High-Use Areas (Washington Office Instruction Memorandum No. 2005-231) DD: 03/21/2006

Program Area: Abandoned Mine Lands (AML)

Purpose: To implement the strategy identified in Washington Office (WO) Instruction Memorandum (IM) No. 2005-231 (attachment 1) to assess and identify sites for safety hazards.

Policy/Action: Note the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) policy discussed in WO IM No. 2005-231. For follow-up actions to be taken in response to this IM, only the following affected Oregon/Washington field offices need to respond:

- Medford
- Vale
- Coos Bay
- Burns
- Spokane
- Salem

The following actions are needed from each of the above identified offices:

- Review the site information on the Excel spreadsheet (attachment 2) that has already been provided to field office AML coordinators.
- Each field office needs to develop a cost estimate to a) conduct an inventory of the sites identified on the spreadsheet in their District, and/or b) to remediate known safety hazards at sites.
- Where safety hazards are known to exist at sites in proximity to populated or high-use areas based on readily available information, provide a description of the site and the hazard, a proposed remediation plan, and an estimated remediation cost for each site.
- In situations where an on-site inspection is needed to make a determination about the site's existence, location, or possible safety hazard, provide a cost estimate for conducting the site inspection.

- If you already know about the site and its features (e.g., from cuff records) then estimate the remediation cost. If you don't, then estimate the workload to go out and inventory the site.
- Each office needs to submit these cost estimates to John Kalvels (OR-936.2).

Timeframe: Responses are due by March 21, 2006.

Budget Impact: Offices are not being asked to conduct site visits or to expend significant time and resources at this time. Follow-up actions for which funding information is needed are identified in attachment 1-1 to WO IM No. 2005-231. These actions include site inspections, site location verification, updates to Abandoned Mine Module, and updates to the Excel spreadsheet, etc. These actions will likely be needed later as per future WO guidance.

Background: As explained in the attached WO IM (No. 2005-231), the BLM is implementing a strategy to identify hazardous sites that are located near populated and high public use areas. The sites are primarily related to abandoned mines, and this strategy focuses on safety hazards. Each BLM state office has been provided with a spreadsheet that lists sites that have already been identified as possibly having a hazard or hazards and is near a populated or high use area. The number of sites that were identified in Oregon and Washington totals 34. Eight of the sites are in Washington, and 26 sites are in Oregon. The field offices affected include Medford, Vale, Coos Bay, Burns, Spokane, and Salem.

Coordination: The Excel spreadsheet listing the sites that have been identified to be near populated areas has already been emailed to field office AML coordinators.

Contact: John Kalvels (OR-936.2), 503-808-6040.

Districts with Unions are reminded to notify their unions of this Instruction Memorandum and satisfy any bargaining obligations before implementation. Your servicing Human Resources Office or Labor Relations Specialist can provide you assistance in this matter.

Signed by
James G. Kenna
Associate State Director

Authenticated by
Mary O'Leary
Management Assistant

2 Attachment(s)

- 1 - [WO IM No. 2005-231 with attachments](#) (6pp)
- 2 - [WO Excel Spreadsheet of AML Sites in OR/WA](#) (3pp)

Distribution

WO-360 (504LS) (George Stone)