



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Oregon State Office

P.O. Box 2965

Portland, Oregon 97208



**In Reply Refer to:**

9600 (OR-957) P

February 6, 2006

EMS TRANSMISSION 02/07/2006

Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2006-026

Expires: 9/30/2007

To: DMs, DSDs, Staff and Branch Chiefs

From: State Director, Oregon/Washington

Subject: True Acreage Designations on Cadastral Survey Plats

**Program Area:** Cadastral Survey and Lands and Realty

**Purpose:** To expand the practice of reporting true acreage for government lots and aliquot parts to all plats prepared by the Cadastral Survey Program. This policy will ensure actions pertaining to federal surface and subsurface interests will benefit from the best survey information possible.

**Policy/Action:** Official cadastral survey plats, which have sufficient survey measurement such that improved acreage calculations are warranted, will include a tabulated index outlining lot numbers, aliquot part descriptions, and revised acreages. Acreages will be tabulated to the 40 acre level or lower, depending on the need. This policy will apply to all public land including reacquired or public domain and does not affect the aliquot part nature of a legal subdivision.

Master Title Plats (MTPs) will be subsequently revised to show updated lot areas. However, aliquot parts will not be additionally labeled on the MTP. Reference to the official cadastral survey plat should always be made to obtain true acreage.

**Timeframe:** Effective immediately.

**Budget Impact:** None.

**Background:** Acreage of public lands is one of the pieces of information most frequently requested by Congress, other Federal agencies, State and local governments, special interest groups and the general public. Legal acreages are based on survey measurements. Most of the federally managed land in Oregon and Washington was originally surveyed between 1850 and 1910 using less precise methods than available today, therefore, an accurate and comprehensive accounting of acreage cannot be obtained. However, it is possible to incrementally improve that

accounting by reporting new acreages for federal lands as official surveys are performed. More accurate acreages will improve fee calculations for leasing, land transactions, sales, and other management activities. Since 1994, at the request of the U.S. Forest Service, the Oregon State Office has been providing true acreages for aliquot section subdivisions (40 acre) based on the cadastral survey plats produced from official dependent resurveys that were conducted on lands under U.S. Forest Service jurisdiction.

**Manual/Handbook Sections Affected:** None

**Coordination:** This has been coordinated with OR-957, Branch of Geographic Sciences and OR-936, Branch of Lands and Mineral Resources.

**Contact:** Questions on this policy should be referred to the Branch of Geographic Sciences, Cadastral Survey Section.

**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  
Kathy Eaton  
Acting Associate State Director

Authenticated by  
BeLinda Davis  
Staff Assistant