



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Utah State Office
P.O. Box 45155
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0155
<http://www.blm.gov>



IN REPLY REFER TO:
8270
(UT-934)P

November 18, 2004

Instruction Memorandum No.UT 2005-014
(Expires: 09/30/2006)

To: AFOs

From: State Director

Subject: Issuance of Paleontological Resource Use Permits

Purpose: The purpose of this Instruction Memorandum (IM) is to provide supplementary guidance to the BLM Manual and Handbook 8270-1, General Procedural Guidance for Paleontological Resource Management. In addition, the IM sets forth procedures for suspending, revoking, or denying permits to those charged with or convicted of a civil or criminal charge relevant to the kind of work authorized by a paleontological resource use permit.

Policy/Action: The four basic objectives established in the Handbook will remain unchanged. The BLM will continue to: 1) locate, evaluate, manage and protect paleontological resources; 2) facilitate their appropriate scientific, educational and recreational uses; 3) foster public awareness and appreciation of the Nation's rich paleontological heritage; and 4) assess paleontological resources and mitigate adverse impacts so that permitted land uses, either initiated or authorized by BLM, do not inadvertently damage or destroy them.

Vertebrate fossils, including the tracks and other trace fossils of all animals with backbones such as dinosaurs, mammals, turtles, sharks and other fish, may be collected from public lands only by qualified individuals who obtain a BLM paleontological resource use permit and agree to place the specimens in an approved repository where they remain the property of the Federal government. In order to ensure that these significant specimens are collected and conserved by reputable and responsible parties, the BLM State Director shall suspend a paleontological resource use permit issued to any individual or entity charged with a criminal or civil charge that relates to performance of work under any BLM paleontological resources use permit. Where an individual or entity is convicted of a criminal or civil charge that relates to performance of work under any BLM paleontological resources use permit, the BLM State Director shall revoke that permit and shall not issue any further paleontological resource use permits to that individual or entity. In a criminal matter, "convicted" means any plea of guilty, *nolo contendere* or no contest, or finding of guilt by any court or administrative body, whether federal, state, or local. In a civil

matter, “convicted” means any resolution in which an admission of liability is made, or in which there is a finding of liability by any court or administrative body, whether federal, state, or local. This guidance parallels policy established in BLM Manual 8130, Utilizing Cultural Resources for Public Benefit, Section .1.11.G.1-2.

Timeframe: This policy is effective immediately.

Budget: No effect.

Manual/Handbook Sections Affected: BLM Manual/Handbook 8270-1, Chapter IV (C) (7).

Contact: If you have further questions or concerns about this Instruction Memorandum you may contact Shelley Smith at (801) 539-4053 or via electronic mail at [Shelley J. Smith@blm.gov](mailto:Shelley_J_Smith@blm.gov).

Signed by:
Sally Wisely
State Director

Authenticated by:
Rosie Geren
Records Manager