



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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MANUAL TRANSMITTAL SHEET

Subject

Administration of Mining Claims, Mill Sites, and Tunnel Sites (Public)

1. Explanation of Material Transmitted: This release updates, revises, and replaces the existing Manual Section 3830 – LOCATION, RECORDING AND MAINTENANCE OF MINING CLAIMS, MILL AND TUNNEL SITES. Manual Section 3830 was last revised in 2004. This release also replaces the existing Manual Section 3833 – RECORDATION OF MINING CLAIMS which was last revised in 1991.
2. Reports Required: None.
3. Material Superseded: Rel. 3-319 (Manual Section 3830), All and Rel. 3-264 (Manual Section 3833), All.
4. Filing Instructions: File as directed below.

REMOVE

INSERT

3830

3830

(Rel. 3-319, all)

(Total: 5 Sheets)

3833

(Rel. 3-264, all)

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1.1 Purpose.

This manual section contains the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) policies for the location, recording, maintenance, and forfeiture of mining claims, mill sites, and tunnel sites on Federal lands and reserved mineral estates in lands previously patented under various authorities.

1.2 Objective.

The BLM will timely adjudicate all documents submitted for recording, amending, transferring, and maintaining all mining claims, mill sites, and tunnel sites; and collect the fees required by statute or regulation which keep the mining claims, mill sites, or tunnel sites in good standing under the regulations. Administrative decisions will be promptly issued for mining claims, mill or tunnel sites that are defective and/or are forfeited under the various land and mineral laws. In order to monitor, manage, and regulate the Mining Law program, one of the BLM's main objectives is to maintain an accurate and up-to-date mining claim recordation system.

1.3 Authority.

A. Statutes.

1. The Mining Law of May 10, 1872, as amended (19 Stat. 91, 30 U.S.C. §§ 21-54).
2. The Act of April 8, 1948 [O and C Lands Act] (62 Stat. 162).
3. The Surface Resources Act of July 23, 1955 [P. L. 84-167] (69 Stat. 367, 30 U.S.C. §§ 611-615).
4. The Mining in the Parks Act of September 28, 1976 (90 Stat. 1342, 16 U.S.C. § 1901).
5. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of October 21, 1976 [FLPMA] (90 Stat. 2743, 2769, 43 U.S.C. § 1744).
6. The Stock Raising Homestead Act of December 29, 1916, as amended [SRHA] (39 Stat. 864, 107 Stat. 60, 43 U.S.C. § 299).
7. The Mining Claims Rights Restoration Act of August 11, 1955 [P. L. 84-359] (69 Stat. 682, 30 U.S.C. §§ 621-625).

8. The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, as amended (30 U.S.C. §§ 28f 28l).

B. Regulations.

1. 43 CFR Parts 3710, 3730, and 3740.
2. 43 CFR Parts 3800, 3810, and 3820
3. 43 CFR Parts 3830 - 3839

C. Delegations.

The Secretary of the Interior's authority to administer the public land and mineral laws has been delegated to the Director, Bureau of Land Management by Departmental Directives 135 DM 1.3B, 209 DM 7, and 235 DM 1.1A.

1.4 Responsibility.

A. Assistant Director for Energy, Minerals and Realty Management provides national oversight pertaining to administration of the Mining Laws. The Assistant Director is also responsible for reviewing and approving the technical and policy content of mineral training courses given through the National Training Center and elsewhere.

B. State Directors, by delegations issued pursuant to Manual Section 1203, may take all actions on mining claims pursuant to the Mining Laws and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act. All mining law adjudication actions under these provisions may not be delegated further. State Directors may not sign mineral patents or final certificates, as the authority to sign these documents remains with the Director.

1.5 References.

See BLM Handbook H-3830-1.

1.6 Policy.

Our policy is to maintain an accurate and up-to-date mining claim recordation system in all respects. An accurate mining claim recordation system is essential to the proper administration of mining claims on Federal lands and reserved Federal mineral interests. This policy will also encourage the domestic mining industry to explore, develop, and extract minerals from Federal lands, and reserved Federal mineral estates; knowing that

our mining claim records will display accurate information about the mining claim status of any particular land parcel they may have an interest in.

1.7 File and Record Maintenance.

All records and data will be managed according to established records retention and disposal policies. Refer to General Records Schedule (GRS)/BLM Combined Records Schedule.

1.8 Responses to Congressional Inquiries.

In order to provide accurate responses to questions from the House and Senate oversight and authorization committees, program leads will use the BLM's Legacy Rehost 2000 (LR2000) or any other designated reporting system to retrieve applicable data for all states except Alaska. For statistics from Alaska, the Alaska Case Retrieval Enterprise System (ACRES) will be used. Additionally, since statistics within the Mining Law program change on a daily basis, recorded data from current public land statistics will be used whenever possible to ensure consistency in responses. The program office to retrieve data regarding the Mining Law program is WO-320, the Division of Solid Minerals.