

be opened to location and entry under the United States mining laws, subject to valid existing rights, the provisions of existing withdrawals, other segregations of record, and the requirements of applicable law. Appropriation of lands under the general mining laws prior to the date and time of restoration is unauthorized. Any such attempted appropriation, including adverse possession under 30 U.S.C. 38, shall vest no rights against the United States. Acts required to establish a location and to initiate a right of possession are governed by State law where not in conflict with Federal law. The Bureau of Land Management will not intervene in disputes between rival locators over possessory rights because Congress has provided for such determinations in local courts.

(Authority: 43 CFR 2911.2–3(a); 43 CFR 2901.4–2(b))

Dated: November 21, 2003.

Gail G. Givens,

Assistant Field Manager, Nonrenewable Resources.

[FR Doc. 04–1798 Filed 1–27–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–HC–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

Stewardship End Result Contracting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, DOI.

ACTION: Notice of Guidance Issuance.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is issuing guidance to its field offices on stewardship end result contracting (commonly referred to as “stewardship contracting”) projects. This guidance provides internal administrative direction to guide BLM employees in collaborative planning, implementing, and monitoring of stewardship contracting projects.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This guidance is effective on January 28, 2004.

ADDRESSES: This guidance is available electronically at http://www.blm.gov/nhp/spotlight/forest_initiative/stewardship_contracting/.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Laura Ceperley, Renewable Resources and Planning, Bureau of Land Management at (202) 452–5029; or Scott Lieurance, Renewable Resources and Planning, Bureau of Land Management at (202) 452–0316. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On June 27, 2003, the BLM and the Forest Service adopted jointly developed interim guidelines for implementation of the stewardship contracting provisions as authorized by section 323 of Public Law 108–7, the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003 (16 U.S.C. 2104 note). The Forest Service and BLM published a joint **Federal Register** notice with request for comment on the interim guidelines on June 27, 2003 (68 FR 38285). The agencies received sixty-two (62) responses in the form of letters, faxes, and e-mail messages regarding the **Federal Register** notice of the interim guidelines on stewardship contracting. The comments came from private citizens, elected officials, and groups and individuals representing businesses, private organizations, and Federal agencies. Comments ranged from full support of the interim guidelines to the recommendation that the BLM should not use much of the authority set out in 16 U.S.C. 2104 note. The Bureau considered all comments in drafting the BLM guidance for stewardship contracting, and made changes in response to the comments. The BLM is issuing the guidance in Instruction Memorandum 2004–081. This represents the culmination of the BLM’s internal and public reviews of stewardship contracting policy.

Dated: January 16, 2004.

James M. Hughes,

Deputy Director for Policy.

[FR Doc. 04–1799 Filed 1–27–04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[89% to CO–956–1420–BJ–0000–241A; 11% to CO–956–7130–BJ–7385–241A]

Colorado: Filing of Plats of Survey

January 14, 2004.

SUMMARY: The plats of survey of the following described land will be officially filed in the Colorado State Office, Bureau of Land Management, Lakewood, Colorado, effective 10 a.m., January 14, 2004. All inquiries should be sent to the Colorado State Office, Bureau of Land Management, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80215–7093.

The plat representing the dependent resurvey in section 24, Township 9 South, Range 81 West, Sixth Principal Meridian, Group 1254, Colorado, was accepted October 9, 2003.

The plat representing the dependent resurvey and survey, in Township 6 South, Range 94 West, Sixth Principal Meridian, Group 1357, Colorado, was accepted October 20, 2003.

The plat (in 4 sheets), representing the dependent resurveys and surveys in Township 33 North, Range 11 East, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Group 1371, Colorado, was accepted October 31, 2003.

The plat (in 4 sheets), representing the dependent resurveys and surveys in Township 34 North, Range 11 East, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Group 1371, Colorado, was accepted October 31, 2003.

The plat representing the dependent resurveys and surveys in Township 35 North, Range 11 East, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Group 1371, Colorado, was accepted October 31, 2003.

The plat, of the entire record, representing the dependent resurvey in Township 44 North, Range 5 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Group 1393, Colorado, was accepted November 6, 2003.

The plat representing the dependent resurveys and surveys in Township 7 South, Range 91 West, Sixth Principal Meridian, Group 1323, Colorado, was accepted December 1, 2003.

The supplemental plat canceling lots 1 through 4, and to correct annotated distances on the E. and W. centerline in section 7, Township 4 South, Range 100 West, Sixth Principal Meridian, Colorado, was accepted October 9, 2003.

These surveys and plats were requested by the Bureau of Land Management for administrative and management purposes.

The plat representing the dependent resurvey of certain mineral surveys and the metes-and-bounds survey of a portion of Ouray County Road No. 361, in Township 43 North, Range 8 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Group 1404, Colorado, was accepted December 17, 2003.

This survey and plat was requested by the legal staff of Ouray County, Colorado, for the purpose of segregating Public Domain lands from adjacent boundary lines of certain mineral surveys.

Paul Lukacovic,

Acting Chief Cadastral Surveyor for Colorado.

[FR Doc. 04–1786 Filed 1–27–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–JB–P