



STATE OF ALASKA
Department of Natural Resources

Division of Mines & Geology MINES BULLETIN

PROPERTY OF
LIBRARY
STATE OF ALASKA
DIVISION OF
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Vol. XVIII

JULY 1970

No. 7

P.O. Box 5-300

College, Alaska 99701

IN THIS ISSUE

NEW ALASKA MINING LAWS

NEW PUBLICATIONS

PUBLIC LAND LAW REPORT

MINING CLAIMS

METAL MARKET



Published to Accelerate the Development of the Mining Industry in Alaska

Keith H. Miller - Governor

Thomas E. Kelly - Commissioner

James A. Williams - Director



NEW ALASKA MINING LAWS

The latest session of the State Legislature passed four laws of interest to mining in Alaska.

Chapter 58 SLA 1970 concerns certification of documents. This Act provides that documents requiring verification by a notary public (such as annual assessment work documents) may be verified by the person filing the document if a notary public or other official empowered to administer oaths is not available. In such a case, the annual assessment work document should also include the date and place of documentation, the fact that no notary public is available, and the following signed statement: "I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and accurate." This law is effective July 8, 1970.

Chapter 88 concerns annual labor and is applicable only on State-owned land. The annual rate of labor on state lands is now \$200. Airborne surveys may now be included as part of labor costs, but cannot be applied as labor for more than two consecutive years, or for more than a total of five years on any one mining claims. Also included in this amended law is the provision that excess work up to the value of \$800 may be applied against labor required to be done during the subsequent year or years. This law is effective July 23, 1970.

Chapter 167 deals with roads to areas rich in mineral resources. The purpose of this chapter is to facilitate the commercial development of mineral resources, except oil and gas, by authorizing funds to participate in construction of developmental access roads into areas where mining prospects of valid commercial promise are inaccessible to truck haulage. This Act provides for State participation up to 50% or \$50,000, whichever is lower. An applicant for such reimbursement must submit to the Commissioner of Natural Resources road plans and specifications for the standard of construction he believes necessary to develop the mineral resource and protect the fish and game resources that may be affected by the road construction. The access roads are to be constructed by the applicant or his contractor as rudimentary truck roads and to standards which can be readily improved for general public use. This law is effective August 31, 1970. An appropriation of \$125,000 was made to the Highway Department for the purpose, although the governor has not yet signed the budget bill at the time of writing.

The fourth law of interest to miners is the amended assay law. It was explained in last month's Mines Bulletin.

PUBLIC LAND LAW REPORT

The following article is reprinted from the June 26, 1970 issue of the American Mining Congress News Bulletin.

PUBLIC LAND LAW REVIEW COMMISSION SUBMITS ITS REPORT: After almost six years and the expenditure of over \$7 million, the Public Land Law Review Commission on June 23 submitted its Report to the President and to Congress. The report, which is some 342 pages in length, is available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, at \$4.50 per copy. It contains 18 statements that the commission lists as "basic concepts and recommendations for long-range goals," 137 specific recommendations that are numbered and over 200 unnumbered, supplemental recommendations that appear in italics.

The commission recommends that the policy of large-scale disposal of public lands be revised and that, in the future, disposals be made only to achieve maximum benefit for the general public. As another basic principle, the commission states that the United States shall receive full value for the use of the public lands.

In its recommendations regarding mineral resources, the commission states that federal policy "should encourage exploration, development and production of minerals on the public lands....Mineral exploration and development should have a preference over some or all other uses on much of our public lands." However, Congress should continue to exclude some classes of public lands, such as national parks, from future mineral development, but federal agencies should make mineral examinations which will provide reliable information on lands recommended for exclusion as well as those where mineral activity is already excluded.

The commission recommends that the Mining Law of 1872 be modified to establish a system which incorporates the desirable features of this Act as well as the leasing laws. "Unless a public land area is closed to all mineral activity, we believe that all public lands should be open without charge for nonexclusive exploration....However...different conditions should prevail if the prospector desires an exclusive right," or if significant surface damage may result.

In this regard, the commission recommends the following:

"Whether a prospector has done preliminary exploration work or not, he should, by giving written notice to the appropriate federal land management agency, obtain an exclusive right to explore a claim of sufficient size to permit the use of advanced methods of exploration. As a means of assuring exploration, reasonable rentals should be charged for such claims, but actual expenditures for exploration and development work should be credited against the rentals.

"Upon receipt of the notice of location, a permit should be issued to the claimholder, including measures specifically authorized by statute necessary to maintain the quality of the environment, together with the type of rehabilitation that is required.

"When the claimholder is satisfied that he has discovered a commercially minable deposit, he should obtain firm development and production rights by entering into a contract with the United States to satisfy specified work or investment requirements over a reasonable period of time.

"When a claimholder begins to produce and market minerals, he should have the right to obtain a patent only to the mineral deposit, along with the right to utilize surface for production. He should have the option of acquiring title or lease to surface upon payment of market value.

"Patent fees should be increased and equitable royalties should be paid to the United States on all minerals produced and marketed whether before or after patent."

Additional and clarifying commission recommendations--

In regard to legal requirements for the discovery of valuable minerals: "Federal land agencies are poorly equipped to judge what is a prudent mining investment, and this issue should be closed when the mineral explorer is prepared to commit himself by contract to expend substantial effort and funds in the development of a mineral property."

State claims: "Congress should establish a fair notice procedure to clear the public lands of long-dormant mining claims."

Uniform federal requirements: Discovery work required by state law often serves no useful purpose. "Federal statutes should fully prescribe uniform methods."

Common varieties: "Congress should define or list those minerals to which the location-claim and leasing systems apply and provide that all other minerals be subject to sale under an act similar to the Materials Act."

In regard to the mineral leasing system, the commission recommends that:

Competitive sale of exploration permits or leases should be held whenever competitive interests can reasonably be expected.

Prospecting permits and leases should apply to all leasable minerals unless expressly excluded by the administrator in accordance with legislative guidelines.

All rights and obligations, including those related to maintenance of the environment, of minerals explorers and developers be clearly defined at the outset of their undertakings.

Provisions of existing law prohibiting the apportionment of royalties and imposing minimum production requirements on each lease should be modified to permit unitization of public land coal leases.

Restrictions upon the leasing of public land coal deposits to railroad companies should be removed.

The commission also recommended that legislation be enacted to authorize legal actions by the government to acquire outstanding claims or interests in public land oil shale subject to judicial determination of value. It also urged that some oil shale public lands be made available now for experimental commercial development by private industry.

In regard to geothermal steam resources, the report states that "Congress should provide a specific policy of leasing geothermal resources in which fair and reasonable consideration is given to the equities of holders of asserted prior rights who expended money and effort."

The report urges that "restrictions on public land mineral activity that are no longer relevant to existing conditions should be eliminated so as to encourage mineral exploration and development and long-standing claims should be disposed of expeditiously."

The commission recommends that the Forest Service be merged with the Department of the Interior into a new Department of Natural Resources.

As a parallel to the consolidation of public lands programs in the executive branch, the report recommends a consolidation of congressional committee jurisdiction over public land programs into a single committee in each house of Congress.

A major chapter of the report is devoted to "Public Land Policy and the Environment." The report states that "those who use the public lands and resources should be required by statute to conduct their activities in a manner that avoids or minimizes adverse environmental impacts, and should be responsible for restoring areas to an acceptable standard."

As to withdrawals, the commission recommends that "large scale limited or single-use withdrawals of a permanent or indefinite term should be accomplished only by act of Congress. All other withdrawal authority should be expressly delegated with statutory guidelines to insure proper justification for proposed withdrawals, provide for public participation in their consideration, and establish criteria for Executive action."

Rep. Wayne N. Aspinall (D-Colo.) is chairman of the commission and chairman of the House Interior Committee. He has indicated that his committee intends to hold hearings in 1971 on legislation designed to implement the commission's report.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

USGS

The following open file reports have been released by the U.S. Geological Survey and are available for consultation in the Alaska U.S.G.S. and State Division of Mines and Geology offices. Material from which copies of these open file reports can be made at private expense is available only at the Alaska Geology Branch, U.S.G.S., 345 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, California 94025.

Petroleum possibilities of the Yukon-Koyukuk province, Alaska, by William W. Patton, Jr. 15 p., incl. 1 fig.

Geologic map of the Teller quadrangle, Alaska, by C. L. Sainsbury. 15 p., 1 pl., scale 1:125,000.

Preliminary interpretation of geophysical data from the lower Noatak River basin, Alaska, by David F. Barnes and Irvin L. Tailleir. 24 p., 5 figs.

Reconnaissance geologic map, analyses of bedrock and stream sediment samples, and an aeromagnetic map of parts of the southern Alaska Range, by Bruce L. Reed and Raymond L. Elliott. 158 p., including 130 p. tabular material, 4 pl. (2 at scale 1:125,000; 2 at 1:250,000), 1 fig.

Morphology, sedimentation and seismic characteristics of an Arctic beach, Nome, Alaska—with economic significance, by H. Gary Greene. 139 p. text, including 23 figs., 20 photographs.

Metallic mineral resources map of the Bethel quadrangle, Alaska, compiled by Edward H. Cobb. 3 p., 1 pl., 1 fig. (Scale 1:250,000).

Metallic mineral resources map of the Goodnews quadrangle, Alaska, compiled by Edward H. Cobb and William H. Condon. 3 p., 1 pl., 1 fig. (Scale 1:250,000).

Analyses of rock and stream-sediment samples from the Craig B-3 quadrangle, Alaska, by Allen L. Clark, Henry C. Berg, Donald A. Grybeck, A. Thomas Ovenshine, and Raymond Wehr. 100 p., incl. 92 p. tabular material, 1 map, scale 1:63,360.

Analyses of rock and stream-sediment samples from the Craig B-4 quadrangle, Alaska, by Allen L. Clark, Henry C. Berg, Donald A. Grybeck, A. Thomas Ovenshine, and Raymond Wehr. 98 p., incl. 91 p. tabular material, 1 map, scale 1:63,360.

Analyses of rock and stream-sediment samples from the Craig B-5 quadrangle, Alaska, by Allen L. Clark, Henry C. Berg, Donald A. Grybeck, A. Thomas Ovenshine, and Raymond Wehr. 89 p., incl. 82 p. tabular material, 1 map, scale 1:63,360.

Analyses of rock samples from the Craig B-6 quadrangle, Alaska, by Allen L. Clark, Henry C. Berg, Donald A. Grybeck, A. Thomas Ovenshine, and Raymond Wehr. 45 p., incl. 39 p. tabular material, 1 map, scale 1:63,360.

Analyses of rock and stream-sediment samples from the Craig C-5 quadrangle, Alaska, by Allen L. Clark, Henry C. Berg, Donald A. Grybeck, A. Thomas Ovenshine, and Raymond Wehr. 79 p., incl. 73 p. tabular material, 1 map, scale 1:63,360.

Analyses of rock and stream-sediment samples from the Craig C-6 quadrangle, Alaska, by Allen L. Clark, Henry C. Berg, Donald A. Grybeck, A. Thomas Ovenshine, and Raymond Wehr. 81 p., incl. 75 p. tabular material, 1 map, scale 1:63,360.

Analyses of stream-sediment and rock samples from the southwestern and central parts of the Eagle quadrangle, Alaska, by Helen L. Foster. 136 p., incl. 126 p. tabular material, 2 maps, scale 1:250,000.

USBM

The U.S. Bureau of Mines has released the following reports which are available for consultation in the State Division of Mines and Geology offices in addition to the Bureau office at Douglas, Alaska.

RI 7392: Spray-applied polyurethane foam to insulate heated rooms excavated in permafrost, by K. Robert Dozman and Aldon E. Gooch.

Open file report: Reconnaissance of the gold-bearing quartz veins in the Tibbs Creek area, Goodpaster River, Big Delta quadrangle, central Alaska, by Bruce I. Thomas.

CHUGACH GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

The Chugach Gem and Mineral Society recently released the second edition of "Guide Book for Rockhounds". This helpful booklet provides maps and descriptions of various gem and mineral locations within the state. Copies of the handbook may be obtained from the Chugach Gem and Mineral Society, Inc., P.O. Box 4-2027, Anchorage, Alaska 99503.

MINING CLAIMS

<u>NUMBER OF CLAIMS</u>	<u>CREEK OR AREA</u>	<u>QUADRANGLE</u>	<u>DATE NOTICE POSTED</u>
4	Lillian Creek	Livengood	May, 1970
1	N. Fork Harrison	Circle	May, 1970
1	Nome River	Nome	May, 1970
1	Between Sheep & St. Patrick Cks.	Fairbanks	Mar., 1970
5	Between Our and My Creeks	Eagle	May, 1970
1	Last Chance Creek	Mt. McKinley	Apr., 1970
2	Ruby Creek	Mt. Hayes	May, 1970
2	Yellow Pup	Mt. McKinley	May, 1970
1	Moose Creek	Mt. McKinley	May, 1970
4	Kansas Creek	Healy	Apr., 1970
3	Kansas Creek	Healy	May, 1970
2	Stibnite Creek	Tanacross	May, 1970
1	Dishna-Innoko drainage	Iditarod	May, 1970
7	Rumble Creek	Mt. Hayes	May, 1970
1	Ahtell Creek	Gulkana	Sept., 1969
6	Bonanza Creek	Nabesna	May, 1970
2	Trip. Rainbow Creek	Anchorage	Apr., 1970
1	Cripple Creek	Seward	Apr., 1970
14	Endicott Arm	Sumdum	May, 1970
4	Ernest Sound	Craig	Apr., 1970
1	Kasaan Island	Craig	Apr., 1970
4	George Inlet	Ketchikan	May, 1970
4	Cantwell River	Healy	May, 1970
1	George Inlet	Ketchikan	May, 1970
1	Stampede Creek	Mt. McKinley	May, 1970
11	Minnie Creek	Wiseman	May, 1970
18	Hope and Zephyr Creeks	Circle	Apr., 1970
33	Nabesna Glacier, White Mtn., Nabesna River & Monte Cristo Ck.	Nabesna	May, 1970
144	Carl Creek	Nabesna	Apr., 1970
1	Pedro Creek	Livengood	May, 1970
2	Yellowjacket Creek	Anchorage	Apr., 1970
10	Glacial Fan Creek-Sheep Mtn.	Anchorage	Feb., 1970
3	N.W. Chulitna River	Talkeetna Mtns.	Mar., 1970

METAL MARKET

June 29

Month Ago

Year Ago

	June 29	Month Ago	Year Ago
Antimony ore, stu equivalent			
European ore	\$35.71-37.50	\$38.39-40.17	\$5.00-5.95
Barite (drilling mud grade from E/MJ May)	\$12-16	\$12-16	
Beryllium powder 98%	\$54-66	\$54-66	\$54-66
Chrome ore long ton	\$31-35	\$31-35	\$31-35
Copper per lb.	59.7¢	59.7¢	42¢
Gold per oz.	\$35.71	\$36.17	---
Lead per lb.	16.5¢	16.5¢	13¢
Mercury per flask	\$415-425	\$430-440	\$538-550
Molybdenum conc. per lb.	\$1.72	\$1.72	\$1.62
Nickel per lb.	\$1.28	\$1.28	94¢
Platinum per oz.	\$130-135	\$130-135	\$109-114
Silver, New York, per oz.	163.7¢	166.7¢	240.8¢
Tin per lb.	168.45¢	179.8¢	143.1¢
Titanium ore per ton	\$30-35	\$30-35	\$21-24
Tungsten per unit	\$50-55	\$50-55	\$43.00
Zinc per lb.	16.0¢	16.0¢	14¢

