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accreted lands, to an angle point that connects to a point on an official corner of the public land survey system to which the accretions belong.

§ 3503.32 How should I describe acquired lands?

You may describe acquired lands by metes and bounds, or you may also use the description shown on the deed or other document that conveyed title to the United States. If you are applying for less than the entire tract acquired by the United States, describe the land using courses and distances tied to a point on the boundary of the requested tract. Where the acquiring agency assigned a tract number to the identical tract you wish to permit or lease, you may describe those lands by the tract number and include a map which clearly shows the lands with respect to the administrative unit or the project of which they are a part. In States outside of the public land survey system, you should describe the lands by tract number, and include a map.

§ 3503.33 Will BLM issue me a lease for unsurveyed lands?

No. All leased areas must be officially surveyed to BLM standards. If you are applying for a permit or lease on unsurveyed or protracted lands, you must pay for the survey. If BLM intends to issue a lease by competitive bidding, we will pay for surveying the lands.

ACREAGE AMOUNTS

§ 3503.36 Are there any size or shape limitations on the lands I can apply for?

Generally, a quarter-quarter section, a lot or a protraction block is the smallest subdivision for which you may apply. The lands must be in reasonably compact form.

§ 3503.37 Is there a limit to the acreage of lands I can hold under permits and leases?

Yes. The limits are summarized in the following table:

Commodity	Maximum acreage for a permit or lease	Maximum acreage of permits and leases in any one State	Maximum acreage in permits and leases nationwide
(a) Phosphate ..	2,560 acres	None	20,480 acres.
(b) Sodium	2,560 acres	5,120 acres (may be increased to 30,720 acres to facilitate an economic mine).	None.
(c) Potassium ..	2,560 acres	96,000 acres (larger if necessary for extraction of potassium from concentrated brines in connection with an existing mining operation).	None.
(d) Sulphur	640 acres	1,920 acres in 3 leases or permits	None.
(e) Gilsonite	5,120 acres	7,680 acres	None.
(f) Hardrock Minerals.	2,560 acres	20,480 acres in permits and leases, 10,240 acres in leases, but can be increased to 20,480 if needed for orderly mine development.	None.
(g) Asphalt	640 acres	2,560 acres	Only available in Oklahoma.

[64 FR 53536, Oct. 1, 1999, as amended at 65 FR 50449, Aug. 18, 2000]

§ 3503.38 How does BLM compute my acreage holdings?

(a) The maximum acreage in any one state refers to the acres you hold under a permit or lease on either public domain lands or acquired lands. Acquired lands and public domain lands are counted separately, so you may hold up to the maximum acreage of each at the same time. For example, one person could hold 20,000 acres under phosphate leases for public domain lands and 20,000 acres under phosphate leases for acquired lands at the same time.

(b) If your permit or lease is for fractional interest lands, BLM will charge your acreage holdings for a share which is proportionate to the United States' ownership interest. For example, if the United States holds a 25% interest in 200 acres, you will be charged with 50 acres (200 × .25).

(c) BLM will not charge any acreage in a future interest lease against your acreage limitations until the date the permit or lease takes effect.

(d) If you own stock in a corporation or a beneficial interest in an association which holds a lease or permit,

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your acreage will include your proportionate part of the corporation's or association's share of the total lease or permit acreage. This only applies if you own more than 10 percent of the corporate stock or beneficial interest of the association.

FILING APPLICATIONS

§ 3503.40 Where do I file my permit or lease application and other necessary documents?

File your application in the State Office which manages the lands for which you are applying, unless we have designated a different State Office. For purposes of this part, a document is filed when it is received in the proper office.

§ 3503.41 Will BLM disclose information I submit under these regulations?

All Federal and Indian data and information submitted to the BLM are subject to part 2 of this title. Part 2 includes the regulations of the Department of the Interior covering public disclosure of data and information contained in Department of the Interior records. BLM may make certain mineral information not protected from disclosure under part 2 of this title may be made available for inspection without a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

§ 3503.42 When I submit confidential, proprietary information, how can I help ensure it is not available to the public?

When you submit data and information that you believe to be exempt from disclosure by part 2 of this title, you must clearly mark each page that you believe contains confidential information. BLM will keep all data and information confidential to the extent allowed by § 2.13(c) of this title.

§ 3503.43 How long will information I give BLM remain confidential or proprietary?

The FOIA does not provide an express period of time for which information may be exempt from disclosure to the public. We will review each situation individually and in accordance with

guidance provided by part 2 of this title.

§ 3503.44 How will BLM treat Indian information submitted under the Indian Mineral Development Act?

Under the Indian Mineral Development Act of 1982 (IMDA) (25 U.S.C. 2101 *et seq.*), the Department of the Interior will hold as privileged proprietary information of the affected Indian or Indian tribe—

(a) All findings forming the basis of the Secretary's intent to approve or disapprove any Minerals Agreement under IMDA; and

(b) All projections, studies, data, or other information concerning a Minerals Agreement under IMDA, regardless of the date received, related to—

(1) The terms, conditions, or financial return to the Indian parties;

(2) The extent, nature, value, or disposition of the Indian mineral resources; or

(3) The production, products, or proceeds thereof.

§ 3503.45 How will BLM administer information concerning other Indian minerals?

For information concerning Indian minerals not covered by § 3503.44 of this part, BLM will withhold such records as may be withheld under an exemption to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552) when it receives a request for information related to tribal or Indian minerals held in trust or subject to restrictions on alienation.

§ 3503.46 When will BLM consult with Indian mineral owners when information concerning their minerals is the subject of a FOIA request?

BLM will notify the Indian mineral owner(s) identified in the records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), and the BIA, and give them a reasonable period of time to state objections to disclosure, using the standards and procedures of § 2.15(d) of this title, before making a decision about the applicability of FOIA exemption 4 to protect:

(a) information obtained from a person outside the United States Government; when

(b) following consultation with a submitter under § 2.15(d) of this title, BLM determines that the submitter does not