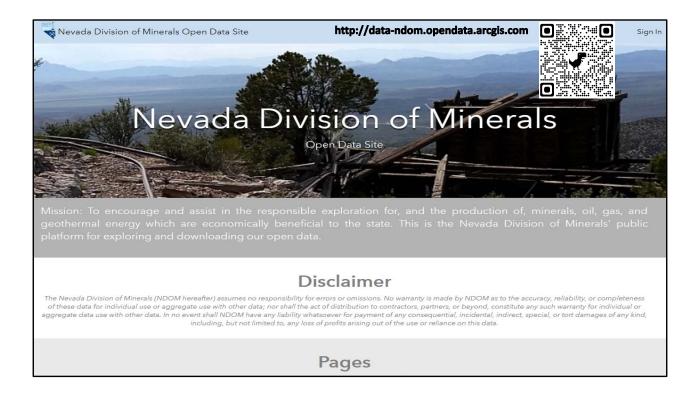


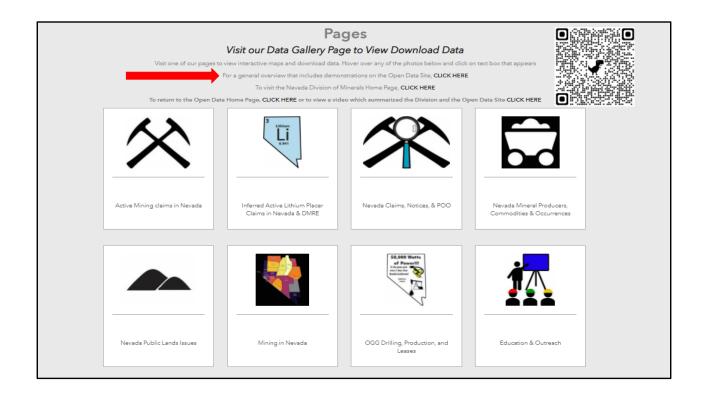
Good evening and thank you for inviting me to talk to you about rock collecting, land status, and mining claims. This presentation will cover a fair amount of material, but it is meant to be a general overview with links to more detailed information if one would like to pursue it. This presentation is available on our main website at www.minerals.nv.gov under the recent presentations hyperlink to the right of the picture carousel.



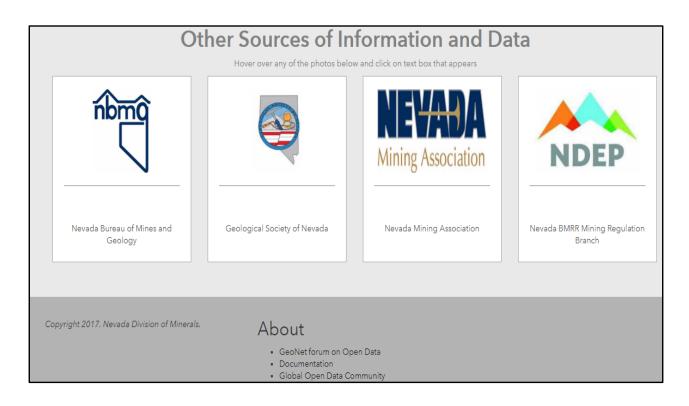
My name is Lucia. I am a geologist with the Nevada Division of Minerals. I obtained my bachelors in science majoring in Geology at California State University Chico and my Masters degree in economic geology from University of Nevada Reno. I worked as an exploration geologist here in Nevada for six years before taking by current position with the division, where I have been for the last seven years.



I would like to briefly introduce our open data site which we will be utilizing later. This is the homepage of our open data site equipped with our mission statement and disclaimer. The URL and QR code for our open data site can be found at the top of this screen. Scrolling down...

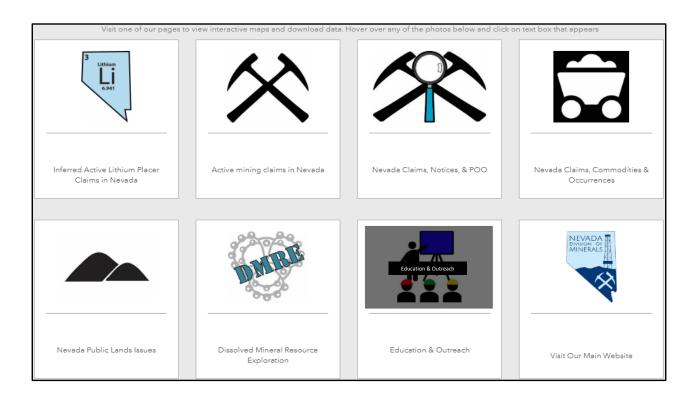


We come to several icons which represent links to our various pages. There is lots of information on this site, so much that it has a presentation of its own equipped with demonstrations on how to work the interactive maps. This presentation can be found at the link which is being pointed out by the red arrow or by scanning the QR code shown on the screen. For our purposes, this presentation will mostly focus on the Active Mining Claims of Nevada page. We will briefly visit the education and outreach page in a moment. If we scroll down...

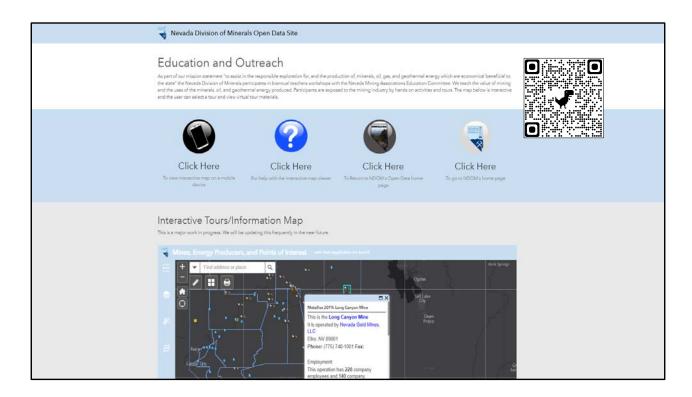


You will come to the bottom of the home page which has links to other sources of information regarding geology, exploration, and mining in Nevada.

Now we will scroll back up to the pages available within the open data site.

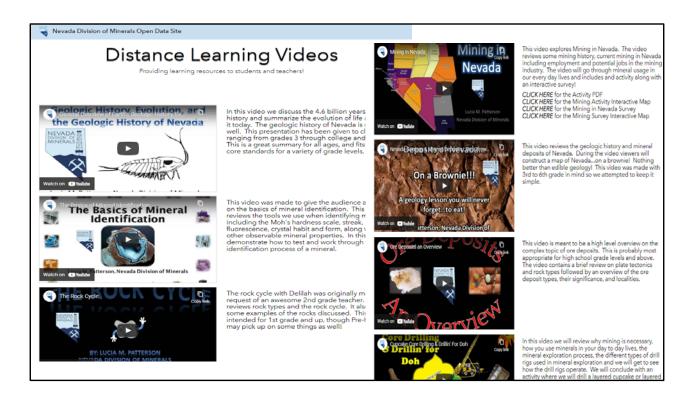


And as promised we will briefly visit the education and outreach page.



Here is our education and outreach page, we can see a map which shows all active mines and energy producers in Nevada. Most maps on our website are interactive, and if the user clicks on a point a pop-up will render yielding information about the feature, in this case the pop-up is giving information on the active mine we clicked on.

Scrolling down...



We come to a listing of educational videos the employees at NDOM have been made to assist in distance learning. There are summaries for all videos along with links to classroom activities and more.

We have several videos covering various topics, and if a video request were to be made for something not presented here on this page...yours truly is typically up to the task. We can see here we have videos covering geologic history, evolution, and the geologic history of Nevada, the basics of mineral identification, the rock cycle, mining in Nevada, the geologic history and ore deposits of Nevada...on a brownie, ore deposits, cupcake core drilling and more. If we scroll towards the bottom of the page



We will find a series of story maps. The first one displayed is an informational story map on NDOM's abandoned mine lands program. Other story maps are available which cover geology, and tours that are taken during our teachers workshops we help to put on along with the Nevada Mining Association twice a year. One workshop takes place in Northern Nevada and one in Southern Nevada. The teachers' workshops are free to attend. Ok, we will revisit the open data site when we review land research...but before we dive into that topic lets begin with what CAN be collected on public lands.

What you can collect:

- Gemstones and common rock specimens may be collected for PRIVATE/PERSONAL use and will not be utilized for commercial purposes or bartered to commercial dealers (Commercial production of common rocks on an unclaimed site requires a permit)
- Common invertebrate fossils such as plants, mollusks and trilobites (in reasonable quantities, may not be bartered or sold)
- Petrified Wood 25lbs + 1 piece not to exceed 250 pounds/calendar year (may not be collected for commercial purposes, bartered or sold)

What you cannot collect:

- Saleable Minerals, such as sand, gravel, cinders, topsoil and other common varieties of minerals (they must be purchased by prior arrangement with the BLM)
- Vertebrate fossils such as dinosaurs, mammals, fishes and reptiles, and uncommon invertebrate fossils
- Cave resources including plant, animal and geologic features

So, what can you collect. Well, you can collect gemstones, common rock varieties, invertebrate fossils, and petrified wood for private or personal usage if they are not utilized for commercial purposes, used for trade, or bartered.

The only item that has limits on the amount one can collect for personal usage is petrified wood of which you can only collect 25 pounds plus one piece per day not to exceed 250 pounds per year.

What you can't collect consists of any saleable minerals such as sand gravel, cinders, topsoil and other common varieties of minerals, vertebrate fossils, uncommon invertebrate fossils, and cave resources including plant animal and geologic features.

§8365.1-5 Property and resources.

- (a) On all public lands, unless otherwise authorized, no person shall;
- (1) Willfully deface, disturb, remove or destroy any personal property, or structures, or any scientific, cultural, archaeological or historic resource, natural object or area;
- (2) Willfully deface, remove or destroy plants or their parts, soil, rocks or minerals, or cave resources, except as permitted under paragraph (b) or (c) of this paragraph; or
- (3) Use on the public lands explosive, motorized or mechanical devices, except metal detectors, to aid in the collection of specimens permitted under paragraph (b) or (c) of this paragraph.
- (b) Except on developed recreation sites and areas, or where otherwise prohibited and posted, it is permissible to collect from the public lands reasonable amounts of the following for noncommercial purposes:
 - (1) Commonly available renewable resources such as flowers, berries, nuts, seeds, cones and leaves;
- (2) Nonrenewable resources such as rock and mineral specimens, common invertebrate and common plant fossils, and semiprecious gemstones;
 - (3) Petrified wood as provided under subpart 3622 of this title;
 - (4) Mineral materials as provided under subpart 3604; and
- (5) Forest products for use in campfires on the public lands. Other collection of forest products shall be in accordance with the provisions of Group 5500 of this title.
- (c) The collection of renewable or nonrenewable resources from the public lands for sale or barter to commercial dealers may be done only after obtaining a contract or permit from an authorized officer in accordance with part 3600 or 5400 of this chapter.

[48 FR 36384, Aug. 10, 1983; 67 FR 68778, Nov. 13, 2002; 75 FR 27455, May 17, 2010]

According to the Code of Federal Regulations section 8365.1-5 "Except on developed recreation sites and areas, or where otherwise prohibited and posted, it is permissible to collect from public lands reasonable amounts of the following for noncommercial purposes: Nonrenewable resources such as rock and mineral specimens, common invertebrate and common plant fossils, and semiprecious gemstones. "And, as previously discussed, you may collect a certain amount of petrified wood.

You can not collect in: You can collect in: ↑ Private Lands – Unless you have permission 1 BLM Lands – without valid mining claims National or State Parks √ USFS lands – without valid mining claims ↑ State Lands — technically private, contact state lands 1 Within the boundary of valid mining claims ↑ Department of Defense Lands – unless posted otherwise ↑ Developed recreation sites and areas √ Department of Defense – if poster ↑ Department of Energy – unless posted otherwise 1 Indian Reservations without permission from tribal ◀ ACEC – unless posted other wise √ Department of Energy Lands – if posted r 1 ACEC – if posted no trespassing of 1 US Fish & Wildlife Lands – unless posted otherwise (mo √ US Fish & Wildlife Lands –no (1 Bureau of Reclamation Lands – if poster ↑ Bureau of Reclamation Lands — unless posted otherwise Wilderness & Wilderness Study Areas – if posted r ↑ Wilderness & Wilderness Study Areas — unless posted National Conservation Areas – if posted no of National Monuments National Historic Sites 1 National Conservation Areas – unless posted otherwise National Wildlife Refuges

So, what this means. You can collect reasonable amounts of gemstones, common rock varieties, invertebrate fossils, common plant fossils, and petrified wood for private or personal usage on all federally managed lands unless collecting is otherwise prohibited and posted. If you can't go on department of energy or department of defense lands...it should be posted no trespassing. Within the boundaries of ACEC's or areas of Critical Environmental concern you may or may not be able to collect. For example, if a site has been set aside to preserve a certain suite of fossils...you will not be able to collect there. But say the site was set aside for protection of a species of lizard...well you can probably still collect a reasonable amount of specimens there...if you can't...it should be posted otherwise.

Within the boundary of most US Fish and Wildlife lands you are not permitted to collect. There are exceptions...but if you REALLY needed to go rock collecting on their land...I would contact them. And on that note...if you really needed to go collect on any public lands but you are not quite sure if you can...I would reach out to the administrative agency and ask the question. Better to be once safe than twice sorry.

You CANNOT collect on private or state lands without the permission of the landowner or claimant. You CANNOT collect within the boundary of an active mining claim with out the claimant's permission. You cannot collect in developed recreation sites and areas or within

the boundary of areas that are clearly posted no trespassing. You CANNOT collect on Indian Reservation lands or Bureau of Indian Affairs Land without permission from tribal authorities. You also cannot collect within the boundaries of National Monuments, National Historic Sites, or National Wildlife Refuges.

Again...if in doubt call the surface management agency or landowner, seek advice from some one who looks at this stuff frequently, or if it is really complicated either seek out a land man or just don't collect there.



Just as a quick reminder....it is never safe to go into an abandoned mine. No matter how many precautions are taken, the dangers associated with abandoned mines such as bad air or dangerous gasses, mine collapse, rotten timbers, becoming lost and disoriented, explosives and chemicals, and the lack of a guaranteed rescue can lead to a deadly situation in only a matter of minutes. There is nothing inside abandoned mines that is worth as much as your life. STAY OUT, STAY ALIVE.

- Leasable minerals that have been removed from acquisition by "location" under the 1872 mining law (oil, gas, oil shale, coal, geothermal resources, potash, sodium, native asphalt, semisolid bitumen, bituminous rock, phosphate, chlorides, sulfates, certain carbonates, borates, silicates or nitrates of potassium or sodium and related products, and Sulphur).
- √Salable common varieties of sand, stone, gravel, pumice, pumicite, cinders, and clay that do not possess any specific property giving them a distinct or special value (excluding block pumice, limestone suitable for the production of cement, metallurgical grade limestone, chemical-grade limestone, limestone suitable as a soil additive and gypsum)
- Locatable or Hard Rock Minerals includes metallic (gold, silver, cinnabar, lead, copper, tin, zinc, nickel uranium, etc.) nonmetallic minerals (fluorspar, mica, certain limestones and gypsum, tantalum, heavy minerals in placer form, and gemstones along with certain uncommon varieties)

I know it would seem like now would be the time to answer the question, "well how do I figure land status out?". We will answer that question, but I understand that there are some members who may be interested in staking some mining claims and in order to do that you also have to figure out which lands you can stake claims on. For both mineral collecting and claim staking we are answering similar land status questions, so will answer both questions together in a moment.

But first, Let's talk about the different kinds of minerals. To understand where these came from let's take a little trip back in time. The 1872 mining law was put in place to "promote the Development of the mining resources of the United States". The lands mineral riches would be made available to every citizen, and the efforts of each would be protected only to the extent that a discovery was made pursued, and even then, within limits designed to prevent monopolization of large deposits. Under the 1872 general mining law, the law that still oversees mining claims and mining today, a United States citizen could go out, stake a claim and would have the exclusive right to use and possess the property for mining purposes and to develop and sell the mining products from the same free of any royalty to the federal government. And up until 1990, after discovery and at least \$500 dollars worth of labor improvements had been made upon the claim, the claimant could purchase the land for \$5 per acre for lode claims and \$2.50 per acre for a placer claim. We will talk about these different claim types in a minute.

Mining claims over oil rich lands were being staked so quickly during the oil rush of 1909 that they were becoming unavailable for extraction of oil for military purposes. This led to the Minerals Leasing Act of 1920. In a nutshell the mineral leasing act of 1920 allowed the federal government to keep control and possession of these lands, enabled drilling and extraction of these minerals with authority granted by the federal government, enabled the government to manage the exploitation of leasable minerals, and enabled the government to receive compensation from the lessee for the privilege of extracting minerals on public lands. Leasable minerals include oil, gas, oil shale, coal, geothermal resources, potash, sodium, native asphalt, semisolid bitumen, bituminous rock, phosphate, chlorides, sulfates, certain carbonates, borates, silicates or nitrates of potassium or sodium and related products, and Sulphur.

It was later found in a study that the intent of the mining law was being taken advantage of. People were staking claims over tracts of land on which the "discovery" was sand, gravel, or even clay also known as the common mineral varieties. There aren't a whole lot of parcels I can think of that don't have at least a little sand or clay. Using sand or clay as the discovery, they would Annie up their \$500 worth of labor improvements and purchase the land, land that was located along beautiful stretches of river, or in valuable stands of timber for \$2.50-\$5 per acre. To stop this abuse of the law, the 1947 Materials Act later modified in 1955, established that certain minerals on federal lands can only be disposed of through a contract of sale or a free use permit. This group of minerals, the salable minerals, includes petrified wood, common varieties of sand, stone, gravel, pumicite, cinders and clay.

So that leaves us with the locatable or hard rock minerals for which a mineral claim can be staked, these include metallic and nonmetallic minerals, special varieties of limestones and gypsum, tantalum, heavy minerals in placer form, gemstones, and other uncommon varieties of rocks and minerals.

Types of claims

- √Unpatented Mining Claim a claim located on land owned by the federal government. The owner of a valid mining claim or mill site has the exclusive right to use and possess the property for <u>mining</u> <u>purposes</u> and to develop and sell the mining products from the same free of any royalty to the federal government as long as:
 - 1. The land was open to location
 - 2. The location is properly made
 - 3. A discovery of a valuable mineral deposit is made
 - 4. The claim is properly maintained through annual filings and/or payments
- TPatented Mining Claim a mining claim that has been conveyed to private ownership, it is now private property

There are two main groups of claims, Unpatented and Patented. Unpatented mining claims are claims located on land owned by the federal government. The owner of a valid mining claim or mill site has the exclusive right to use and possess the property for <u>mining</u> <u>purposes</u> and to develop and sell the mining products from the same free of any royalty to the federal government as long as:

- 1. The land was open to location
- 2. The location is properly made
- 3. A discovery of a valuable mineral deposit is made
- 4. The claim is properly maintained through annual filings and/or payments

A patented mining claim is an unpatented mining claim that has met the requirements to be patented and purchased from the federal government, resulting in the conversion from federal to private ownership. There has been a moratorium on the patenting mining claims on since 1990.

The types of claims you would stake would be unpatented mining claims.

Types of Claims

- ↑ Lode Claims located on lands where the minerals are contained in "veins or lodes of quartz or other rock in place", in general it means that the deposit being located using a lode claim has to be a mineralized zone held in place by adjoining rock
- Placer Claims located on "all forms of deposits, excepting veins of quartz or other rock in place, or any deposit that does not qualify as a lode
- Mill Sites nonmineral in character and are used for activities related to mining or processing minerals
- $\mbox{\fontfamily}$ Tunnel Sites generally only of historic interest, were used for driving a tunnel for exploring lode deposits

So, the first choice you need to make is which type of unpatented mining claim do you need to stake. You must choose between a lode claim or a placer claim.

A lode claim is located on lands where the minerals are contained in "veins or lodes of quartz or other rock in place", in general it means that the deposit being located using a lode claim must be a mineralized zone held in place by adjoining rock.

A Placer claim is located on "all forms of deposits, excepting veins of quartz or other rock in place, or any deposit that does not qualify as a lode

There are also Mill site and Tunnel Claims. A mill site claim is used for activities related to mining or the processing of materials and may only be placed on lands that are nonmineral in character. Tunnels sites aren't utilized much, they were used for driving tunnels for exploration of load deposits.

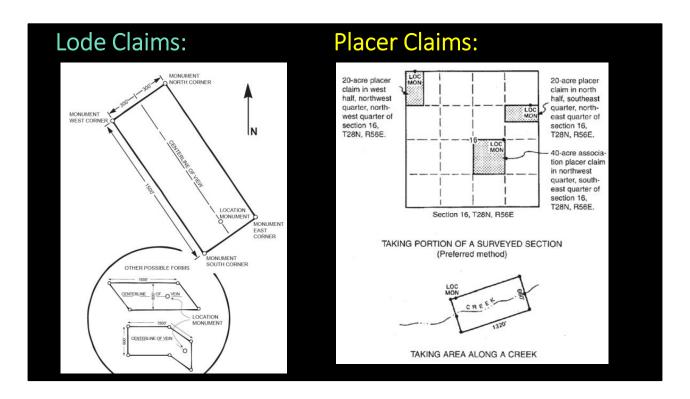
Lode Claims:

- Erect a monument at the "point of discovery" (Today, it's more likely to be a point of convenience, like midway along end line and set inside 10-20')
- Post in or upon the monument a Notice of Location which must contain:
 - Claim Name
 - Name of locator and locator's mailing address
 - Date of Location NOL (very important, as this starts the clock)
 - The number of linear feet claimed along the length and width from the point of discovery and the general direction of the lode or vein
- Within 60 days of posting the NOL the boundaries of the claim must be defined by placing valid legal monument at each corner of the claim
- Within 90 days of posting the NOL file your claim maps and certificates of location with the BLM and the county recorder along with all fees required by both

Placer Claims:

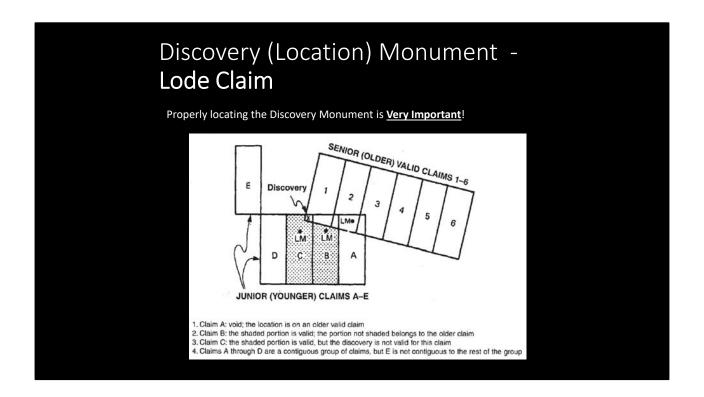
- Terect a at any point along the north boundary of the claim
- Post in or upon the monument a Notice of Location which must contain:
 - Claim Name
 - Name of locator and locator's mailing address
 - Date of Location NOL (very important, as this starts the clock)
 - 1 The number of feet or acres claimed
- If on surveyed land the claim may be taken by legal subdivision and no corner monuments are required
- If on unsurveyed land, within 60 days of posting the NOL the boundaries of the claim must be defined by placing valid legal monument at each corner of the claim
- Within 90 days of posting the NOL file your claim maps and certificates of location with the BLM and the county recorder along with all fees required by both

What do you need to do to stake a claim? First, erect a location monument at the proper location for the type of claim you intend to stake. Post the notice of location upon the location monument which will include the claim name, name of locator and locators mailing address, the date of location (this is VERY important as it starts the clock), and the area claimed as noted above for each claim type. Then within 60 days of the Notice of Location posting, the boundaries of the claim must be defined by placing a valid legal monument at each corner of the claim UNLESS it is a placer claim located on surveyed land, then the claim may be taken by legal subdivision and corner monuments are not required. Within 90 days of posting the notice of location, you must file the certificates of location and claim maps with the BLM and the county recorder in which the claim is located along with all fees required by both.



Lode claims can be oriented in any direction and are 1500' long and 300 feet wide on either side of the location monument for a total claim width of 600'.

Placer claims are 20 acres each and in general follow the public land survey system or Township, Range and Section designations which we will briefly discuss here shortly.



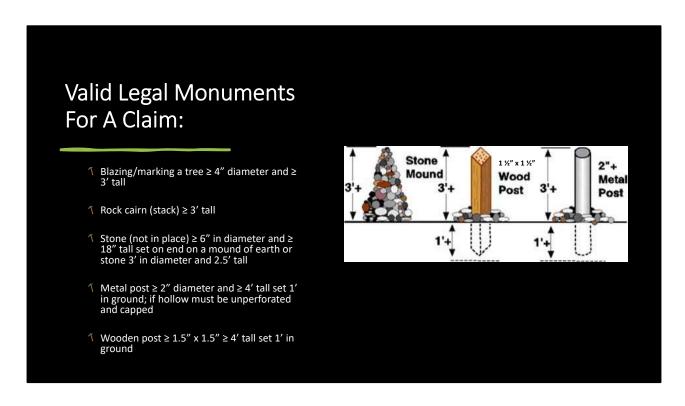
Be sure your discovery monument IS NOT within the boundary of a preexisting, senior or older claim. THIS WILL VOID YOUR CLAIM. Also, if you stake a claim over another person's claim which precedes your location, the only part of the claim you stake that is valid will be that which is outside of the preceding claim boundary.

So, if we look at the diagram on the screen there are senior or older claims named 1-6 in the upper right-hand side of the screen, and younger claims named A-E starting in the lower left-hand side of the screen.

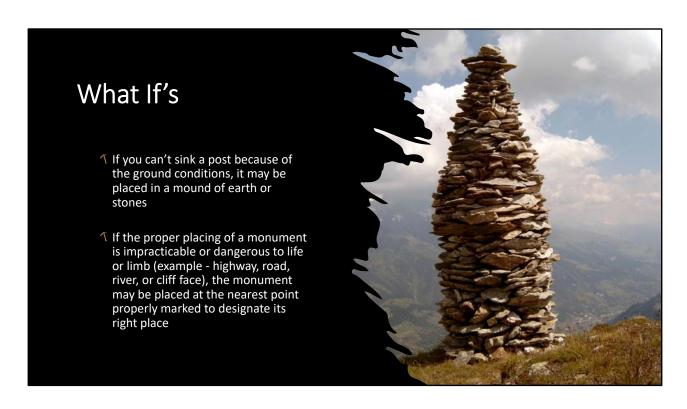
If we look at claim A, we can see the location monument signified by the LM, which is located inside of the older number 2 claim. Therefore, claim A is void AGAIN, your location monument CANNOT be inside the boundary of and older claim.

If we look at claims B, we can see the location monuments are not within the older claims, so they are valid, but the portion of clam B that overlaps claims 1 and 2 are not valid.

Looking at claim C the shaded portion of the claim is valid, but the portion of claim C which includes the discovery overlaps claim one therefore the discovery for this claim is not valid.

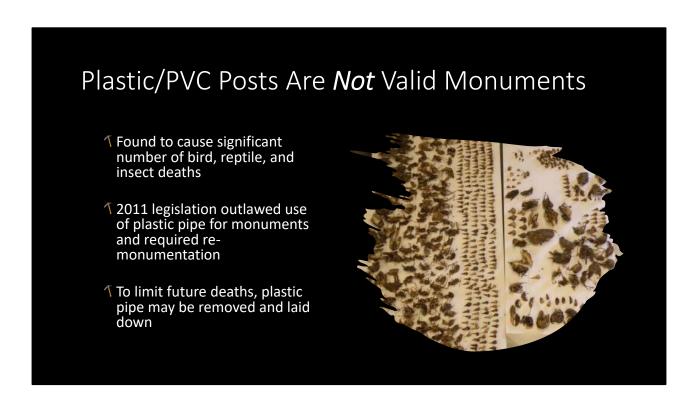


Legal Monuments. I am not going to read dimensions here, but the legal monuments include blazing's or markings on trees, rock cairns, a stone that is not in place, a metal post, or a wooden post.

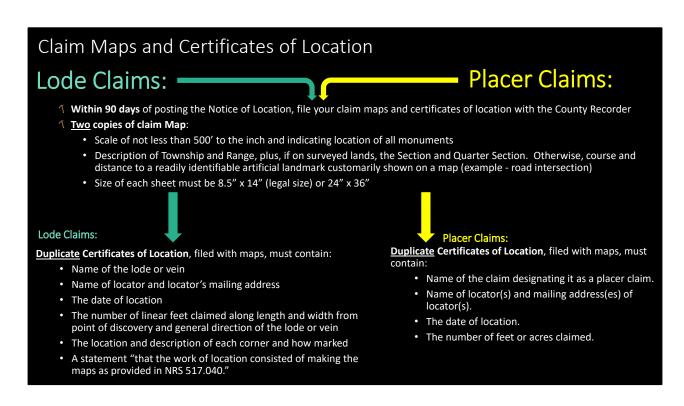


If you can't sink a post in the ground because the ground is too hard you may place the stake in a mound of earth or stones.

If proper placement of a monument is impracticable or dangerous to life or limb the monument may be placed at the nearest safe spot and be properly marked to designate the place where it should be.



Plastic and PVC posts are not valid monuments as they cause significant bird, reptile and insect deaths. It is never permitted to tamper with claim monuments UNLESS you see one of these plastic or PVC posts. If you see one you may remove it out of the ground and lay it down.



Maps and certificates of location must be turned in to the BLM and County within 90 days of posting the Notice of location. If you do not do this your claim is as if it never existed.

The documents that are due, formats, scales and other information is shown on this screen. I will not spend much time here other than to show you that it is here for future reference.

Lode Claim COL & Claim Map Example	The following Document contains no Personal Information as defined by NES 693A.048 MAP FILING FORM
CERTIFICATE OF LOCATION LODE MINING CLAIM TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Name and mailing address of locator: G. W. Name SP Process Falso, NV 98466 RECORDER'S STAMP located the Bob No. 1 Lode Mining Claim in the following quarter section(s):	Map of the his Section. Township with Chair Group, in Section 1. Township to the Chair Group, in Section 2. Township to the Chair Group in Section 2. MORE MAN and the Chair Group Section 2. More than 1. More than
located the Bub No. 1	NOTE: ALL MONUMENTS ARE 11-11-11-11-11-11-11-11-11-11-11-11-11-
Suggested Form - Nevada Invision of Sinteran (ICE), 9-21-2015) Nevada Lode Certificate of Location - NRS 517,059	Suggested Form - Nevada Division of Minerals (REV. 11-08-2019) Map Filing Form - NRS 517.040

Here is an example of a certificate of location and a claim map. Again, I am not going to stay here for long, but I wanted you to know it is here for future reference.



The next two diagrams are to help individuals visualize when forms are due and to whom they are due to. Why two diagrams you ask...well you can hold claims by paying annual maintenance fees or by obtaining a small miner's fee waiver. Paperwork due for holding claims under these two methods are different so for clarity purposes, they will be presented separately. We will discuss what a small miner's fee waiver is in a moment.

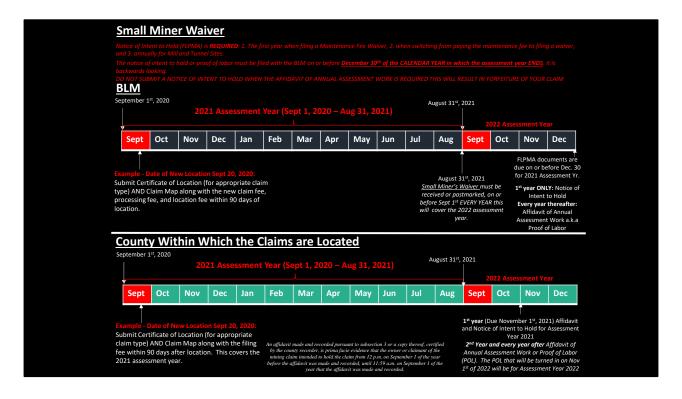
If utilizing the maintenance fee method this would be the workflow. The top shows what would be due to the BLM and the bottom show what will be due to the county along with the deadlines.

An assessment year for a claim is from September 1st of one year to September 1st of the following year. So here on September 1st of 2021 we are discussing mining claims on the first day of Assessment year 2022. Why September 1st...well this because the fiscal year for the BLM ends on September 30th...this gives them time to have an accurate accounting of claims so they can close out the year.

So, if we staked a claim and posted our notice of location on September 20th of 2020, we would have to have our corners staked by November 19th of 2020 and our certificate of location and claim maps along with all fees filed with the BLM and the county by December 19th of 2020. We would need to have our maintenance fees for assessment year 2022

received by the BLM or postmarked on or before September 1st of 2021...or today. If you miss the boat...your claim is done...void...closed. As for the county, you will need to file an affidavit and notice of intent to hold the mining claims for assessment year 2021...yes this is backward looking and a little confusing...but that's the way it is. The regs and statues specifically state that *The notice of intent to hold or proof of labor must be filed with the BLM on or before* <u>December 30th of the CALENDAR YEAR in which the assessment year ENDS</u>. This backwards looking feature will make sense in a moment.

The next deadline is ONLY if you have a Mill or Tunnel Site and consists of documents required by FLPMA or the Federal Land Policy and Management act of 1976. Again, it is a Notice of intent to hold just like the county, which is backwards looking and is due to the BLM on or before December 30 of each year.



Alright, onto small miners. In order to qualify for a small miners fee waiver for the maintenance fee requirements, the claimant and all related parties shall hold no more than 10 mining claims, mill sites, and tunnel sites in the United States on the date payment is due. Claims held by husband and wife, or their underage children, either jointly or individually are aggregately counted towards the ten total sites. The same holds true to co-ownership by and association of locators, a corporation, or a partnership.

Again, the top half of the diagram shows what would be due to the BLM and the bottom shows what will be due to the county.

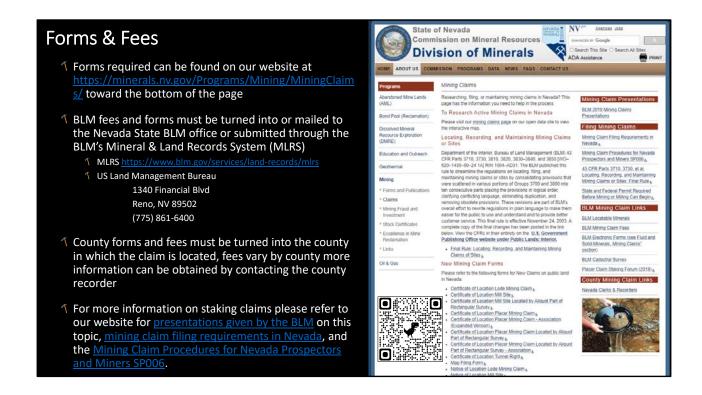
So, if we staked and posted our notice of location on September 20th of 2020, we would have to have our corners staked by November 19th of 2020 and our certificate of location and claim maps along with all fees filed with the BLM and the county by December 19th of 2020.

We would file a small miner's waiver for assessment year 2022 which would need to be received by the BLM or postmarked on or before September 1st of 2021...or today. If you miss the boat...your claim is done. You will do this every year you wish to file for a small miner's fee waiver.

The next due date would be November 1st of 2021, and this would be for the county where you will need to file an affidavit and notice of intent to hold the mining claims for assessment year 2021...again backwards looking. For every year after the first year, when you file for a small miner's fee waiver you will file an affidavit of annual assessment work also known as a Proof of Labor which is also backwards looking...now this backwards looking thing is making sense because you are stating the work you did for the previous year.

Never, never, never file a proof of labor when a notice of intent to hold is due or vice versa, and never, never, never, file both as your claim will be forfeited.

Now that you are a small miner you also have the FLPMA requirement to fulfill every year. These papers are due to the BLM on or before December 30th of the calendar year in which the assessment year ends. So again, for the first year you would file notice of intent to hold, and EVERY year after, if you are filing for a small miner's fee waiver, you will also file with the BLM the Affidavit of Annual Assessment work.



All forms that need to be filed can be found on our website. You can simply type in minerals.nv.gov, select programs, select mining, select claims and the forms will be listed there. YOU do not need to use all these forms HOWEVER these have been reviewed by lawyers and the county recorders and they meet all informational and formatting requirements. For more information on staking mining claims, it is highly suggested that you review the material provided on our website including the BLM Mining Claims Presentations, Mining Claim Filing Requirements in Nevada, and Special Publication 006 on Mining Claim Procedures for Nevada Prospectors and Miners.

Land Research - What you will need



 A Map with the Public Land Survey System (PLSS). For this example we will be using the Nevada Division of Minerals Open Data Site, Mining Claims Page

https://data-ndom.opendata.arcgis.com/pages/mining-claims

2. The location of the area of interest

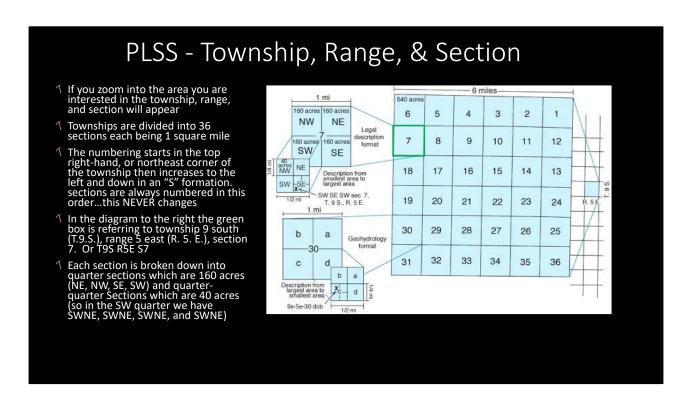


QR Code for the Mining Claims Page

Alright....with all of that out of the way lets run through a quick example of land research. Land research IS NOT EASY. If it were...everybody would do it. I am willing to assist you guys in this process...but keep in mind I AM NOT LEGAL ADVICE. If you really need somebody to dig into a land issue it is highly suggested that you contact a land man. With that said...I'm pretty good at land research...I have done A LOT of it and can help if it doesn't interfere with my other job responsibilities.

So, what we will need is a map with the Public Land Survey System (PLSS). For this example, we will be using the Nevada Division of Minerals Open Data Site, Mining Claims Page. This was the page we pointed to in the beginning of this presentation. It is free for the public to use, and most everything has been formatted to be user friendly. The mining claims page can be found by typing in the URL or by scanning the QR code both shown on this screen.

The second thing we need is the location of the area of interest. I asked Steven to supply me with a couple locations your organization was curious about for this demonstration. We only have time tonight to review one of these locations.



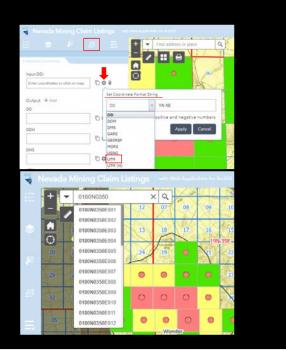
For review, in the interactive web map, if you zoom into the area you are interested in the township, range, and section will appear. Townships are divided into 36 sections each being 1 square mile. The numbering starts in the top right-hand, or northeast corner of the township then increases to the left and down in an "S" formation. Sections are always numbered in this order...this NEVER changes. In the diagram to the right the green box is referring to township 9 south (T.9.S.), range 5 east (R. 5. E.), section 7. Or T9S R5E S7. Each section is broken down into quarter sections which are 160 acres (NE, NW, SE, SW) and quarter-quarter Sections which are 40 acres (so in the SW quarter we have SWNE, SWNE, SWNE, and SWNE).

To begin land research

First navigate to the area or site of interest

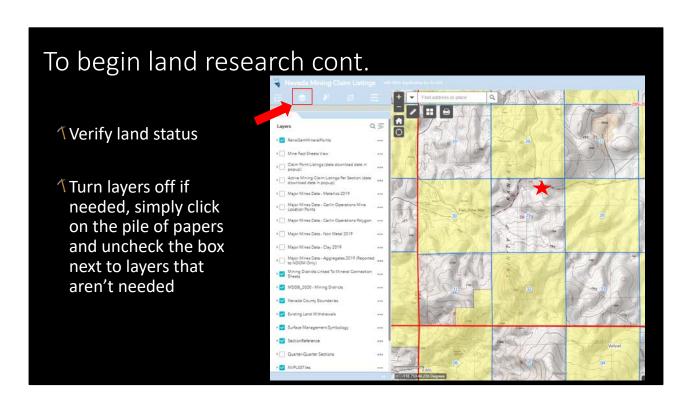
You can do this three different ways

- 1. Manually navigate using the mouse
- 2. Enter coordinates using the "XYZ" tool in the interactive map Select widget
 - Select format of coordinates you have
 - Enter values into appropriate boxes
- 3. Enter the PLSS description into the search bar in the top right-hand corner of the map
 - From drop down select "Search Township, Range, Section"
 - Enter PLSS description in proper format
 - T18N R35E S 1 = 0180N0350E001

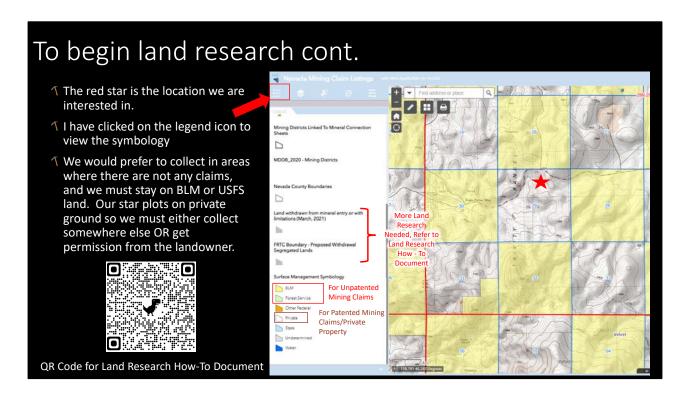


First navigate to the area or site of interest You can do this three different ways

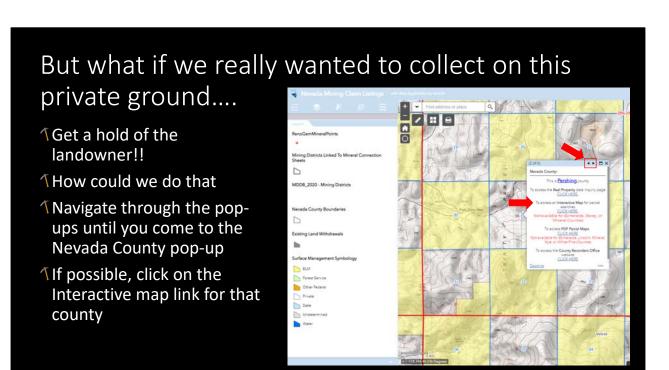
- 1. Manually navigate using the mouse
- Enter coordinates using the "XYZ" tool in the interactive map or zoom to XY tool, this widget gets the best of me sometimes..but it is kind of cool Select the XYZ widget
 - Select format of coordinates you have be it decimal degrees, degrees minutes, seconds, or UTM's
 - Then enter your value into the top box and press enter
- 3. If you know it you can enter the PLSS description into the search bar in the top right-hand corner of the map
 - From drop down select "Search Township, Range, Section"
 Enter PLSS description in proper format....we are using the BLM's format so
 T18N R35E S 1 = 0180N0350E001



Next, we need to verify the land status. First, we will simplify the view by turning some layers off. To turn layers on and off simply click on the "stack of papers" icon that is outlined in red and clear the check mark from the box next to the layers we don't need. Right now, I only want to view land status. That layer's title is NVPLSSTiles.



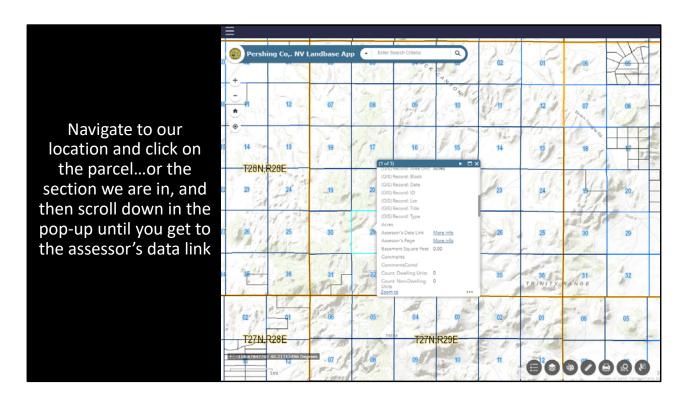
The red star is the location we are interested in. I have clicked on the legend icon to view the symbology. We would prefer to collect in areas where there are not any claims, and we must stay on BLM or USFS land. Our star plots on private ground so we must either collect somewhere else OR get permission from the landowner. I would like to call attention to the layers which show Lands withdrawn from mineral entry or with limitations. If you are looking in an area that this layer covers further research is warranted. Please refer to the Land Research How-To document that can be found under the interactive map located on the mining claims page or by scanning the QR code shown on the screen.



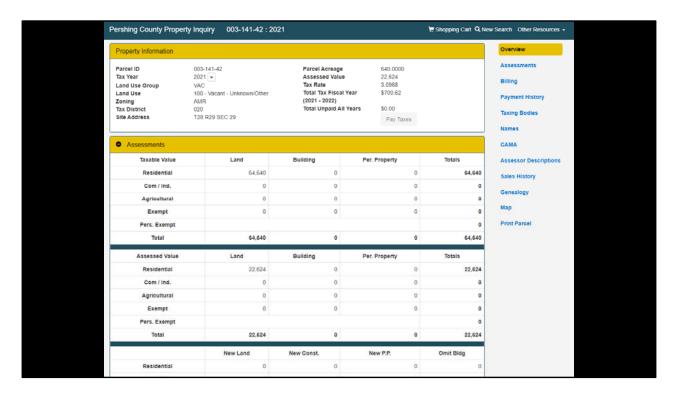
But what if we really wanted to collect at this location...well we would need to ask the landowner. How do we know who that is...well that information resides at the county assessor. When you click on a point on a map every layer that is there will be selected and a pop-up will be generated for each layer. So, if we click on the map, we can use the arrows at the top of the pop-up to navigate through the different pop-ups where we will come to one specific to the county. The pop-up for the counties consists of links to the Real Property search, the county recorder, PDF parcel maps, and an interactive map for the county. If an interactive map exists...use it!!! It makes things much easier. So, we will click on the link.



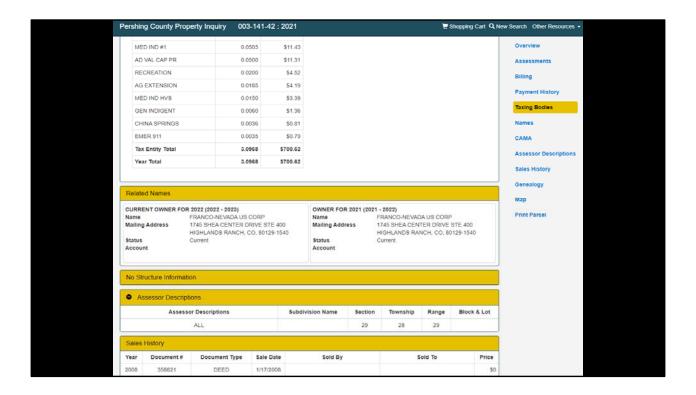
Which will take you to their interactive map. Use the layers button at the bottom of the screen to generate the layers list so you can turn on the BLM PLSS layer and navigate to our area.



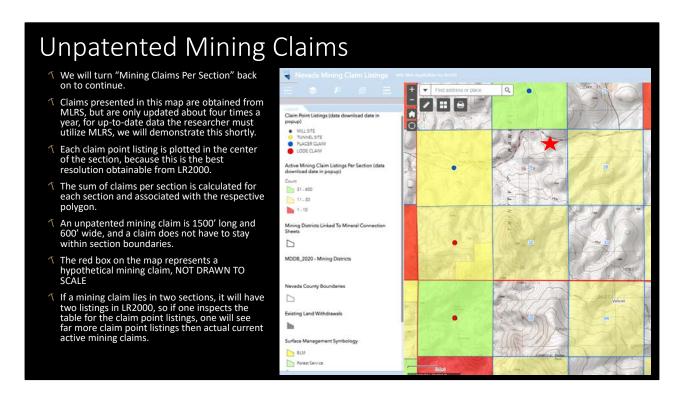
Once we have reached our destination we can click on the section of interest and scroll down through the pop-up until we come to the Assessor's Data Link. Click on it.



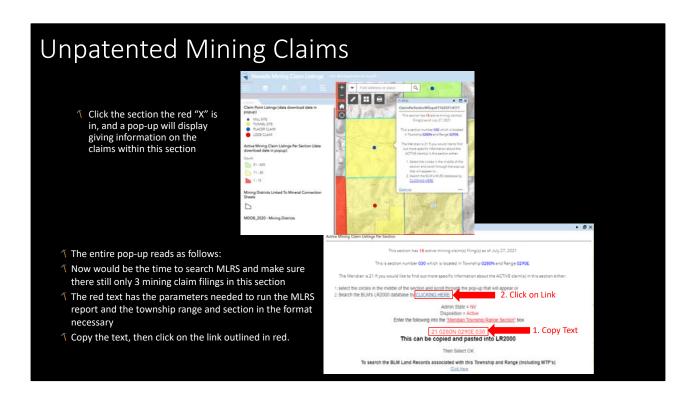
This will bring us to this page and if we scroll down...



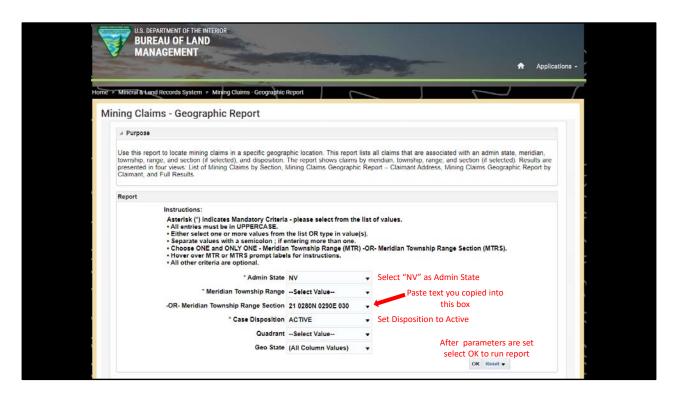
We come to a section where the owner information is listed along with an address. From here if the owner is a company, you may be able to google search the company and get a number to call to request permission to collect or, as you can see, there is an address to which a letter requesting permission could be sent.



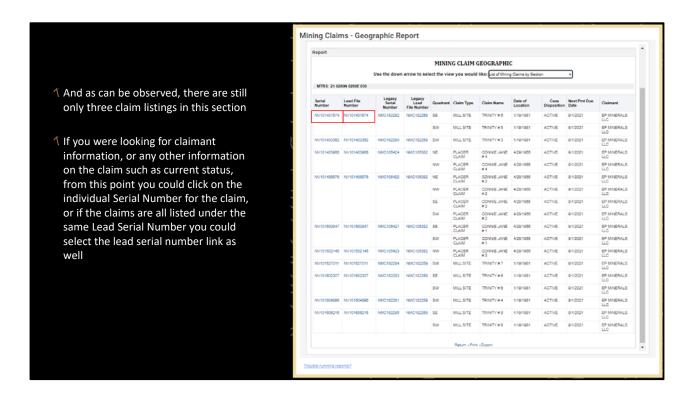
Ok....so maybe the rock you are looking to collect is more widespread. It would be awesome if it were in section 28 because, if we turn the claim point listings and the claims per section on, we can see that there are no claims in section 28, and it is all BLM land...it's PERFECT!! If you wanted to stake a claim in section 28 it appears that you could do that as well. There are a couple more maps you could check to be sure this ground is open....but we can save that for some other time...your probably safe. If one were to stake a claim and there was a big problem as far as land status goes...the BLM is probably going to let you know. But let's say you see some good-looking rocks on the very east side of section 30. The blue dot in the middle indicates there are claims in this section...the section is colored a darker shade of yellow which indicates, according to the legend that there are somewhere between 11-30 claims in this section. If we click on the section...



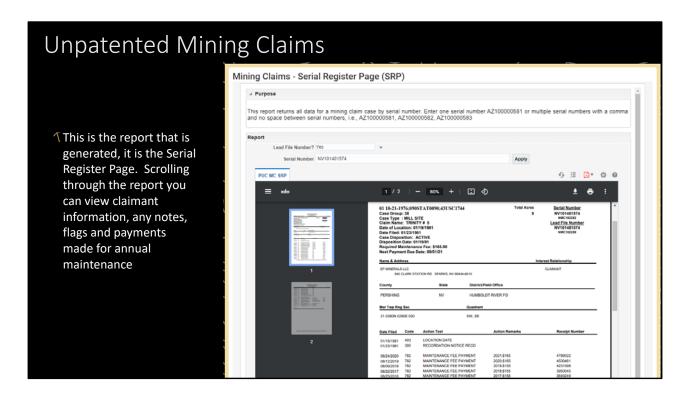
This pop-up will appear which tells us how many claim listings there are in this section. It takes 32 claims to fill a section...this section has 18...so there is hope for some open ground. Let's investigate using the most current data from the BLM's MLRS database. So, all the query parameters needed to research this, along with instructions are included in the pop-up. So, copy the text outlined in Red, this is the township range and section....formatted as the BLM wants it, then click on the link that is also outlined in red.



That will take you to this page. Set the admin state to Nevada and the disposition to "Active", as per the instructions in the pop-up, then paste the PLSS into the appropriate box and hit ok.



This report will be generated. We can see all the claims in this section are owned by EP minerals. Every claim has a serial number. A group of claims staked and filed together have a lead file number. So if you were to click on the link under the serial number, a report will render showing information on that individual claim. If you were to select on the link under the Lead File number a report will render showing information for all claims in that group. We will discuss another use of the lead file number here in a moment. When we click on one of the links...



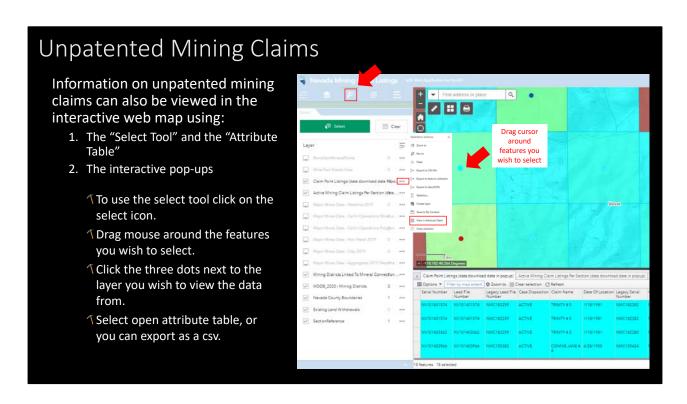
This report will be generated. On this report we have the claimant information listed along with an address. Again, From here if the owner is a company, you may be able to google search the company and get a number to call to request permission to collect or we can send a letter to the address listed requesting permission to collect.

Unpatented Mining Claims

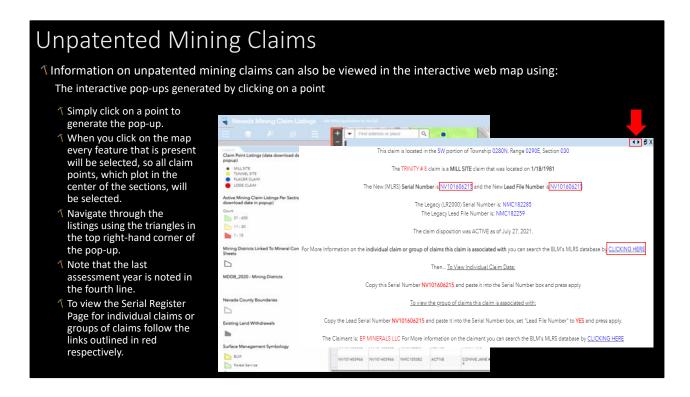
What about the claim maps?

- To obtain the actual maps of the claim or claim block a visit to the BLM state office, or the county recorders office in which the claims are filed is required.
- When requesting files from the BLM you need to provide the Lead Serial Number for EVERY block of claims you are interested in obtaining a map for. The State office is located at 1340 Financial Blvd, Reno, NV 89502. The number for the public room is 775-861-6500. Call for an appointment or to request records if you are trying to do so during a pandemic.
- When visiting the County Recorders Office, the location or the claimant's name will need to be provided in order to locate claim maps. Again, during a pandemic call for an appointment or assistance.

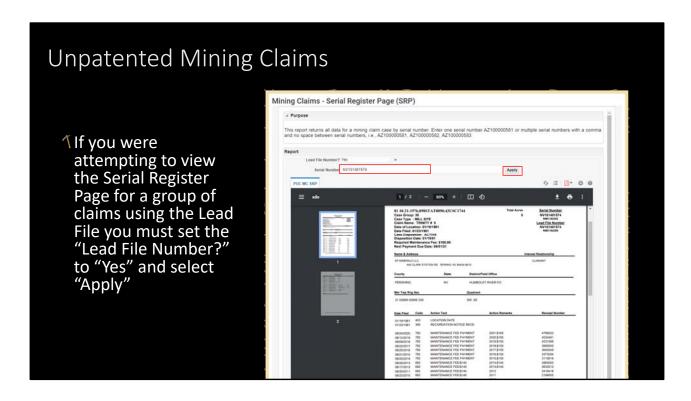
But maybe you want to see if there is open ground lurking amongst those 18 claim listings. In that case you will have to obtain the actual claim maps submitted by the claimants to the county or the BLM. When requesting files from the BLM you need to provide the Lead Serial Number for EVERY block of claims you are interested in obtaining a map for. Remember, these can be found in the map pop-ups or in the report we generated from MLRS. You can visit the BLM State office to request and copy the documents there. In the event of a pandemic...you may have to call for an appointment.



You can also view the claim listing information from the map by using the select tool and the attribute table or by using the pop-up for the clam point listings themselves. Just remember...this will not be the most current data. To view the data use the select tool, click on the select icon outlined in red. Drag mouse around the features you wish to select. Click the three dots next to the layer you wish to view the data from. Select open attribute table, or you can export as a csv to view in excel.



To use the pop-ups, click on the points in the center of the section to generate the pop-up. You can navigate through the pop-ups using the arrows in the top right-hand side of the pop-up which will render information on all claim listings for that section. You can view the serial register page report, the one we looked at previously with the claimant's address, using this pop-up as well. Simply copy the serial number outlined in red in the 3rd line of text, and then click on the link outlined in red further down which will take us to this page...



Paste the serial number into the box provided, select whether you selected and individual serial number or the lead file number and hit apply. Here we are again viewing the same report.



Well...if you are feeling like this right now, I apologize BUT there's a lot that goes into this stuff...and it isn't always easy and gets way more complicated than this. If you really would like to dive into some further land research, again I strongly suggest you take a look at a How-To document that was compiled for land research, which can be found underneath the interactive map on the mining claims page or by scanning the QR code shown in the screen. The document is long...but it is a step-by-step type of document that goes pretty fast.

If you get stuck, you can reach out and see if I can help. I have some business cards and some copies of the special publication on Mining Claim Procedures for Nevada Prospectors and Miners here with me.



I would like to thank you all for inviting me here to present on a topic I find extremely interesting simply because of its complexity. My hope is that I have presented this complicated topic in a manner that is at least a little easy to understand. If you have any questions, I would be happy to attempt to answer them now.