

# Code of Federal Regulations

# 43

## Public Lands: Interior

### PART 1000 TO END

Revised as of October 1, 1975

# 44

## (Reserved)



**CONTAINING  
A CODIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS  
OF GENERAL APPLICABILITY  
AND FUTURE EFFECT  
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*With Ancillaries*

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ing two lots on which he may have such improvements by paying the appraised price fixed by the superintendent of sale, under such regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe. Preference right proof and entry, when granted, must be made prior to the date of the public sale.

#### § 2566.2 Public sale.

(a) *Generally.* The unreserved and unsold lots will be offered at public sale to the highest bidder at such time and place, and after such publication of notice, if any, as the Secretary of the Interior may direct.

(b) *Superintendent's authority.* Under the supervision of the Secretary of the Interior the superintendent of the sale will be, and he is hereby, authorized to make all appraisements of lots and at any time to reappraise any lot which in his judgment is not appraised at the proper amount, or to fix a minimum price for any lot below which it may not be sold, and he may adjourn, or postpone the sale of any lots to such time and place as he may deem proper.

(c) *Manner and terms of public sale.*

(1) The Secretary of the Interior shall by regulations prescribe the manner of conducting the public sale, the terms thereof and forms therefor and he may prescribe what failures in payment will subject the bidder or purchaser to a forfeiture of his bid or right to the lot claimed and money paid thereon. The superintendent of sale will at the completion of the public sale deposit with the receiver of the proper local land office the money received and file with its officers the papers deposited with him by said bidder, together with his certificate as to successful bidder.

(2) If it be deemed advisable, the Director, Bureau of Land Management may direct the receiver of public moneys of the proper district to attend sales herein provided for in which event the cash payment required shall be paid to the said receiver.

#### Subpart 2567—Alaska Homestead Settlement

*SOURCE:* The provisions of this Subpart 2567 appear at 35 F.R. 9604, June 13, 1970, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 2567.0-3 Authority.

The homestead laws were extended to Alaska by the act of May 14, 1898 (30 Stat. 409; 43 U.S.C. 270), which was amended by the acts of March 3, 1903 (32

Stat. 1028; 43 U.S.C. 270), July 8, 1916 (39 Stat. 352; 43 U.S.C. 270-8 to 270-10, 270-14), June 28, 1918 (40 Stat. 632; 43 U.S.C. 270-8 to 270-10, 270-14), April 13, 1926 (44 Stat. 243; 43 U.S.C. 270-15—270-17), and July 11, 1956 (70 Stat. 528; 213 U.S.C. 270-7 and 270-10).

#### § 2567.0-7 Cross references.

For Indian and Eskimo allotments, Subpart 2561, for school indemnity selections Subpart 2627; for shore space, Subpart 2094; for soldier's additional rights, Subpart 2616; for trade and manufacturing sites, Subpart 2562.

#### § 2567.0-8 Lands subject to settlement and homestead entry.

All unappropriated public lands in Alaska adaptable to any agricultural use are subject to homestead settlement, and, when surveyed, to homestead entry, if they are not mineral or saline in character, are not occupied for the purpose of trade or business and have not been embraced within the limits of any withdrawal, reservation or incorporated town or city.

#### § 2567.1 Application.

(a) *Form.* Application to make homestead entry for lands in Alaska should be presented on a form approved by the Director, the form prescribed for homestead entries under section 2289, Revised Statutes (43 U.S.C. 161, 171).

(b) *Showing to accompany application.* Each application on the prescribed form should be accompanied by a corroborated statement showing:

(1) That the land applied for does not extend more than 160 rods along the shore of any navigable water or that the restriction as to length of claim has been waived or should be waived. (See § 2094.2 of this subchapter.)

(2) That the land is not within an area which is reserved because of springs thereon. All facts relative to medicinal or other springs must be stated, as set forth in § 2311.2(a) of this chapter.

(c) *Contents.* (1) A homestead application must describe the lands desired, if surveyed, according to legal subdivisions as shown by the plat of survey, and, excepting that it must thus conform and that the lands must be contiguous, there is no restriction as to the shape of the tract which may be entered. Where a settlement was made and a location notice posted and filed for record before the extension of the surveys, the application

should make reference thereto; it should be stated also to what extent the land applied for is different from that covered by the notice; and the settler may not abandon all of the subdivisions covered by the location unless a showing is made which would justify amendment of his claim.

(2) A homestead application must describe the lands desired, if unsurveyed, by metes and bounds with relation to some natural or permanent monuments, and give the approximate latitude and longitude and otherwise with as much certainty as possible without actual survey. Reference should be made to the serial number of the notice of settlement previously filed. If there has been any material deviation made in the description of the land claimed, a full explanation must be given of the reason for such deviation. A homestead application for unsurveyed lands must be accompanied by the settler's final or commutation homestead proof.

(d) *Service charges.* (1) When a homesteader applies to make entry he must pay an application nonrefundable service charge of \$25. In addition, he must pay with his final proof, a nonrefundable service charge of \$25. A successful contestant for the lands, pursuant to the Act of May 14, 1880 (21 Stat. 143; 43 U.S.C. 185), as amended, must pay, as a nonrefundable cancellation service charge, an additional \$10. On all final proofs made before the authorizing officer, the claimant must pay to the authorizing officer the costs of reducing the testimony to writing, as determined by the authorizing officer. No proof shall be accepted or approved until all charges have been paid.

(2) Remittances other than cash or currency are to be made payable to the Bureau of Land Management. Checks or drafts are accepted subject to collection and final payment without cost to the government.

#### § 2567.2 Homestead settlement entry.

(a) *Form of settlement on unsurveyed land.* A settlement claim on unsurveyed land must be rectangular in form, not more than 1 mile in length, located by lines running north and south, according to the true meridian, the four corners being marked by permanent monuments, unless a departure from such restrictions is authorized by the act of April 13, 1926 (44 Stat. 243; 43 U.S.C. 270-15 to 270-17). The said act

permits a departure from the restrictions mentioned where by reason of local or topographic conditions it is not feasible or economical to include in rectangular form with cardinal boundaries the lands desired. Under the conditions recited in the law as justifying such departure, it will be sufficient that the claims shall be compact and approximately rectangular in form and where a departure from cardinal courses in the direction of boundary lines is necessary in order to include the lands desired there will be no restriction as to the amount of such departure. The modification of former practice in the matter of form and direction of boundaries is not to be construed, however, as authorizing the lines of the claims to be unduly extended in any such manner as will be productive of long narrow strips of land departing materially from the compactness of the tract as a whole.

(b) *Notice of settlement.* (1) A person making settlement on or after April 29, 1950 on unsurveyed land, in order to protect his rights, must file a notice of the settlement for recordation in the proper office for the district in which the land is situated, and post a copy thereof on the land, within 90 days after the settlement. Where settlement is made on surveyed lands, the settler, in order to protect his rights, must file a notice of the settlement for recordation, or application to make homestead entry, in the proper office for the district in which the land is located within 90 days after settlement.

(2) The notice must be filed on a form approved by the Director, in triplicate if the land is unsurveyed, or in duplicate if surveyed and shall contain: (a) The name and address of the settler, (b) age and citizenship; (c) date of settlement, and (d) the description of the land by legal subdivisions, section, township and range, if surveyed, or, if unsurveyed, by metes and bounds with reference to some natural object or permanent monument, giving, if desired, the approximate latitude and longitude.

(3) Unless a notice of the claim is filed within the time prescribed in subparagraphs (1) and (2) of this paragraph, no credit shall be given for residence and cultivation had prior to the filing of notice or application to make entry, whichever is earliest.

(c) *Recordation fee.* The notice of settlement claim must be accompanied

by a remittance of \$10.00 which will be applied as a service charge for recording the notice and will not be returnable, except in cases where the notice is not acceptable to the proper office for recording because the land is not subject to homestead settlement.

(d) *Marking corners of claim on unsurveyed lands; rights acquired by settlement on surveyed lands.* (1) A settler on unsurveyed land is required to mark the claim by permanent monuments at each corner, in order to establish the boundaries thereof.

(2) Settlement on any part of a surveyed quarter-section subject to homestead entry gives the right to enter all of the quarter section; but if a settler desires to initiate a claim to surveyed tracts which form part of more than one technical quarter-section, he should define the claim by placing some improvements on each of the smallest subdivisions claimed.

(e) *Law under which homestead must be perfected.* All homestead claims in Alaska must be perfected under and in accordance with the provisions of the 3-year homestead law of June 6, 1912 (37 Stat. 123; 43 U.S.C. 164, 169, 218), and regulations thereunder.

(Sec. 1, 30 Stat. 409, as amended; 48 U.S.C. 371)

### § 2567.3 Acreage.

(a) *Area subject to appropriation.* A homestead settlement or entry in Alaska is restricted to 160 acres, except in the case of a settlement made before July 8, 1916, or an entry based thereon, which may include as much as 320 acres, provided notice of the settlement was filed for record in the recording district in which the land is situated within 90 days after the settlement was made and the settlement was duly maintained until the filing of the application for entry and provided the applicant has not exhausted his homestead right in whole or in part in the United States.

(b) *Limitations.* The act of August 30, 1890 (26 Stat. 391; 43 U.S.C. 212), provides that no person who shall, after the passage of the act, enter upon any of the public lands with a view to occupation, entry, or settlement under any of the public land laws shall be permitted to acquire title to more than 320 acres in the aggregate, under all of said laws. A former homestead entry outside of Alaska is not counted as a part of this acreage in connection with a homestead

entry of 160 acres in Alaska. The fact that one may have acquired title to 160 acres under the homestead laws, or other agricultural public land laws, outside of Alaska, since August 30, 1890, does not disqualify him from entering 320 acres under the homestead laws in Alaska, based on settlement made prior to July 8, 1916.

(43 U.S.C. 270)

### § 2567.4 Qualifications of entryman.

(a) *Qualifications required.* Any person who is qualified to make an ordinary homestead entry in the United States under section 2289, Revised Statutes (43 U.S.C. 161, 171), is qualified to make homestead entry in Alaska, and a former homestead entry outside of Alaska does not bar the claimant's right to make entry in that State for not exceeding 160 acres.

(b) *Second entries.* No showing is required of an applicant for 160 acres in Alaska as to a former homestead entry outside of the State, but if the applicant has made homestead entry, or made an allowable homestead application or filed a location notice of settlement in the State and failed to perfect title to the land, he must, in connection with another application to make homestead entry in the State, make the showing required by the Act of September 5, 1914 (38 Stat. 712; 43 U.S.C. 182) explained in § 2513.1 (a) to (d) of this chapter.

(c) *Additional entries.* Any person otherwise qualified who has made final proof on an entry for less than 160 acres may make an additional entry for contiguous land under the act of April 28, 1904 (33 Stat. 527; 43 U.S.C. 213), or for noncontiguous land under the act of March 2, 1889 (25 Stat. 854; 43 U.S.C. 214) for such area as when added to the area previously entered will not exceed 160 acres. The requirements in connection with such entries are set forth in §§ 2512.1 and 2512.2 of this chapter. An additional entry under the act of April 28, 1904, is not subject to commutation.

(Sec. 1, 30 Stat. 409, as amended; 43 U.S.C. 270)

### § 2567.5 Residence, cultivation requirements.

(a) *Residence*—(1) *Establishment.* Residence must be established upon the claim within 6 months after the date of the entry or the recording of the loca-

tion notice, as the case may be; but an extension of not more than 6 months may be allowed upon application duly filed, in which the entryman shows by his own statement, and that of two witnesses, that residence could not be established within the first 6 months, for climatic reasons, or on account of sickness, or other unavoidable cause.

(2) *Length.* A homestead entryman must show residence upon his claim for at least 3 years; however, he is entitled to absent himself during each year for not more than two periods making up an aggregate of 5 months, giving written notice to the proper office of the time of leaving the homestead and returning thereto.

(3) *Leave of absence.* A leave of absence for 1 year or less may be granted by the authorizing officer to the homesteader who has established actual residence on the land where failure or destruction of crops, sickness, or other unavoidable casualty has prevented him from supporting himself and those dependent upon him by cultivation of the land.

(b) *Cultivation.* There must be shown also cultivation of one-sixteenth of the area of the claim during the second year of the entry and of one-eighth during the third year and until the submission of proof, unless the requirements in this respect be reduced upon application duly filed. Cultivation, which must consist of breaking of the soil, planting or seeding, and tillage for a crop other than native grasses, must include such acts and be done in such manner as to be reasonably calculated to produce profitable results.

(c) *Habitable house.* The law provides also that the entryman must have a habitable house upon the land at the time proof is submitted.

(d) *Commutation of entries.* To the extent of not more than 160 acres an entry may be "commuted" after not less than 14 months' residence upon the land, cultivation of the area commuted to the extent required under the ordinary homestead laws and payment of \$1.25 per acre; that is, the claimant must show the existence of a habitable house on the land at the time of final commutation proof, that residence for the period of not less than 14 months was actual and substantially continuous, and cultivation of one-sixteenth of the area during the second year of the entry, and, if commutation proof is submitted after

the second entry year, one-eighth of the area the third entry year and until the submission of final commutation proof. In such cases the homesteader is entitled to a 5 months' leave of absence in each year, but cannot have credit as residence for such period, since actual presence on the land for not less than 14 months is required. However, an additional entry under the act of April 28, 1904 (33 Stat. 527; 43 U.S.C. 213), is not subject to commutation.

#### § 2567.6 Surveys.

(a) *Without expense to settler.* The land included in a settlement claim may be surveyed without expense to the settler, provided he submits, within five years from the date of the filing of notice of settlement claim in the proper office, an application to enter on a form approved by the Director and acceptable final or commuted homestead proof as required by § 2567.7(a).

(b) *At expense of settler.* A settler who wishes to secure earlier action in the matter of survey may have a survey made at his own expense by a deputy surveyor appointed by the authorized officer of the Bureau of Land Management.

(c) *Application to enter land included in special survey.* After a special survey has been made, in accordance with paragraph (b) of this section, application to enter should be made as in the case of other settlements on surveyed lands.

#### § 2567.7 Proof.

(a) *Submission.* (1) Proof may be submitted without previous notice of intention by publication.

(2) Whenever the claimant is ready to submit proof, he may appear, with two witnesses having knowledge of the facts, before either the authorizing officer of the proper office for the district in which the land is situated or before any other officer authorized to administer oaths in homestead cases and submit proof of his residence, cultivation, and improvements on the land. The proof testimony must be filed in the proper office.

(3) Where the proof establishes that the entryman cannot effect timely compliance with the law, the entry must be canceled unless statutory authority permits the granting of an extension of time or other relief.

(b) *Publication and posting.* (1) Where a special survey has been made, the notice of proof must give the survey number of the land, and it must be pub-

lished once a week for nine consecutive weeks, in accordance with § 1824.3 of this chapter, at the expense of the applicant, in a newspaper designated by the authorizing officer as being one of general circulation nearest the land. Moreover, during the period of publication the entryman must keep a copy of the plat, and of his notice of having made proof, posted in a conspicuous place on the land.

(2) Where the public system of surveys has been extended over the land, and the claimant has an entry allowed in conformity therewith, notice must be published once a week for 5 consecutive weeks in accordance with § 1824.3 of this chapter. The authorizing officer must cause a copy of the notice to be posted in his office during the entire period of publication.

(c) *Effect of transfer of land before proof.* In Alaska, as elsewhere in the United States, a forfeiture of the claim results from a transfer of any part of the land or of any interest therein before the submission of the proof, with certain exceptions specified by law. In the State transfers for church, cemetery, or school purposes to the extent of 5 acres and for railroad rights of way across the land having an extreme width of 200 feet are permitted.

(d) *Adverse claim.* (1) In conformity with provision contained in section 10 of the act of May 14, 1898 (30 Stat. 413; 48 U.S.C. 359), during the period of posting and publication or within 30 days thereafter any person, corporation, or association, having or asserting any adverse interest in or claim to, the tract of land or any part thereof sought to be acquired, may file in the proper office where the proof is pending, under oath, an adverse claim setting forth the nature and extent thereof, and such adverse claimant shall, within 60 days after the filing of such adverse claim, begin action to quiet title, in a court of competent jurisdiction in Alaska, and thereafter no patent shall issue for such claim until the final adjudication of the rights of the parties, and such patent shall then be issued in conformity with the final decree of the court.

(2) Where such adverse claim is filed, action on the proof will be suspended until final adjudication of the rights of the parties in the court or until it has been shown that the adverse claimant did not commence an action in the court within the time allowed.

(3) Any protest which may be filed which does not show that the protestant intends to commence an action to quiet title, as stated, and any contest which may be filed will be disposed of by the authorizing officer in accordance with Parts 1840 and 1850 of this chapter.

### § 2567.8 Loans.

(a) *Mortgage loans on existing homestead entries.* A homestead entryman who desires to secure a loan on an existing homestead entry, or a homestead applicant who wishes to make a homestead entry for lands in a canceled or relinquished homestead entry subject to a mortgage lien held by the United States acting through the Secretary of Agriculture under the act of October 19, 1949 (63 Stat. 883, 7 U.S.C. Supp. III secs. 1006a, 1006b), should proceed in accordance with § 2511.0-9(a) of this chapter.

(b) *Mortgage liens.* A mortgage lien held by the United States acting through the Secretary of Agriculture shall not extend to mineral deposits in the lands, which have been or may be reserved to the United States pursuant to law.

## Group 2600—Disposition; Grants

### PART 2610—SCRIP

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#### Subpart 2610—Scrip, General

SOURCE: The provisions of this Subpart 2610 appear at 35 F.R. 9606, June 13, 1970, unless otherwise noted.

### § 2610.0-1 Purpose.

The purpose of the regulations in this subpart is to provide procedures for the orderly satisfaction and retirement of outstanding valid scrip, lieu selection, and similar rights, consistent with the public land laws governing such rights, including the Act of August 31, 1964 (78 Stat. 751). This Act provides that all