

**From:** [John Bennett](#)  
**To:** [Fuglestad, Eric P \(DOT\)](#)  
**Cc:** "[Karen Tilton \(ktilton@rmconsult.com\)](#)"; [Chad Weiler](#)  
**Subject:** RE: mining claim  
**Date:** Monday, December 30, 2019 12:09:00 PM

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Eric, the good news is that the distance between the SWx of Section 19 and the preliminary centerline alignment that HDR provided me with is about 1278 feet so with the N/S extent of a 20 acre claim being 1320 feet, the claim would straddle the realignment footprint but not by a lot. If the topography is not too severe, I would think the designers could realign slightly to the north to avoid it altogether. The bad news is that if this parcel was open to mineral entry and the claim is valid, then it is likely that a lot of the alignment passing through CNF lands may also be open for mineral entry and therefore constitutes a risk for acquisition. That is, until DOT secures their interest, more staking in conflict with the alignment can occur at will. Assuming that the preliminary alignment would be reasonably close to the final alignment, DOT might want to take measures to advance the acquisition to prevent additional staking. Maybe apply for a wider corridor like was done for the DNR.

While performing title reports for all affected lands it was not a part of the base mapping task, we did request the Forest Service to provide us with any "survey data, rights of way, special use permits, etc. that adjoin or intersect..." both the existing and planned realignment of the Sterling Highway. FS did not provide us with any mining claim information, so at that level of research we were not aware that any existed. JohnB

**John F. Bennett, PLS, SR/WA** Senior Land Surveyor – Right of Way Services

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**From:** Fuglestad, Eric P (DOT) [mailto:eric.fuglestad@alaska.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 30, 2019 9:04 AM  
**To:** John Bennett <JBennett@rmconsult.com>  
**Subject:** mining claim