

United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Alaska State Office
222 W. 7th Avenue, #13
Anchorage, Alaska 99513

2800 (932)
April 2, 1990

Instruction Memorandum No. AK-90-154
Expires: 9/30/91

To: DMs
From: State Director, Alaska
Subject: Access Across Public Lands to State Mining Claims

In an attempt to resolve the issue of miners accessing State mining claims by crossing public lands, we have made an informal agreement with the State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to cover the situation wherein the miner is using an old trail which historically has been used for access to an area.

If you believe that the access route currently being used by a miner could qualify as an RS2477 route, you should contact Regional Director, DNR to determine the State's willingness to file an assertion under RS2477. If the state declines to file such an assertion, you will continue to issue appropriate permits and to charge rentals in accordance with our existing regulations.

When the State files an RS2477 Assertion which meets existing manual criteria, you will assure that the trail is noted on the BLM status plats in accordance with BLM Manual 2801.48B1. The width of an RS2477 trail or road held or maintained by the State or a municipality is that which is specified in for the particular type of road or trail in the State Statutes. (If the way has been formally accepted by the State, this is normally 100 feet.)

The State acknowledges the need to begin a program of RS2477 assertion; however, they lack the funding/manpower for a large scale program. Thankfully they are willing to work with us on a case-by-case basis to resolve a particular access issue.

A copy of the existing Departmental policy covering RS2477 assertions is attached for your additional information. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Julienne Gibbons, in the State Office, Branch of Land Resources (932) at 271-3370.



DSD for Lands & Renewable Resources

Attachment:
Secretarial Policy Statement