

MINING AND MINERALS BRANCH
Land Resources Division - WASO
Monthly Report - July 1994

Mailing Address:

National Park Service - MMB
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

Delivery Address:

National Park Service - MMB
Room 221
12795 West Alameda Parkway
Lakewood, Colorado 80228

Telephone:

Denver (303) 969-2090
FAX(303) 969-2822
Washington(202) 343-4962
FAX(202) 343-3800

GENERAL

Top NPS and OSM Managers Meet to Discuss Rights to Mine Coal in and Adjacent to Parks -

On July 7, NPS Deputy Director Reynolds and Bob Uram, Director of the Office of Surface Mining and Enforcement (OSM), and respective staff met to discuss issues related to "valid existing rights" (VER) to mine coal under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act. Section 522(e) of that statute prohibits coal mining in and adjacent to units of the National Park System unless an operator possesses VER. The task of defining what constitutes VER rests with OSM. The meeting centered on the following: 1) OSM's renewed effort to define VER through rulemaking and issues the NPS would like to see addressed in that effort, 2) NPS participation in OSM's preparation of an EIS to support the rulemaking, and 3) NPS concerns related to a company's proposal to mine coal outside Cumberland Gap National Historical Park in Tennessee/Virginia/Kentucky. The NPS believes that the proposed mine will cause adverse impacts to park resources thereby triggering the need for the company to demonstrate it has VER to mine the coal before receiving a coal mining permit. The meeting had a very cooperative tone and paved the way for further positive discussions between agency staff. (McCoy, Shaver)

Solicitor's Office Clears Proposed Regulations to Strengthen NPS Control of Non-Federal Oil and Gas Development in Parks -

On July 12, the Solicitor's Office gave the NPS the green light to move forward with its proposed revisions to the Service's regulations governing non-Federal oil and gas development in parks. Affected regions and parks have long sought revisions to the regulations in order to strengthen their ability to protect park resources and values from the adverse impacts associated with such development. Currently, 571 non-Federal oil and gas operations exist in 14 parks. Key regulatory changes include: the elimination of provision that allow approximately 70% of the existing operations in parks to be exempt from the regulations, the removal of bonding ceilings that currently prevent bonding levels to be set commensurate with actual reclamation costs, the expansion of penalties available to secure regulatory compliance, and updates to make the regulations consistent with existing law. The NPS promulgated the current regulations in 1978. (McCoy)

Branch Evaluates Last Minute Amendments Aimed at Weakening NPS Minerals Management in the California Desert Protection Act -

The Branch evaluated several proposed amendments and provided substitute language to the WASO Office of Legislation. The proposed amendments, offered by Representative Quillen, R-Tennessee, would have significantly impaired the Service's ability to control mineral development on mining claims in the new Mojave addition to the National Park System. About 3000 (?) mining claims exist in the proposed Mojave unit. Fortunately, the House

did not adopt Mr. Quillen's amendments. If the amendments had been accepted, they would have required the application of BLM regulations to mining claims in the new park unit instead of the Service's more protective regulations at 36 CFR Part 9, Subpart A. (McCoy, Covington, Shaver)

House Passes California Desert Protection Bill - On July 27, the House of Representatives passed the controversial bill on a vote of 298 to 128. Difference between the House and Senate passed bills now must be reconciled in a conference committee. The bill that emerges from that process will undergo floor votes from both houses of Congress. If approved, the bill will be sent to the President for signature to become law. The NPS and Bureau of Land Management are well into the planning process for handling the transition period once the California Desert area comes under special legislative protection. Branch staff are beginning active participation in this transition planning for minerals management. (McCoy)

New Foam Closure Method Proves Successful for Abandoned Mine Openings - Branch staff worked cooperatively with the Colorado Division of Mines and Geology to arrange a mine closure demonstration on July 7 at a site near Idaho Springs, CO. A new polyurethane foam (PUF) product developed by Foam Concepts, Inc. (FCI) of Minnesota was used to close the openings. Representatives from the Bureau of Mines and BLM State Office were present and participated in the demonstration. FCI developed 22-pound plastic bag foam kits which were backpacked up a steep mountainside (55°) to the project site. Each kit has an inner bag of catalyst which is ruptured within an outer bag of resin. The resulting chemical reaction generates a foam which hardens into a rigid plug. Two different foams types were used in this demonstration: a low-density 2 lb./cu.ft. foam which results from a 30-fold volume expansion of the original ingredients, and a high-density 8 lb./cu.ft. foam which results from an 8-fold volume expansion. The foam plugs were poured on lightweight forms placed approximately 10 feet inside both a shaft and adit opening. The openings were foamed to within several feet of the ground surface, then the remainder of the openings were hand-backfilled with nearby dirt and rock. This system is economically competitive and is suitable for remote sites where equipment access is impractical. FCI foam has an additional advantage over similar foam products we have used, in that it can be used at relatively low temperatures and requires no spray or mixing equipment. FCI's first contract with the NPS has been arranged at Leroy Mine in Glacier Bay later this summer. Another demonstration is being arranged for Katherine Mine at Lake Mead, and other projects may be arranged as funding becomes available. (Cloues, Smith, Wood)

Updated Statistics on Mineral Development in Parks - The bi-annual update of mineral statistics for the System are attached to this monthly report. (Electronic versions of this monthly report contain the statistics, except no graphics. If you want a hard copy, please send a cc-Mail request with your mailing address.) Active oil and gas operations data have significantly changed since the last report. These changes are due to: the start-up of new operations, the plugging and abandonment of existing operations (12 in the last year), and the identification of data errors through an ongoing review of existing operations in the entire System. Mining claims data also show a significant reduction in the total number of claims on NPS lands. However, these figures reflect some uncertainty due to the Bureau of Land Management's ongoing efforts to update data after the implementation of claim holding fees last year. The changes in the rental and filing fees that were implemented in August 1993 have caused an administrative records backlog in some BLM state offices. Available information shows that at least 50% of the active mining claims that existed in July 1993 were eliminated by the failure of claimants to meet the filing requirements set out in the new BLM rules. If errors are identified in any of the data, please contact Vera Smith. (Smith)

Interior and EPA Renew Discussions on Permitting System for Inactive and Abandoned Mines -

Departmental and Environmental Protection Agency officials met in Washington on July 15, to resume discussions about the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting for abandoned mine sites on federal lands. The renewed discussions result from an assumption that Congress will not amend the Clean Water Act this year, and we will proceed under the existing law that has been interpreted to require permits for all mine sites. The discussions are centered around; (1) what will be required in the permit, (2) administration of the permit through the states, and (3) the plans of action that will be required and what information should be included in them. As always, lack of funding to comply with permit requirements was a topic of discussion with no resolution. The current proposals call for all sites to be permitted under a "general permit" with specific monitoring and reclamation plans developed to high priority sites. A cursory review of the National Park Service Abandoned Mineral Lands Inventory indicates that NPS managers would be required to undertake extensive monitoring and develop restoration plans for about 100 sites on NPS lands. Specifics will depend on the extent of information available and the criteria selected for permitting. (Higgins)

Branch Sponsored Soft Footprints Conference Deemed Successful

- Over 170 people attended the Colorado School of Mines/Bureau of Land Management Symposium on Environmental Issues in the Oil and Gas Industry. Bruce Heise, the Branch's petroleum geologist, was deeply involved in organizing, promoting, and sponsoring the event. Attendees represented the oil and gas industry, government, the environmental industry, and academia. Nearly forty presentations dealt with reclamation planning, revegetation, due diligence, and site remediation. The sessions on due diligence and environmental audits elicited the most response from companies looking for guidelines or help. An Amoco presentation on delineating and remediating production sites along the Platte River floodplain appeared to have direct application to a similar Amoco site at Padre Island National Seashore. Branch management recognized the symposium as an opportunity to work cooperatively with the BLM and industry. Branch Chief Shaver served as a chairperson for one of the sessions and staff member Heise presented a talk on minimizing the impact of oil and gas development. The BLM would like to make this an annual event and presently plans to hold another conference next summer. (Heise, Shaver)

Branch Slated to Participate in BLM Oil and Gas Performance Review

- The BLM's Oil and Gas National Performance Review, for which the Branch solicited and compiled servicewide comments, has moved into its next phase. Focus teams for the major issues identified in the Review have been established and team charters and schedules have been formulated. The Branch has been asked to represent NPS interests on the NEPA/Planning Focus Team. Other participants include three BLM staff members, two USFS staff members, and one member each from the Solicitor's Office and the Office of Policy Analysis. Organizational meetings are scheduled for early August and a draft of the team's recommendations should be complete by December. Progress will be detailed in the Branch's future monthly reports. (Heise)

NATIONAL CAPITOL REGION

Mines at C & O Canal Closed to Protect Wildlife and Visitors

- During the week of July 11th, resource management, maintenance and interpretative staff from Chesapeake and Ohio Canal and volunteers built bat gates in the entrance to the Roundtop mines numbers five, six and seven near Hancock, Maryland. The mines were closed for public safety reasons, to protect cave fauna and cultural resources, and to allow bat populations to increase. These closures bring to fruition an effort begun by the Branch's mining engineer. In 1993, Phil Cloues conducted an abandoned mine site inventory in the park, and worked with park staff to assess the nature of the problem and develop

solutions. At that time an report was submitted to the park that identified the closure alternatives with cost estimates, including the bat gate option. The Roundtop mine complex includes seven limestone mines on park and nearby state lands which produced lime for a cement plant which operated from 1837 until the early 1900s. As reported by the park resource managers, "three species of bats are known to hibernate in the mines; three others, including the Indiana bat, a federal endangered species, and the eastern small-footed bat, a candidate for federal listing, have been recorded there by researchers. Six rare aquatic cave invertebrates, including two isopods and an amphipod known only to these mines also occur here, as do troglobitic (cave-adapted) spiders and springtails of an unknown species. Artifacts from the mining period are also present." Roy Powers, an engineer with the American Cave Conservation Association, designed these specific bat gates. He has designed similar gates for other species of bats in Buffalo River, Big Bend, and Capitol Reef, and would be available to assist other parks do similar projects. (Higgins)

PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION

Sample Plans of Operation Sent to Olympic for Distribution to Operator - The branch recently supplied Olympic National Park staff with copies of plans of operations previously accepted as "complete" by NPS under regulations at 36 CFR 9A for a placer gold mining operation and 36 CFR 9B for an exploratory oil and gas well. The 9A plan was obtained from the NPS Alaska Region Minerals Management Division. The example plans responded to a request for information from Kenneth Koenen, a mineral operator representing Scott Watson, the purported owner of privately reserved minerals underlying Shi-Shi Beach in Olympic NP, Washington. Mr. Koenen recently submitted a Special Use Permit (SUP) application to the park, as required under 36 CFR §1.6, indicating his interest to explore for and develop almost every privately held mineral, including precious metals and oil and gas, at Shi-Shi Beach. Although the NPS had previously supplied Mr. Koenen with a detailed list of informational requirements, Mr. Koenen's SUP application fell significantly short of being a useable document to help the park determine the extent and nature of his proposal. Hopefully, the example plans will help Mr. Koenen understand NPS requirements for mineral operations prior to re-submitting his mineral exploration and development application. The park will forward the plans of operation to Mr. Koenen cautioning him that he not use them as "boiler plate" or "fill-in-the-blank" forms for his proposal. (Woods, Moss)

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

Inspection Reveals No Mining Related Problems with Acquisition at Arches - In response to a park request, Branch staff conducted a survey of five parcels of private land being considered for a possible boundary adjustment at Arches National Park, Utah. Because two of the parcels are owned by the Atlas Minerals Corp. there was concern over potential contamination. The parcels are small strips of land between the park boundary and the highway 191 right-of-way. The site survey found that the parcels under consideration contain the old roadway and related disturbances with no evidence of any mining or milling activity or wastes. (Wood)

Cooperative Project with State of Utah Closes Mine in Capitol Reef - Twelve adits at the Rainyday mine site in Capitol Reef National Park were closed under the NPS cooperative agreement with the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining. Trash and buildings at the site were gathered and placed in the openings and then all openings backfilled using a backhoe. Daytime temperatures peaked at 120 degrees, prompting the contractor to work 16 hour days and finish in half the projected time. An extendable boom made the task of filling horizontal openings with a backhoe easier and gave a better final product. While leaving the site several sections of the four mile access road

received moderate restoration treatments. Treatments were included in the contract under the access bid item and included decompaction of wheel tracks in meadow areas, correcting drainage problems, and permanently blocking vehicle access. (Wood)

Government Officials Tour the New World - Branch staff were among 40 federal agency personnel to tour the proposed site of the controversial New World mine and tailings impoundment in Montana adjacent to Yellowstone National Park. This tour, the brain child of Mary Hektner of Yellowstone, included Acting Associate Director for Natural Resources Denny Fenn, incoming Yellowstone Superintendent Mike Finley, EPA Regional Administrator Bill Yellowtail, Montana Department of State Lands Commissioner Bud Clinch, and Gallatin NF Supervisor Dave Garber. Each agency also provided a host of staff members representing them on certain aspects of the New World permitting and EIS process. The tour was strictly informative in nature with Allen Kirk, Crown Butte Mines Project Geologist, giving a well polished presentation. NPS staff held a follow-up meeting at the park later in the day resulting in a good question and answer session that helped everyone get on track with current NPS actions and needs relating to the New World EIS. The branch will continue to provide technical input to park and regional personnel in support of the NPS role as a cooperating agency in the New World EIS effort. (Moss, Woods, Shaver)

SOUTHEAST REGION

Chattahoochee Evaluates Riverbed Dredging Proposals - Staff at Chattahoochee National Recreation Area, Georgia, are evaluating several sand and gravel dredging operations where the operators propose to extract these private minerals from the floor of the reservoir. Because they must access NPS waters, the park will issue and condition special use permits. Earlier in the process, park staff solicited Branch comments on draft guidelines and on the first draft environmental assessment tiered to a Corps of Engineers environmental impact statement. Many of our initial comments were incorporated in a recently submitted final environmental assessment for the proposal. Branch staff provided two additional suggestions on the draft final assessment. First, since the operator proposes to destroy some wetlands during the dredging operation, we suggested the Water Resources Division be consulted to ensure NPS compliance with wetlands protection laws and executive orders. Second, since the operator proposes to use an electric rather than diesel powered dredge, we suggested the assessment address the possibility of the underwater high voltage cable being cut during the operation. If this incident could occur, the assessment and permit should include mitigation measures that can prevent harm to visitors and lake biota from electrical charges in the reservoir. (Geniac, Smith)

Proposed Coal Mine Near Cumberland Gap Likely to Adversely Affect the Park - After undertaking a detailed review of a sizeable mine plan, Branch staff concluded that the proposed coal mine could cause adverse water quality and visual impacts to Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. The Southeast Regional Office notified the permitting authority, the Office of Surface Mining and Enforcement (OSM), of the Service's finding. While the NPS believes that adverse impacts will result, that decision rests with OSM. This decision is significant because it triggers the need for the potential operator to prove it has valid existing rights (VER) to mine under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act. That Act prohibits coal mining adjacent to a publicly owned park if adverse impacts will result, unless an operator has VER. Cumberland Gap, which lies in Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia and on the National Register of Historic Places, invokes the §522(e)(3) prohibition. In this case, we believe it is unlikely that the company will be able to demonstrate VER. Branch staff will continue to assist the park and region in negotiations with OSM over this issue. (McCoy, Moss, Steensen)

Gas Leak on Federal Well in Big South Fork Causes Renewed Interest - The Federal Government is the operator of record for two gas wells in Big South Fork NRA in Tennessee. The United States came into possession of the Storie No. 1 and 2 wells through a condemnation process initiated in 1986. In a 1989 judgment determining just compensation, a Federal District Court judge ordered that the local resident and former mineral owner was allowed to continue using gas from the two gas wells for domestic purposes for the life of the wells. Lacking authority to dispose of federally-owned minerals in Big South Fork, the NPS ended commercial gas sales from both wells in October 1989. Even though gas sales were terminated, the residential use of gas has continued to date pursuant to the court order. A recent gas leak at the Storie No. 2 well prompted the Branch to review the status of the two wells. The Branch identified several issues. The delivery of Federally-owned gas to private residents seems at odds with explicit Congressional enactments regarding the disposal of Federal minerals in park units. The Storie No. 1 well has been physically unable to produce since 1989 and appears to conflict with Tennessee plug and abandonment regulations. Also, the court order did not define the nature and extent of the responsibility owed by the NPS to the resident. Finally, the NPS has not provided itself with liability protection should gas deliveries result in property damage to the residences and/or personal injury or death. The Branch requested assistance from the regional solicitor's office to answer these legal issues. In the meantime, the residents repaired the leak, and are back to warm meals and hot showers. The NPS, on the other hand, would like to see this "storie" end. (O'Dell, McCoy)

SOUTHWEST REGION

Meeting at Padre Island Addresses Challenge to NPS Regulatory Authority Over Non-Federal Oil and Gas Operations in Parks - Branch staff attended a three day meeting at Padre Island National Seashore to discuss strategy regarding the lawsuit initiated by private mineral owners challenging the government's authority to regulate activities on federal surface overlying private minerals. Attending the meeting were the lead attorney from the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., the local Assistant U.S. Attorney, the Padre Island Superintendent, the Assistant Regional Director for the Southwest Region, the Southwest Region Minerals Coordinator, and Padre Island Resource Management staff. All group members worked extremely well together and we anticipate this group will comprise a strong and effective defense team. The immediate timetable is as follows: (1) both parties' attorneys will meet on or before August 19, 1994 to disclose certain information and examine preliminary issues to prepare for the pretrial conference; and (2) the attorneys will appear before the federal district court judge on August 29, 1994 for the pretrial conference. The pretrial conference is essentially a streamlining device intended to force the parties to resolve as many issues as possible to prevent any unnecessary protracted litigation. After the pretrial conference the attorneys will have a better understanding of the discrete issues that will need attention. At the meeting, the Justice Department attorney solicited assistance from branch staff and other group members. Branch staff are diligently working on data gathering and legal research assignments to meet a mid-September deadline. (Kassman, McCoy, Woods, Boucher)

WESTERN REGION

Nevada Funds Bat Gates in Lake Mead - The State of Nevada has agreed to set aside \$7,000 for the installation of two bat gates at abandoned mine sites in the Nevada portion of Lake Mead NRA. The park has already conducted bat surveys and we know the sites are good habitat for several bat species. The park will do all the contracting for the project and Branch staff will provide technical assistance. To make the coordination easier the park is developing a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to accommodate projects such as this and take advantage of available state funds. The MOA

should be very similar to the ones developed for Wyoming and Virginia. A number of other states have funding sources available for mine related reclamation projects. Branch staff are systematically working with affected parks to develop mechanisms to take advantage of the available funding on NPS lands. (Higgins)

Mining and Mineral Development in the National Parks

July 1994¹

NPS Region	Number of Active Operations		Number of Abandoned Sites			Administrative Mineral Materials Sites		Number of Park Units Affected
	Mining ²	Oil and Gas	Mine Sites	Mine Openings	Oil and Gas Wells	Abandoned and Unidentified Status	Active and Inactive	
Alaska	9	0	459	461	12	73	32	14
Mid-Atlantic	7	13	208	1190	16	15	4	11
Midwest	7	97	87	162	57	60	3	18
National Capital	0	0	9	24	0	0	0	3
North Atlantic	0	0	15	15	0	12	0	3
Pacific Northwest	7	0	53	91	3	34	14	9
Rocky Mountain	1	0	312	746	54	164	15	27
Southeast	2	244	450	178	211	293	0	14
Southwest	5	226	65	150	331	32	10	20
Western	7	0	763	7675	46	143	87	27
Total	45	580	2,421	10,692	730	826	165	146

¹Mining claim data has been omitted as the NPS is awaiting BLM statistics on claim status. Changes in the rental and filing fees implemented July 15, 1993 are expected to reduce significantly the number of unpatented claims in park units.

² Includes operations on mining claims and nonfederal operations other than oil and gas.

Active Oil and Gas Operations in NPS Units

July 1994

Park	State	Grandfathered Existing Operations	Post '79 - No Access Required	Regulated Operations	Regulable Operations ³	Park Total Active Operations	Park Total Active Operators
Gauley River NRA	WV	11	0	0	0	11.00	2
New River Gorge NR	WV	2	0	0	0	2.00	1
Cuyahoga Valley NRA	OH	18	48	4	27	97.00	14
Big Cypress NP	FL	0	0	30	0	30.00	1
Big South Fork NR&RA	TN	210	0	0	0	210.00	48
Obed Wild and Scenic River	TN	4	0	0	0	4.00	3
Alibates Flint Quarries NM	TX	0	0	1	0	1.00	1
Aztec Ruins NM	NM	3	0	0	0	3.00	2
Big Thicket NP	TX	0	0	15	0	15.00	8
Jean Lafitte NHP&P	LA	1	0	0	0	1.00	1
Lake Meredith NRA	TX	70	0	90	20	180.00	17
Padre Island NS	TX	0	0	12	2	14.00	9
Poverty Point NM	LA	12	0	0	0	12.00	1
Total		331	48	152	49	580	108

³ May be regulable due to change in status of operator.

Summary of Active Mineral Operations Inside NPS Units

July 1994

Region	Park	State	Operations on Mining Claims ¹	Nonfederal Oil and Gas Operations ²	Nonfederal Mineral Operations other than Oil and Gas ³	Total Active Operations
Alaska Region	Bering Land Bridge NP	AK	1 GOLD	0	0	1
	Cape Krusenstern NM	AK	0	0	4 SAND & GRAVEL (4) / SHIPPING PORT/HAUL ROAD	4
	Kenai Fjords NP	AK	1 GOLD	0	0	1
	Lake Clark NP&P	AK	0	0	1 GOLD	1
	Wrangell-St. Elias NP&P	AK	2 GOLD	0	0	2
Mid-Atlantic Region	Allegheny Portage Railroad NHS	PA	0	0	1 COAL ⁴	1
	Gauley River NRA	WV	0	11	0	11
	New River Gorge NR	WV	0	2	1 COAL	2
	Upper Delaware NS&RR	NY	0	0	5 SAND & GRAVEL	5
Midwest Region	Cuyahoga Valley NRA	OH	0	97	1 HAYDITE	96
	Hopewell Culture NHP	OH	0	0	1 SAND & GRAVEL	1
	Saint Croix NSR	WI/MN	0	0	5 SAND & GRAVEL	5
North Atlantic Region	Acadia NP	ME	0	0	1 SAND & GRAVEL	1

Region	Park	State	Operations on Mining Claims ¹	Nonfederal Oil and Gas Operations ²	Nonfederal Mineral Operations other than Oil and Gas ³	Total Active Operations
Pacific Northwest Region	Lake Chelan NRA	WA	0	0	3 SAND & GRAVEL	3
	Ross Lake NRA	WA	0	0	4 SAND & GRAVEL/TOP-SOIL	4
Rocky Mountain Region	Curecanti NRA	CO	0	0	1 DECOMPOSED GRANITE	1
Southeast Region	Big Cypress NP	FA	0	30	0	33
	Big South Fork NR&RA	TN	0	210	0	223
	Chattahoochee River NRA	GA	0	0	2 SAND & GRAVEL	2
	Obed Wild and Scenic River	TN	0	4	0	1
Southwest Region	Alibates Flint Quarries NM	TX	0	1	0	1
	Aztec Ruins NM	NM	0	3	0	3
	Big Thicket NP	TX	0	15	2 SAND & GRAVEL	21
	El Malpais NM	NM	0	0	1 CINDER	1
	Hot Springs NP	AR	0	0	1 NOVACULITE	1
	Jean Lafitte NHP&P	LA	0	1	0	1
	Lake Meredith NRA	TX	0	180	0	172
	Padre Island NS	TX	0	14	0	8
	Poverty Point NM	LA	0	12	0	2
	Salinas Pueblo Mission NM	NM	0	0	1 STONE	1

Region	Park	State	Operations on Mining Claims ¹	Nonfederal Oil and Gas Operations ²	Nonfederal Mineral Operations other than Oil and Gas ³	Total Active Operations
Western Region	Death Valley NM	CA	2 GOLD/BORAX	0	0	2
	Point Reyes NS	CA	0	0	5 SAND & GRAVEL	5
TOTAL			6	580	40	616

1. Operations subject to 36 CFR 9A regulations.
2. Includes active and temporarily shut-in wells. Operations are subject to 36 CFR 9B regulations. Exceptions include grandfathered operations or where access across federal surface is not required.
3. Currently not subject to NPS mineral regulations. Includes active and temporarily suspended operations.
4. Operation is permitted but has not started operating.

Summary of Administrative Mineral Material Sites

July 1994

Region/State	Operation Status					
	Abandoned	Inactive & Active	Proposed	Unidentified Status	Reclaimed	Needs Reclamation
Alaska Region	51	32	0	22	8	15
Mid-Atlantic Region	11	4	0	4	2	7
Midwest Region	27	3	0	33	7	43
North Atlantic Region	6	0	0	6	5	5
Pacific Northwest Region	33	14	1	1	8	13
Rocky Mountain Region	144	15	0	20	53	105
Southeast Region	240	0	0	53	20	265
Southwest Region	29	10	3	3	3	14
Western Region	107	87	0	36	30	95
TOTALS	648	165	4	178	136	562

MINING CLAIMS IN NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM UNITS

(August, 1994)

REGION/Park Unit	<u>PATENTED</u>	<u>UNPATENTED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
ALASKA REGION			
Bering Land Bridge NP	0	17	17
Denali NP&P	28	194	222
Gates of the Arctic NP&P	0	13	13
Glacier Bay NP&P	20	2	22
Kenai Fjords NP	0	8	8
Lake Clark NP&P	13	5	18
Wrangell-St. Elias NP&P	466	94	560
Yukon-Charley Rivers NP	<u>15</u>	<u>129</u>	<u>144</u>
Region Totals	542	462	1,004
PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION			
North Cascades NP	15	0	15
Olympic NP	3	0	3
Ross Lake NRA	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5</u>
Region Totals	23	0	23
ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION			
Bighorn Canyon NRA	0	5	5
Glacier NP	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>
Region Totals	4	5	9
WESTERN REGION			
Death Valley NM	119	25	144
Great Basin NP	0	12	12
Grand Canyon NP	5	0	5
Joshua Tree NM	12	0	12
Lake Mead NRA	32	0	32
Saguaro NM	6	0	6
Whiskeytown NRA	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Region Totals	174	37	211
NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM TOTALS	743	504*	1,247

*62% of unpatented mining claims have been dropped due to holding/maintenance fee.

Abandoned Mineral Land Inventory⁴

July 1994

Region	State	Park	No. of Mine Sites	No. of Openings	No. of Oil and Gas Wells
Alaska Region	AK	Bering Land Bridge National Preserve	1	1	0
	AK	Cape Krusenstern National Monument	1	1	0
	AK	Denali National Park and Preserve	25	25	0
	AK	Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve	?	?	0
	AK	Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve	2	2	0
	AK	Kenai Fjords National Park	16	18	0
	AK	Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park	1	1	0
	AK	Kobuk Valley National Park	2	2	0
	AK	Noatak National Preserve	1	1	0
	AK	Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve	404	404	12
	AK	Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve	6	6	0
Mid-Atlantic Region	PA	Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site	4	17	0
	VA	Colonial National Historical Park	1	1	0
	PA	Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area	29	35	0
	PA	Fort Necessity National Battlefield	0	0	0
	PA	Friendship Hill National Historic Site	3	16	3
	VA	Fredericksburg National Cemetery	2	2	0
	WV	Gauley River National Recreation Area	11	38	11
	WV	New River Gorge National River	116	1034	5
	VA	Shenandoah National Park	3	9	0

⁴ This inventory is ongoing. The data was last updated in January 1994.

Region	State	Park	No. of Mine Sites	No. of Openings	No. of Oil and Gas Wells
	PA	Steamtown National Historic Site	1	0	0
	NY	Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreation River	30	30	0
	PA	Valley Forge National Historical Park	8	8	0
Midwest Region	WI	Apostle Islands National Lakeshore	4	9	0
	OH	Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area	23	31	57
	MO	George Washington Birthplace National Monument	1	6	0
	IN	Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore	3	6	0
	MI	Isle Royale National Park	14	35	0
	IN	Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial	1	1	0
	WI	Lower Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway	6	10	0
	OH	Mound City Group National Monument	1	1	0
	MO	Ozark National Scenic Riverways	1	1	0
	MI	Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore	2	2	0
	WI	Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway	6	15	0
	NE	Scotts Bluff National Monument	1	1	0
	MI	Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore	9	19	0
	MN	Voyageurs National Park	13	22	0
	MO	Wilson's Creek National Battlefield	2	3	0
North Atlantic Region	ME	Acadia National Park	13	13	0
	MA	Cape Cod National Seashore	1	1	0
	NY	Saratoga National Historical Park	1	1	0
National Capital Region	MD	Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historic Park	3	8	0
	DC	National Capital Parks	4	4	0

Region	State	Park	No. of Mine Sites	No. of Openings	No. of Oil and Gas Wells
Pacific Northwest Region	VA	Prince William Forest Park	2	12	0
	ID	City of Rocks National Reserve	3	3	0
	WA	Coulee Dam National Recreation Area	?	?	0
	ID	Craters of the Moon National Monument	1	3	0
	WA	Lake Chelan National Recreation Area	?	?	0
	WA	Mount Rainier National Park	12	21	0
	WA	North Cascades National Park	23	47	0
	WA	Olympic National Park	4	4	3
	WA	Ross Lake National Recreation Area	10	13	0
Rocky Mountain Region	UT	Arches National Park	1	1	0
	WY	Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area	15	300	0
	CO	Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument	1	1	0
	UT	Bryce Canyon National Park	1	1	0
	UT	Canyonlands National Park	18	57	14
	UT	Capitol Reef National Park	22	57	1
	CO	Colorado National Monument	5	9	0
	CO	Curecanti National Recreation Area	4	8	0
	CO/UT	Dinosaur National Monument	1	9	0
	WY	Fossil Butte National Monument	0	0	1
	WY	Fort Laramie National Historic Site	1	1	0
	MT	Glacier National Park	17	17	10
	UT	Glen Canyon National Recreation Area	11	30	26
	MT	Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site	1	1	0
	CO	Great Sand Dunes National Monument	2	7	0
	WY	Grand Teton National Park	38	41	0
	WY	John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway	1	1	0

Region	State	Park	No. of Mine Sites	No. of Openings	No. of Oil and Gas Wells
	CO	Mesa Verde National Park	0	0	1
	CO	Rocky Mountain National Park	5	28	0
	ND	Theodore Roosevelt National Park	1	1	0
	UT	Timpanogos Cave National Monument	4	4	0
	WY	Yellowstone National Park	160	160	0
	UT	Zion National Park	3	12	1
Southeast Region	GA	Andersonville National Historic Site	1	1	0
	FL	Big Cypress National Preserve	286	0	48
	KY/TN	Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area	125	125	146
	VA	Blue Ridge Parkway	1	1	0
	GA	Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Memorial Park	1	4	0
	KY/VA/TN	Cumberland Gap National Historical Park	1	2	0
	FL	Everglades National Park	17	17	5
	TN/NC	Great Smoky Mountains National Park	2	11	0
	AL	Horseshoe Bend National Military Park	2	2	0
	SC	Kings Mountain National Military Park	1	1	0
	KY	Mammoth Cave National Park	7	7	10
	MS/AL/TN	Natchez Trace Parkway	3	3	1
	TN	Obed Wild & Scenic River	3	4	1
Southwest Region	TX	Amistad Recreation Area	1	1	0
	NM	Aztec Ruins National Monument	0	0	1
	TX	Big Bend National Park	17	38	0
	TX	Big Thicket National Preserve	0	0	116
	AR	Buffalo National River	23	69	0
	NM	Chaco Culture National Historic Park	2	2	18
	OK	Chickasaw National Recreation Area	1	1	11

Region	State	Park	No. of Mine Sites	No. of Openings	No. of Oil and Gas Wells
	NM	El Malpais National Monument	5	7	0
	TX	Guadalupe Mountains National Park	1	17	0
	AR	Hot Springs National Park	8	8	0
	LA	Jean Lafitte National Historical Park	0	0	45
	TX	Lake Meredith National Recreation Area	6	6	65
	TX	Padre Island National Seashore	0	0	65
	NM	Petroglyph National Monument	3	0	0
	LA	Poverty Point National Monument	0	0	10
	NM	Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument	1	0	0
	AZ	Wupatki National Monument	1	1	0
Western Region	AZ	Chiricahua National Monument	3	14	0
	CA	Channel Islands National Park	0	0	16
	AZ	Coronado National Memorial	5	35	0
	CA	Death Valley National Monument	257	4600	0
	AZ	Fort Bowie National Historic Site	5	16	0
	CA	Golden Gate National Recreation Area	6	9	0
	NV	Great Basin National Park	6	85	0
	AZ	Grand Canyon National Park	16	37	0
	CA	Joshua Tree National Monument	165	2000	0
	CA	Kings Canyon National Park	4	4	0
	CA	Lava Beds National Monument	2	2	0
	NV/AZ	Lake Mead National Recreation Area	43	300	0
	CA	Lassen Volcanic National Park	3	3	1 ⁵
	AZ	Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument	12	160	0
	AZ	Petrified Forest National Park	0	0	1
	CA	Pinnacles National Monument	1	6	0

⁵ Geothermal well

Region	State	Park	No. of Mine Sites	No. of Openings	No. of Oil and Gas Wells
	CA	Point Reyes National Seashore	21	15	0
	CA	Redwood National Park	18	18	0
	AZ	Saguaro National Monument	137	282	0
	CA	Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area	0	0	28
	CA	Sequoia National Park	12	12	0
	AZ	Tuzigoot National Monument	1	1	0
	CA	Whiskeytown Unit/Whiskeytown-Shasta-Trinity NRA	36	42	0
	CA	Yosemite National Park	10	34	0
Total			2,425	10,692	730