



CONTACT INFORMATION

Mining Records Curator
Arizona Geological Survey
1520 West Adams St.
Phoenix, AZ 85007
602-771-1601
<http://www.azgs.az.gov>
inquiries@azgs.az.gov

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PRINTED: 11-21-2011

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND MINERAL RESOURCES AZMILS DATA

PRIMARY NAME: DIPLOMAT

ALTERNATE NAMES:

IMPERIAL ZINC-LEAD MINE
FERGUSON IMPERIAL MINE
HAYS NEVADA GROUP

MOHAVE COUNTY MILS NUMBER: 102A

LOCATION: TOWNSHIP 22 N RANGE 18 W SECTION 24 QUARTER NE
LATITUDE: N 35DEG 17MIN 09SEC LONGITUDE: W 114DEG 08MIN 36SEC
TOPO MAP NAME: CERBAT - 7.5 MIN

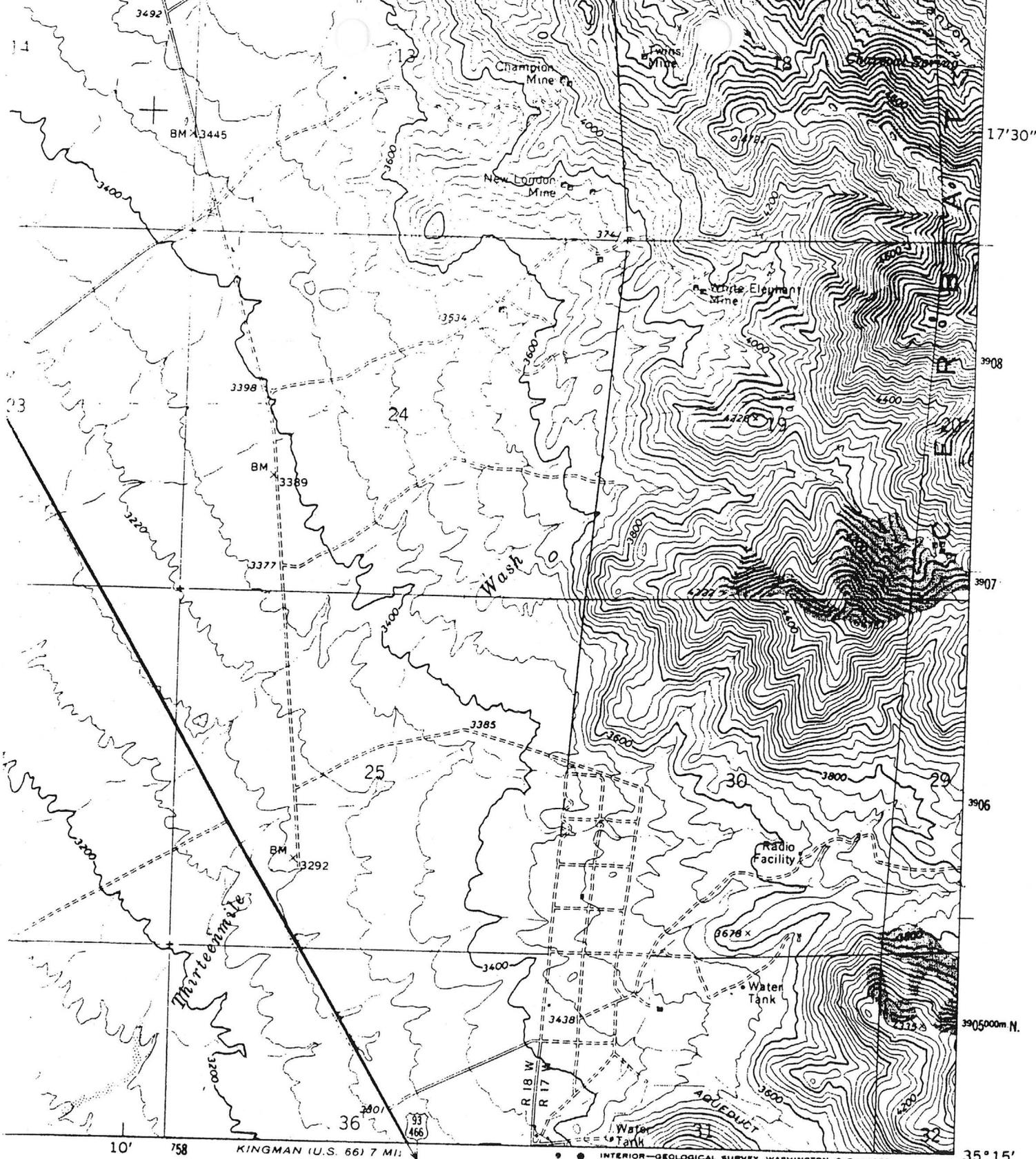
CURRENT STATUS: DEVEL DEPOSIT

COMMODITY:

LEAD
SILVER
COPPER
ZINC
GOLD LODE

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

ADMMR DIPLOMAT MINE FILE
ADMMR MOHAVE CUSTOM MILL PROJECT, CERBAT RNGE
A.E.C. PRELIM. RECONN. RPT. 172-485, P. 100
MALACH, R. "MOHAVE CTY MINES" P 19, 1977



1 MILE



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty ————— Light-duty —————

Unimproved dirt =====

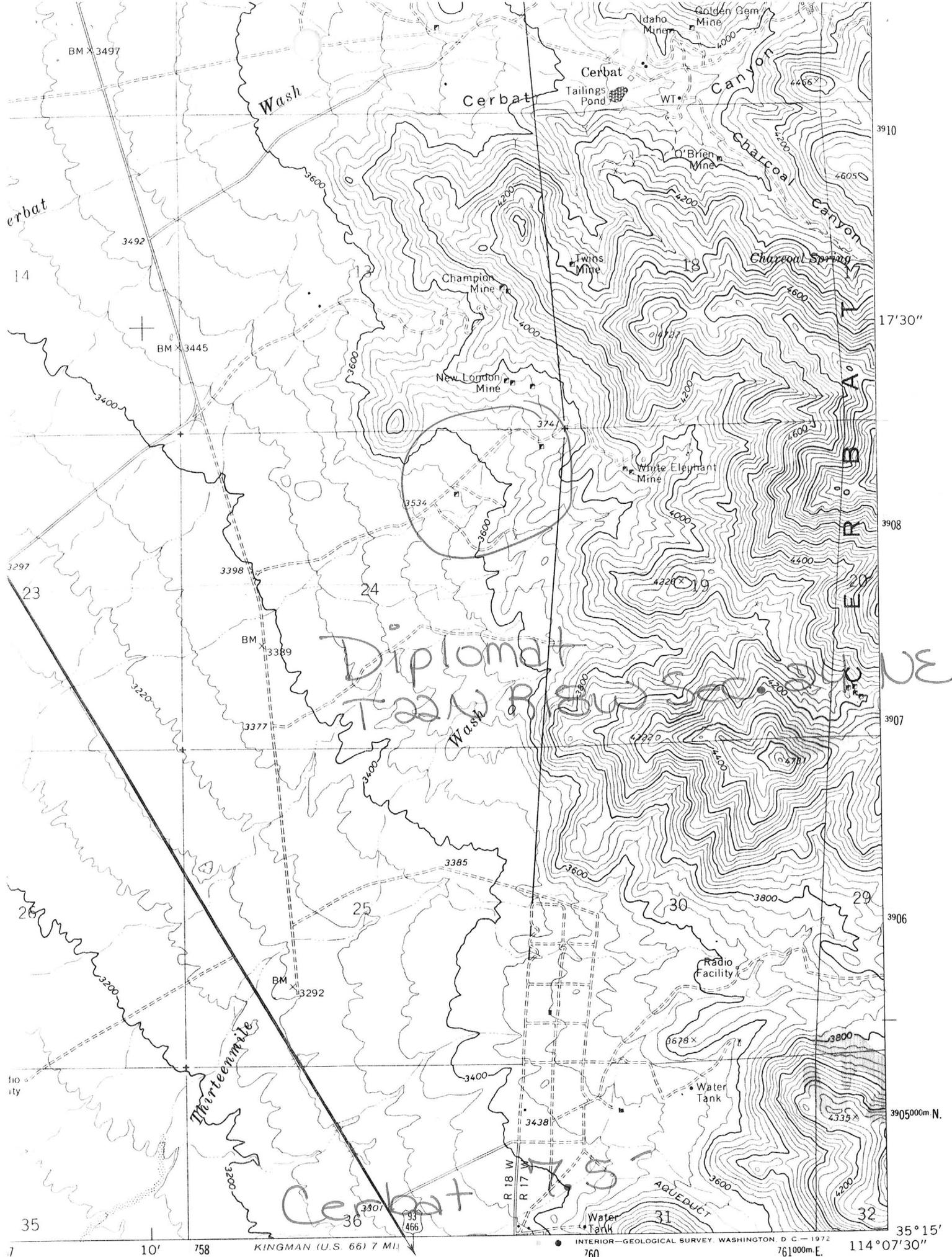
U. S. Route

43-D

CERBAT, ARIZ. MO

SW/4 CHLORIDE 15' QUADRANGLE

N3515—W11407.5/7.5



INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C.—1972
 761000m.E. 114°07'30" 35°15'

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

(KINGMAN)
 3154



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS
INTERIOR BOARD OF LAND APPEALS

4015 WILSON BOULEVARD
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22203

ANN M. WARNKE

IN REPLY REFER TO:

*Cerbat, Mineral
and Mining Dept.
Mohave County
227 17W Sec 19
227 18W Sec 24
227 18W Sec 13
~~Information on~~
location from BLM.*

IBLA 80-118

Decided February 6, 1980

Appeal from refusal of Bureau of Land Management Arizona State
Office to accept tender of payment and submission of mining claim
notices for recordation.

Vacated and remanded.

1. Mining Claims: FEDERAL LAND POLICY AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1976--Abandonment--Location Prior to October 21, 1976--Recordation of Mining Claims; STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.

If a mining claim is not timely recorded in accordance with the recordation provisions in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. § 1744, it is conclusively deemed abandoned and is void as a matter of law. A claimant who has no interest in maintaining a mining claim should not record it with the Bureau of Land Management.

2. Mining Claims: ACCOUNTS--Timely Payments; FEDERAL LAND POLICY AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1976--Location Prior to October 21, 1976--Recordation of Mining Claims; LOCATION PROCEDURES--Location Notice--recordation; PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE--Timely Filing; REGULATIONS--Interpretation; STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.

Where a mining claimant timely tendered payment to cover service fees for recording 70 mining claim notices of location, but also included four additional mining claim notices which she did not intend to maintain but filed merely for informational purposes, and on appeal she clarifies her intent concerning the four claims and unclear markings on maps which were to show that the four claims were "canceled," the payment and filing will be deemed to have

INDEX CODE:

43 CFR 1821.2-2(e)
43 CFR 3833.1-2(a) and (d)

45 IBLA 305

GFS(MIN) 34(1980)

been timely made as to the 70 claims if payment is subsequently made pursuant to a notice given.

APPEARANCES: Ann M. Warnke, pro se.

OPINION BY ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE THOMPSON

This appeal arises from the attempted recordation by Ann M. Warnke of certain mining claims located prior to the enactment of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), 43 U.S.C. § 1701, on October 21, 1976. By letter dated October 26, 1979, the Arizona State Office, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), returned to Warnke two checks in the amount of \$175 each, affidavits of labor performed, maps and location notices. The reason given for returning the checks and documents was that a \$5 service fee was not submitted for all 74 claims submitted for recordation as required by 43 CFR 3833.1-2(d). The letter also noted that the October 22, 1979, deadline for filing claims located before October 21, 1976, had passed, and that the regulations provide that if the instruments are not filed as required this failure must be deemed conclusively to constitute an abandonment of a mining claim and the claim is void.

In her appeal Warnke contends that the proper amount of money accompanied the claims she intended to have recorded. She states that four claims were included with maps noting that "we no longer intended holding these four as part of the group and the maps were marked cancelled." She explains that the four claims were included because it had been her understanding that recordation was to clarify the records for better management of public lands. She contends that loss of the 70 claims in this manner is an injustice.

The claims filed by appellant and listed in the BLM decision are:

Apache Sea Nos. 1-10, 13-44 227 18W Sec 24
 Golden Sands Nos. 1-13
 Eureka Nos. 1-8
 Ortega Nos. 1-4 227-17W Sec 20
 Golver Inn Nos. 1-5 227 18W Sec. 13
 Tomah Nos. 1 & 2

Appellant lists the claims involved in her appeal as:

Apache Sea Nos. 1-10, 13-44 227-18W-Sec 24 - 227-17W-Sec 19
 Golden Sands Nos. 1-10, 12
 Eureka Nos. 1-8
 Ortega Nos. 1-4 227 17W Sec 20
 Golver Inn Nos. 1-5 227 18W Sec 13 -

[1] Although appellant does not expressly identify the four claims she is no longer interested in maintaining, it is apparent from a comparison of these two lists that they are: Golden Sands Nos. 11 and 13 and Tomah Nos. 1 and 2. The photocopies of the maps she submitted which are in the record do not give adequate notice of appellant's intent in this matter. It would be very difficult, if not impossible, for BLM personnel receiving these documents to understand her intent. There is only a slight indication on one of the maps which suggests that Golden Sands Nos. 11 and 13 are "cancelled." The Tomah Nos. 1 and 2 claims are handwritten on the margin of the map but there is no obvious explanation concerning them. The problem in this case has arisen because appellant failed to communicate her intent in this matter clearly to BLM. It is true that one of the purposes of the recordation provision in FLPMA, section 314, 43 U.S.C. § 1744 (1976), was to help clarify the records so that BLM can more properly manage the public lands with knowledge of the existence of mining claims. Appellant's unnecessary filing of the four claims was apparently well-intended, but was misguided because it created the confusion here. The recording provisions in FLPMA automatically make the failure to file the required material to be a conclusive abandonment of a mining claim. Thus, if a claimant has no interest in maintaining a claim, it should not be recorded with BLM. If a claim is not timely recorded in accordance with the provisions of FLPMA it is deemed void as a matter of law.

[2] We turn to what effect appellant's explanation should have on the 70 claims appellant desires to maintain. Regulation 43 CFR 3833.1-2(d) states that each claim "shall be accompanied by a one time \$5 service fee which is not returnable. A notice or certificate of location shall not be accepted if it is not accompanied by the service fee and shall be returned to the owner."

The important fact in this case is that a service fee did accompany the submissions sufficient to cover 70 claims. The fee was tendered timely. Regulation 43 CFR 3833.1-2(a), as amended in 1979, 44 FR 9720 (Feb. 14, 1979) and 44 FR 20428 (Apr. 5, 1979), requires the filing of the proper documents with the proper BLM office "on or before October 22, 1979." ^{1/} The submission and the checks to cover the service fees were received by the BLM office on October 22, 1979.

There is no specific requirement in section 314 of FLPMA, 43 U.S.C. § 1744 (1976), pertaining to filing or service fees for recording the mining claim documents. Section 304(a) of FLPMA,

^{1/} October 21, 1979, fell on a Sunday, a day the BLM office would not be open, therefore, October 22, 1979, would be the last day a document would be deemed timely filed. 43 CFR 1821.2-2(e).

43 U.S.C. § 1734 (1976), however, authorizes the Secretary to establish reasonable filing and service fees "with respect to applications and other documents relating to the public lands." The regulation requiring the service fee was promulgated under this separate authority. Although the regulation mandates that a notice or certificate of location is unacceptable for filing if it is not accompanied by the service fee, it need not be interpreted to have the strict and harsh consequence as that presented in this case. 2/

BLM could not accept an attempted filing for recordation for claims for which there was no payment. However, in the circumstances presented in this case it could have requested clarification from the claimant as to which of the claims the payment should be applied to. We realize that the administrative burden upon BLM in receiving these and hundreds of thousands of other filings is onerous. Nevertheless, because appellant did, in fact, tender the payment for the 70 claims, albeit she confused the matter here, she should not be so harshly penalized for her failure to make her intent clear as to the other four claims until this appeal was made.

In somewhat comparable equitable circumstances where a payment or filing has been timely tendered to BLM, but refused, the payment or filing is deemed to have been made at the time of the original tender if the payment is subsequently made pursuant to a notice given. Cf. Brown Land Company, 17 IBLA 368, 81 I.D. 619 (1974);^a H. E. Stuckenhoff, 67 I.D. 285 (1960);^b see also James Milton Cann, 16 IBLA 374 (1974).^c The basic principle of those cases applies here. 3/

Upon remand of this case to the BLM Arizona State Office, it should apprise appellant of a time within which to resubmit the required payment and any other materials.

Because appellant did not tender payment for service fees for the Golden Sands Nos. 11 and 13 and Tomah Nos. 1 and 2 mining claims, they are deemed abandoned and are hereby declared void.

2/ In an opinion upholding the Department's regulations implementing the recording provisions of FLPMA, a Federal District Judge states: "The court will not assume * * * that the Secretary will apply the regulations as harshly as possible." Topaz Beryllium Co. v. United States, 479 F. Supp. 309, 315 (D. Utah 1979).

3/ This case should not be compared with other situations arising out of the application of the Mineral Leasing Act, 30 U.S.C. § 188 (1976), especially pertaining to oil and gas leasing, where the regulations and consistent Departmental decisions, policies, and practices have mandated more strict and harsh adherence to the very letter of regulatory requirements.

a) GFS(MIN) 71(1974)

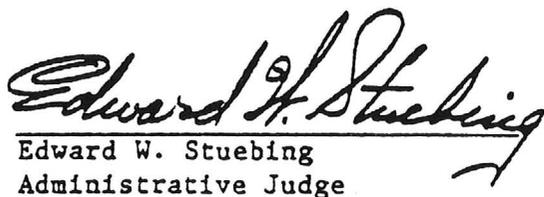
b) GFS(O&G) SO-70(1960)

c) GFS(MISC) 69 (1974)

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to the Board of Land Appeals by the Secretary of the Interior, 43 CFR 4.1, the decision of the BLM is vacated and the case is remanded to BLM's State Office in Arizona for action consistent with this opinion.


Joan B. Thompson
Administrative Judge

We concur:


Edward W. Stuebing
Administrative Judge


Anne Poindexter Lewis
Administrative Judge

DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES
STATE OF ARIZONA
FIELD ENGINEERS REPORT

Mine FERGUSON-IMPERIAL (or Diplomat) Date November 26, 1943
Pb., Zn., Ag.
District Wallapai Engineer Earl F. Hastings
Subject: Reconstruction Finance Corporation ✓
Mine Loan

Docket No. Phx C-260
Date Application Received November 22, 1943
Date of Report November 26, 1943

1. Name and address of applicant (correspondent):
Edwin H. Crabtree, Box 270, Kingman, Arizona.
2. Character of project and estimated cost thereof:
Pb., zn. ag. Unwater and rehabilitate 280 foot incline shaft and extend drifts on the 130 and 230 foot levels. \$5,000.00.
3. Location of property:
Wallapai Mining District, Mohave County, Arizona.
4. Applicant's interest in or ownership of property:
Applicant holds lease and option contract. Purchase price \$25,000 payable at 10% royalty within 5 years.
5. Loan requested:
\$5,000.00.
6. Loan recommended:
None.
7. Comments:
(A) Previous loan application was made upon this property by Alexander Henry von Hofften under Docket Phx C-214 which docket was reviewed by this department June 20, 1943. The loan was not recommended.

(B) The current application adds no new evidence to that upon which our former recommendation was based; in fact, much of the information submitted by the former applicant is lacking in the current application.

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES

Earl F. Hastings, Projects Engineer

DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES
STATE OF ARIZONA
FIELD ENGINEERS REPORT

Mine DIPLOMAT Zn. Pb. Ag. Date June 20, 1943
Formerly Imperial Mines
District Wallapai Engineer Earl F. Hastings
Subject: Reconstruction Finance Corporation Mine Loan

Docket No. C-214
Date Application Received June 17, 1943
Date of Report June 20, 1943

1. Name and address of applicant (correspondent):
Alexander Henry von Hofften, 537 Byron Street, Palo Alto, California.
2. Character of project and estimated cost thereof:
Zn. Pb. Unwater 80 foot Adjuster shaft, unwater 280 foot Diplomat shaft, \$4603.50.
3. Location of property:
Wallapai (Hualapai) Mining District, Mohave County, Arizona.
4. Applicant's interest in or ownership of property:
Applicant holds lease and option. Purchase price \$24,000.00 with 10% royalty applying on purchase price.
5. Loan requested:
\$5000.00.
6. Loan recommended:
None.
7. Comments:
(A) The only report on the property is of an unknown origin and thereby loses its authenticity; furthermore the author did not have access to the Diplomat shaft and does not give an eye witness account.

The presence of ore there is then indicated from two sources:

1. The affidavit of Pete Vukoye.
2. Samples of dump material.

(B) The Vukoye affidavit is of little value in spite of the reliability of the affiant inasmuch as it is not known whether the ore referred to is still in place or if it has any continuity. Vukoye knows ore and a more definite statement by him would be of some value. Furthermore his knowledge is limited to the 75 foot level and does not include lower horizons.

(C) Dump samples submitted by the applicant as representing the Diplomat dump assay as follows:

Art. #7698				
Sample #3	0.12 au.	15.0 ag.	30.65%pb.	0.8% zn.
Sample #6	0.05 au.	8.1 ag.	22.5% pb.	10.14% zn.

Art. #7699
Sample #3 0.06 au. 16.4 ag. 36.2% pb. 4.10% zn.

The last sample is said to be a random sample of dump material. The first two are not marked but appear to be character samples.

(D) A shipment of 11,599 tons of ore was made by Mr. Ferguson in 1936 from the Lead Bullet tunnel which showed values as follows:

0.07 au. 17.6 ag. 16.0% pb. 2.8% zn.

(E) It is difficult to understand why 16% pb. ore which had to be mined would be shipped if a dump in the immediate vicinity assaying 36.2% pb. and equal in au-ag values actually existed.

Dump samples, other than selected specimens, assaying as claimed arouse considerable skepticism. The dumps in the area have been too thoroughly combed, cobbled and sorted for there to be more than a remote possibility of any quantity of such ore remaining.

(F) There therefore appears to be no authentic reference to the occurrence of commercial ore below the 75 foot point in the Diplomat shaft.

(G) Data on the 80 foot Adjuster shaft is slightly more definite. Cut samples of oxidized vein material to the water level reveal some residual values. The value for the exposed width is apparently carried by a 9" stringer of relatively high grade ore.

A vein of the prominence described in this particular area has considerable possibility from an exploratory standpoint.

(H) Comments above listed are more severe than is actually deserving of this property. Personal knowledge of the area and a casual examination of the property several years ago left the impression that the property was deserving of exploration at such a time as pb.-zn. markets were favorable.

Whether it be rehabilitation of old workings or accomplishing new work, any expenditure on this property would be of an exploratory nature in the absence of information far more complete than that which has been submitted with this application.

It is therefore deemed improper to recommend this loan.

Arizona Department of Mineral Resources

Carl I. Hastings, Projects Engineer

Dear Sam:-

Parker, 6/8/43.

Alex Von Hafften and Bob Fergusson, of Kingman, talked to me yesterday, just before I left there, and said they are going to apply for an R.F.C. loan to clean out the workings of the "Imperial Zinc-lead mine", in the Cerbats, and that they would leave for Phoenix to see Gobring and you, in day or two.

This seems to be a splendid property and 30 cars of good ore have been shipped from it. So, kindly help them in this matter all you can, which I will also do on my return to Kingman around June 20.

Sincerely,
E. P. Keef.

FERGUSSON, BOB (OWNERS
& ALEX VON HAFFEN
Kingman, Ariz.

MINE - IMPERIAL ZINC-LEAD MINE
6-8-43

Diplomat mine (file)

DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES
STATE OF ARIZONA
FIELD ENGINEERS REPORT

Mine FERGUSON-IMPERIAL (or Diplomat) Date November 26, 1943
District Wallapai Pb., Zn., Ag. Engineer Earl F. Hastings
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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES

Earl F. Hastings, Projects Engineer

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