Mining Claim Activity on Federal Land in the United States – Version 4, 2011 Supplement

Mining claim statistics and shapefiles for DS-290 are updated (to the end of 2010) from version 3 of DS-290 with newer data obtained from BLM. All the original data has been replaced with new data in this version.

This document contains updated tables and figures for the report document ds-290.pdf. The data for the states has been updated with information current on March 1, 2011 for the contiguous United States. Data for Alaska has not been updated since September 5, 2008. The tables and figures below are numbered the same as analogous tables in the original report. Datum of the spatial data is now NAD83. There are no other changes in the data sources, processing, and data discussions.

Table 2. Number of mining claim records, by state, on January 15, 2004 (Causey, 2005), May 25, 2005 (Causey and Frank, 2006), May 4, 2006, August 1, 2007, March 15, 2008, and March 1, 2011.

State	Number of Mining Claim records, Jan. 15, 2004	Number of Mining Claim records, May 26, 2005	Number of Mining Claim records, May 4, 2006	Number of Mining Claim records, Aug. 1, 2007	Number of Mining Claim records, March 15, 2008	Number of Mining Claim records, March 1, 2011
Alaska ¹	Not determined	Not determined	117,245	118,110	119,920	Not determined
Arizona	358,438	364,995	371,275	384,188	388,733	405,594
Arkansas	11,571	11,571	11,577	11,577	11,577	11,585
California	280,494	280,677	284,189	288,154	290,631	297,099
Colorado	251,486	253,315	257,030	268,110	272,859	278,226
Florida	439	439	439	439	439	439
Idaho	184,673	186,138	187,248	189,341	192,474	201,066
Montana	167,213	168,424	170,121	172,204	173,846	176,784
Nebraska ²	787	787	787	787	787	788
Nevada	852,463	891,625	920,027	957,089	978,247	1,035,167
New Mexico	168,678	169,950	172,065	175,205	179,255	188,538
North Dakota	2	2	2	2	2	2
Oregon	104,946	106,057	106,499	107,502	108,133	111,143
South Dakota	40,730	40,838	41,599	42,382	42,726	43,241
Utah	369,430	374,398	381,834	393,537	403,708	410,542
Washington	52,581	53,108	53,411	53,644	54,458	55,302
Wyoming	258,506	263,146	271,237	287,655	292,854	302,386
Unknown ³		4	4	4	4	
TOTAL	3,102,437	3,165,474	3,346,589	3,449,930	3,510,653	3,517,902⁴

¹Alaska data extracted September 5, 2008.

²Nebraska claims were determined using the geo_state codes in the CASE_LAND table because the geo_state field in the CASE_TBL contains many errors.

³Four claims in the Eastern States Office records do not have a location, but conversations with BLM indicate these probably are in Arkansas.

⁴Note: There are no Alaska records included in this total.

Table 3. Comparison of claim records in LR2000 database CASE_TBL table on January 15, 2004, May 25, 2005, May 4, 2006, August 1, 2007, March 15, 2008, and March 1, 2011 that do not have a record in the CASE_LAND table. (In most cases these are the most recent records (filed in 2011), which are not part of the statistical evaluation.)

BLM Administrative Area	Number of claims in LR2000 without a location in Causey (2005)	Number of claims in LR2000 without a location in Causey and Frank (2006)	Number of claims in LR2000 without a location 2007	Number of claims in LR2000 without a location in 2008 supplement	Number of claims in LR2000 without a location in 2011 supplement
Alaska ¹				464	NA
Arizona	5	1	0	2	2
California	2	3	0	2	9
Colorado	8	8	7	42	11
Eastern States ²	1	9	4	4	2
Idaho	0	0	0	1	16
Montana ³	2	2	0	0	1
Nevada	5	10	3	2	4
New Mexico	1	1	1	0	169
Oregon ⁴	1	0	0	5	37
Utah	1	0	0	0	7
Wyoming ⁵	2	1	2	2	1
TOTAL	28	35	17	524	259

¹Alaska data from ALARS database.

²Includes Arkansas and Florida.

³Includes Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

⁴Includes Oregon and Washington.

⁵Includes Nebraska and Wyoming.

Table 4. Discrepancies in claim locations between U.S Bureau of Land Management claim records and Public Land Survey spatial databases used in this report.

State	Number of sections containing claims, Dec. 31, 2010 LR2000	Number of matching sections in PLSS spatial database	Number of claim sections not in PLSS spatial database	Percent of claim sections without polygons
Alaska	unknown	NA	NA	NA
Arizona	20,027	19,994	33	0.16
Arkansas	541	541	0	0.00
California	23,606	22,282	1,324	5.61
Colorado	15,131	15,118	13	0.09
Florida	22	22	0	0.00
Idaho	12,389	12,388	1	0.01
Montana	9,725	9,721	4	0.04
Nebraska	58	58	0	0.00
Nevada	36,775	36,748	27	0.07
New Mexico	9,336	8,981	355	3.80

North Dakota	NA	NA	NA	NA
Oregon	7,874	7,827	47	0.60
South Dakota	1,649	1,649	0	0.00
Utah	20,463	20,388	25	0.12
Washington	3,767	3,765	2	0.00
Wyoming	13,942	13,815	127	0.91
TOTAL	186,985	184,878	2,057	1.10

Figure 4. Number of active claims in the United States for each year from 1979 to 2010.

Figure 5. Number of active claims in California and Wyoming for each year from 1979 to 2010.

Table 5. Comparison of the number of new claims, by state between 1976 and 2010.

Year	AR	AZ	CA	CO	FL	ID	MT	NE	ND	NM	NV	OR	SD	UT	WA	WY
1976	1	6,224	4,201	12,002		1,744	1,810			10,155	6,333	1,137	873	23,193	1,497	17,961
1977	14	16,296	6,868	32,220		2,743	3,947			12,763	13,616	2,238	2,842	30,857	1,334	16,658
1978	36	8,966	8,167	27,696		4,762	4,774			22,866	27,199	5,382	997	27,133	1,056	17,640
1979	47	16,457	9,480	26,544		7,565	10,021			13,499	34,144	4,455	2,083	26,499	1,585	14,975
1980	495	24,915	18,813	17,995		10,335	11,983			13,582	43,702	4,890	3,419	22,955	3,195	10,273
1981	497	34,802	23,563	17,828		13,822	12,367	769		11,927	48,273	7,647	1,352	16,678	2,348	9,713
1982	365	32,826	16,107	6,734		8,983	8,424	9		6,828	28,147	5,246	1,728	10,094	1,777	3,355
1983	399	24,191	22,055	5,959		11,536	8,183			7,265	36,075	6,800	3,942	13,026	8,312	4,769
1984	683	18,562	18,432	7,158		8,728	7,526			4,609	36,597	3,848	1,225	7,346	5,089	2,255
1985	4,532	14,537	12,501	3,555		5,055	5,522			2,476	26,328	3,763	810	5,700	1,065	1,520
1986	2,981	16,423	13,344	4,499		12,190	4,802			4,876	36,269	3,997	2,172	8,740	1,311	3,110
1987	450	15,071	13,425	8,456		9,661	8,765			3,189	68,518	5,286	9,726	11,182	3,203	2,863
1988	275	12,686	18,201	6,512		15,090	13,148			5,476	77,071	10,555	973	14,248	2,461	2,331
1989	7	8,943	13,371	3,614		11,898	9,640	3		3,000	44,077	12,792	412	8,515	1,738	1,433
1990	13	10,029	8,582	2,854		7,429	8,195			2,179	30,048	4,364	567	9,204	1,957	1,535
1991		7,337	9,089	1,929	356	4,906	4,715	3		2,876	24,515	2,321	153	8,608	2,888	3,185
1992	461	6,974	7,670	2,124	78	4,030	4,009			3,134	32,449	5,564	747	4,178	1,006	2,931
1993	159	3,436	2,976	2,342	3	1,020	2,020			703	19,200	1,034	373	1,689	455	784
1994	31	3,623	2,832	1,318		1,140	3,411			848	17,931	704	515	1,774	462	1,196
1995		5,135	2,835	757		2,427	1,681	3		820	20,479	1,454	86	2,706	1,184	1,435
1996	2	6,583	3,302	874		1,795	1,497			2,405	32,921	898	152	2,977	473	1,892
1997	2	4,816	2,185	969		2,026	1,210		2	979	20,987	819	79	2,200	384	1,695
1998		1,677	2,091	581	2	1,877	868			898	13,168	442	182	1,468	189	816
1999		1,990	1,340	249		650	1,428			381	12,430	498	16	1,162	268	644

2000		1,966	1,530	281		680	2,074			588	8,841	472	28	506	262	2,185
2001		769	964	488		625	664			448	5,396	354	31	437	217	1,088
2002		1,353	1,270	432		1,038	594			340	15,900	535	218	1,201	121	517
2003	5	2,666	1,103	286		730	656			295	19,524	1,389	29	1,492	206	440
2004		4,530	1,440	463		1,304	1,023			1,057	28,191	516	102	2,997	227	3,540
2005	1	5,938	1,812	4,460		988	1,731			2,123	29,866	432	763	7,743	510	10,119
2006		9,564	2,380	5,656		1,434	1,320			1,868	25,591	665	478	7,923	157	9,994
2007		9,548	4,325	10,796		3,940	2,516			8,825	34,864	1,059	652	15,399	885	9,733
2008	8	6,403	2,495	2,596		3,892	1,736	1		3,735	22,193	1,173	175	3,323	288	4,061
2009		3,470	2,161	892		1,668	491			874	16,410	1,192	183	1,462	151	3,275
2010		5,008	1,747	1,571		3,092	726			1,140	729	624	141	1,947	418	3,069

Table 6. Number of Public Land Survey sections that have had claims since 1976 and number of sections with active claims in 2010.

State	Number of PLSS sections in which a claim was recorded since 1976	Number of PLSS sections in which there was an active claim in 2010
Arizona	19,994	5,241
Arkansas	541	5
California	23,023	5,314
Colorado	15,168	2,207
Florida	22	4
Idaho	12,481	2,795
Montana	9,771	2,031
Nebraska	59	1
Nevada	37,552	15,099
New Mexico	8,891	1,410
North Dakota	1	0
Oregon	7,917	1,893
South Dakota	1,671	448
Utah	20,211	2,772
Washington	3,783	475
Wyoming	13,915	3,791
Total	172,290	43,486

Figure 6. Number of new and closed claims each year from 1979 to 2010 in the conterminous United States.