What is Nevada’s Role in Placer Claims on Federal Lands?

• The Mining Law allows states to establish additional laws regarding the manner in which mining claims and sites are located and recorded:
  – 43 CFR 3832.11(2) Stake and monument the corners of a mining claim or site which meets applicable state monumenting requirements.

• NRS Chapter 517: Mining Claims, Mill Sites and Tunnel Rights
  – One of the oldest statutes, dates back to 1873
  – Regulations (NAC 517) developed by NDOM in 1988
NRS 517 Placer Claims in Nevada

NRS 517.090  Requirements for Location

1. The location of a placer claim shall be made in the following manner:

   (a) By posting thereon, upon a monument meeting the requirements of NRS 517.030, erected at any point along the north boundary, a notice of location containing:

       (1) The name of the claim;

       (2) The name of the locator or locators, together with the post office address of such locator or locators;

       (3) The date of location; and

       (4) The number of feet or acres claimed; and

   (b) By marking the boundaries and the location point in the same manner and by the same means as required by the laws of this state for marking the boundaries of lode claim locations.
2. Where the United States survey has been extended over the land embraced in the location, the claim may be taken by legal subdivisions, and, except the marking of the location point as prescribed in subsection 1, no other markings than those of such survey shall be required.
NRS 517 Placer Claims in Nevada

NRS 517.100 Map: Specifications; filing; use of filing fee. Within 90 days after posting the notice of location of a placer claim, the locator shall:

1. Prepare two copies of a map of the claim which must be of a scale of not less than 500 feet to the inch. If the United States survey has been extended over the land embraced in the location, the claim may be taken and described on the map by legal subdivisions as provided in NRS 517.090.
(NRS 517.100 (2) continued...

If the land has not been surveyed by the United States or if official corners cannot be found through the exercise of due diligence, the map must set forth the position of the monuments in relation to each other and establish numbers of monuments, and the descriptions must be tied to a natural landmark or a readily identifiable artificial landmark as provided in NRS 517.040.
2. File the maps with the county recorder in the county in which the claim is located together with a filing fee of $1 per acre. One-half of the filing fee must be used by the county to establish and maintain, in accordance with the regulations of the Division, a map of the mining claims in the county that must accurately record the location of all mining claims filed after July 1, 1971, which is a public record. The remaining part of the fee may be used for the same purposes as any other general revenue of the county.
NRS 517 Placer Claims in Nevada

NRS 517.110  Certificate of location: Recording; contents; effect of insufficiency.

1. When the locator files his or her maps pursuant to NRS 517.100, the locator shall present to the county recorder for recording, together with the usual recording fees, duplicate certificates of location which state:
   (a) The name of the claim, designating it as a placer claim.
   (b) The name of the locator and the locator’s mailing address.
   (c) The date of location.
   (d) The number of feet or acres claimed.

2. This certificate, or the record thereof, or a certified copy of the record is prima facie evidence of the recitals therein.

3. If the certificate does not state all the facts required by this section to be stated, it is void.
Tailings and Waste – Placer Claims

NRS 517.115 Evidence of abandonment; acquisition after abandonment.

1. Whenever the tailings of any mining claim or the waste of any mine has been deposited upon the unappropriated public domain and remains unworked for a period of 10 successive years, it is prima facie evidence of abandonment of title or the right of possession thereto.

2. After abandonment, the right of possession or title to the mining tailings or waste may be acquired by locating the site on which the tailings or waste is deposited by complying with the provisions of NRS 517.090, 517.100 and 517.110.
1. A person who willfully antedates or puts any false date or date other than the one on which the location is made upon any notice of location of any mining claim in this state is guilty of a category D felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.

2. A person who willfully and knowingly makes a false material statement on the certificate of location or on any map required by this chapter is guilty of a category D felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.
NRS 193.130 Categories and punishment of felonies.

(d) A category D felony is a felony for which a court shall sentence a convicted person to imprisonment in the state prison for a minimum term of not less than 1 year and a maximum term of not more than 4 years. In addition to any other penalty, the court may impose a fine of not more than $5,000, unless a greater fine is authorized or required by statute.
LOCATING THE CLAIM
from: NBMG Special Publication 6, 2002

• An individual or company can locate a placer claim up to 20 acres in area (30 USC 35; 43 CFR 3842.1-2). As nearly as practical, a placer claim must conform to the system of public land surveys, which means it should conform to the boundaries of a section and take a legal subdivision (aliquot part) of the section. This conformity may not be possible if the area is unsurveyed, if there are preexisting claims, or if the claim follows the bed of a meandering stream.
20-acre placer claim in west half, northwest quarter, northwest quarter of section 16, T28N, R56E.

20-acre placer claim in north half, southeast quarter, northeast quarter of section 16, T28N, R56E.

40-acre association placer claim in northwest quarter, southeast quarter of section 16, T28N, R56E.

TAKING PORTION OF A SURVEYED SECTION
(Preferred method)

TAKING AREA ALONG A CREEK
NRS 517.030  Monumenting of claim; required removal of plastic monuments.

1. Within 60 days after posting the notice of location, the locator of a lode mining claim shall distinctly define the boundaries of the claim by placing a valid legal monument at each corner of the claim. A valid legal monument may be created by:
   (a) Blazing and marking a tree, which has a diameter of not less than 4 inches, not less than 3 feet above the ground;
   (b) Capping a rock in place with smaller stones so that the rock and stones have a height of not less than 3 feet; or
   (c) Setting a wooden or metal post or a stone.

2. If a wooden post is used, the dimensions of the post must be at least 1 1/2 inches by 1 1/2 inches by 4 feet, and the post must be set 1 foot in the ground.

3. If a metal post is used, the post must be at least 2 inches in diameter by 4 feet in length and be set 1 foot in the ground. If the metal post is hollow, it must:
   (a) Be securely capped or crimped in a manner that securely closes the top of the post; and
   (b) Have no open perforations.

- Aliquot part, in the Public Land Survey System, a subdivision of a section based upon an even division by distances along the edges and not by equal area
Nevada Placer Claim Forms – 4

- Certificate of Location Placer Mining Claim – a single claimant, not by aliquot
- Certificate of Location Placer Mining Claim - Association (Expanded Version) – multiple claimants, not by aliquot
- Certificate of Location Placer Mining Claim Located by Aliquot Part of Rectangular Survey - a single claimant, by aliquot
- Certificate of Location Placer Mining Claim Located by Aliquot Part of Rectangular Survey – Association – multiple claimants, by aliquot

http://minerals.nv.gov/Programs/Mining/MiningClaims
194,348 Active Mining Claims in Nevada as of 2/22/2018 an increase of 9.1% from January, 2017

12,498 Inferred Lithium Placer Claims in Nevada as of 2/22/2018 a decrease of 5.7% from January, 2017
NDOM Open Data Site

- Public interface data repository available for download or interactive viewing
- A practical response to high volumes of data requests and limited staff