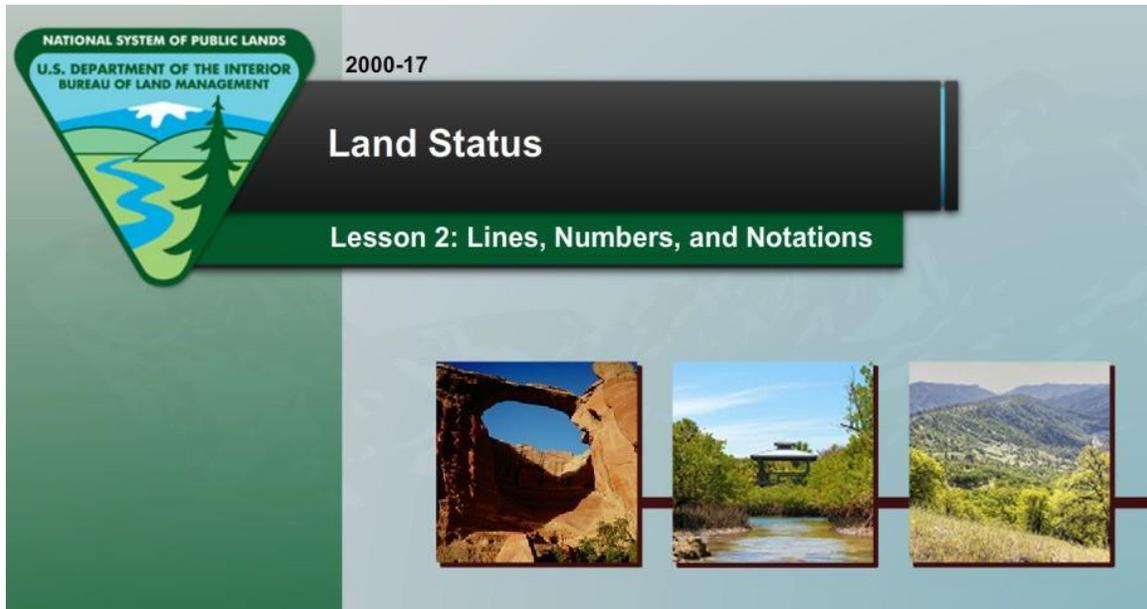


# BLM: Land Status Lesson 2 Study Guide



Land Status. Lesson 2: Lines, Numbers, and Notations.

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## LESSON OVERVIEW

Welcome to Lesson 2 which provides an overview of the Master Title Plat line types and how they are used. You'll also learn about how patent numbers are written and used. This includes a summary of the state controlled number system of digits and notations.



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# BLM: Land Status Lesson 2 Study Guide

## Objectives

**At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:**

- Describe the Master Title Plat line types and their purpose
- Identify patent numbers, digits, and notations



At the end of this lesson, you will be able to: describe the Master Title Plat line types and their purpose, and identify patent numbers, digits, and notations.

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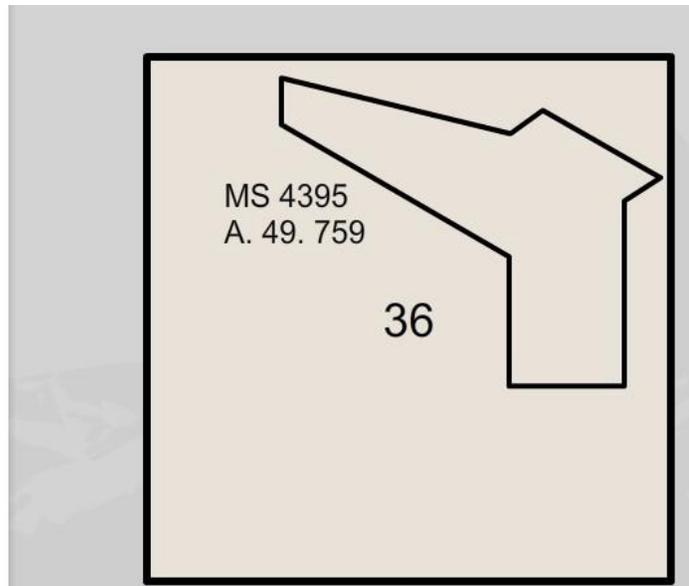
The slide features the Bureau of Land Management logo on the left, which includes the text "NATIONAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC LANDS", "U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR", and "BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT" above a stylized landscape with a mountain, river, and tree. To the right of the logo, the text "Topic 1" is displayed in white on a dark grey background, and "Survey Weight" is displayed in white on a green background. Below this text, three small square images are arranged horizontally: a natural rock archway, a river flowing through a wooded area, and a view of a mountain range with a town at its base.

Topic 1: Survey Weight

# BLM: Land Status Lesson 2 Study Guide

## Survey Weight Line

- Depicts boundaries of a section or boundaries of special surveys within a township
- Drawn for section boundary regardless of whether section is surveyed or unsurveyed
- Depicts special surveys, such as homestead and mineral surveys



The survey weight line is a thin line that depicts the boundaries of a section or the boundaries of special surveys within a township. The survey weight line is drawn for the section boundary regardless of whether the section is surveyed or unsurveyed. Special surveys, such as homestead and mineral surveys, are also depicted by use of the survey weight line.

## Patent

Instrument (or deed) by which the government conveys title to the public lands.

### Two Patent Lines:

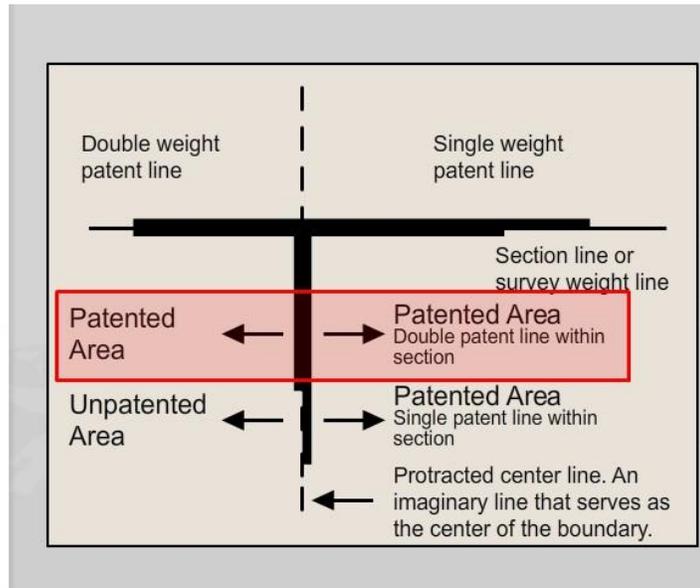
- Single weight
- Double weight
- Show the transfer of land title from federal to private or state ownership
- Drafted around the entire exterior boundary of a parcel of land that has been transferred

### Single Weight Patent Line:

Shows transfer of ownership has occurred on one side of the line.

### Double Weight Patent Line:

Shows transfer of ownership has occurred on both sides of the line.



A patent, as it relates to public land laws, is the instrument (or deed) by which the government conveys title to the public lands. There are two thicknesses or weights of lines used for depicting the boundaries of patented land. The two patent lines are referred to as the single weight patent line and the double weight patent line. The double weight patent line is twice as thick as a single weight patent line. These patent lines are used to show the transfer of land title from federal to private or state ownership. Patent lines are drafted around the entire exterior boundary of a parcel of land that has been transferred. A single weight patent line shows that transfer of ownership has occurred on one side of the line. A double weight patent line shows that transfer of ownership has occurred on both sides of the line.

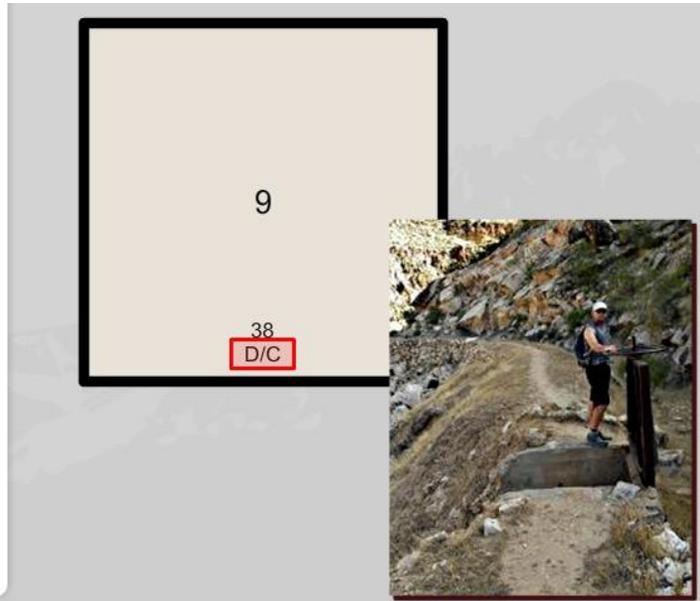
# BLM: Land Status Lesson 2 Study Guide

## Patent Number

- Assigned to each parcel of patented land
- Noted at lowest part of described parcel
- Reserved rights federal government is retaining shown

Patents issued after August 30, 1890, show ditches and canals reserved to the United States.

Noted with abbreviation D/C



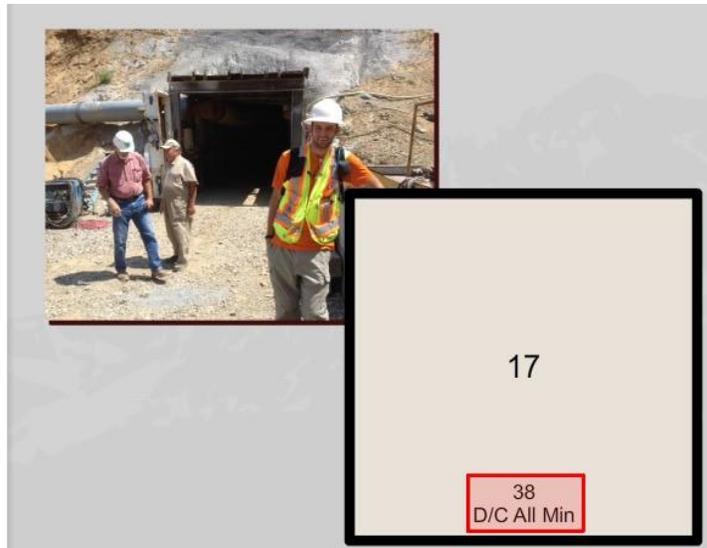
Each parcel of patented land is assigned a patent number. The number is noted at or near the lowest part of the described parcel of land. Immediately below the patent number, any reserved rights that the federal government is retaining will be shown. This shows an original patent with ditches and canals reserved. All patents issued after August 30, 1890, will show ditches and canals as reserved to the United States. This reservation will be noted on the plats with the abbreviation D/C.

## Reservation for Mineral Rights Determined by Documentation in Each Individual Case File

### All Mineral Rights Reserved to the US:

"All Min" appears below patent number

This shows an original patent with ditches and canals, as well as all minerals reserved to the United States.



Any reservation for mineral rights will be determined by the documentation in each individual case file. When all of the mineral rights are to be reserved to the United States, the words "All Min" will appear below the patent number. This shows an original patent with ditches and canals, as well as all minerals reserved to the United States.

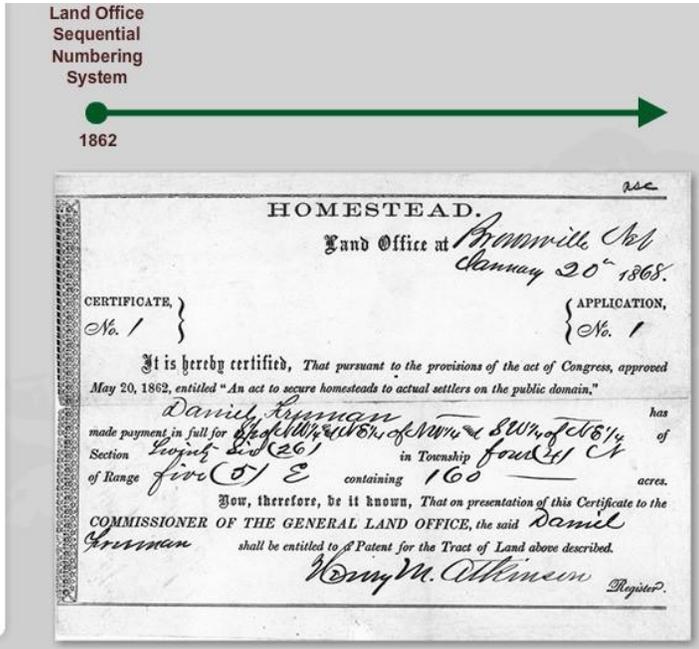
# BLM: Land Status Lesson 2 Study Guide

## Sequential Numbering System

First Patent Number Issued Under the Homestead Act of 1862

Started with "1" for 4 Types:

- Homestead
- Desert Land
- Cash Entry
- Timber Culture



Early patent numbers used a sequential numbering system. The first patent number was issued under the Homestead Act of 1862. Each land district office started with patent number "1" for each of the following four types of land entries: Homestead, Desert Land, Cash Entry, and Timber Culture.

**1908:**

- Centrally controlled
- Patents numbered from the Washington Office

**1962:**

- Present system
- State controlled
- Each state issues numbers in that state

Land Office Sequential Numbering System

Central Sequential Numbering System

State Controlled Numbering System

24

49-82-0107

D/C OG

Issued after 1962

A centrally controlled sequential numbering system was introduced in 1908. The system, which was used in all states, required patents to be numbered from the Washington Office. The 1908 system was replaced in 1962 by the present numbering system. In 1962, BLM established a state controlled numbering system in which each state issued the numbers for the patents in that state. The example shown here is a patent issued after 1962 with ditches and canals, and oil and gas reserved to the United States.

# BLM: Land Status Lesson 2 Study Guide

## State Office Number

- First two digits of patent number

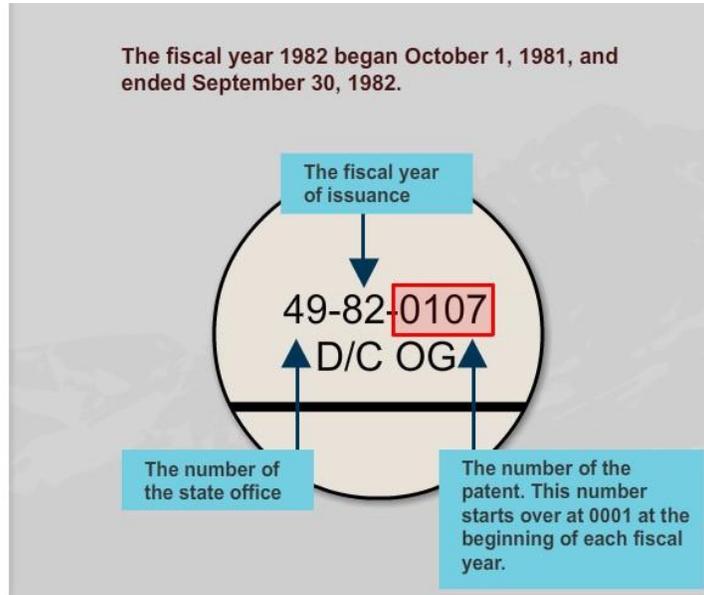
## Fiscal Year of Issuance

- Second two or four digits of patent number
- Before 1976: Fiscal year began July 1
- After 1976: Fiscal year begins October 1
- 1962–1999: Used two digits
- 2000 on: Used four digits

## Number of Patent

- Last four digits of patent number

Refer to Resource Aid 3 for a list of state codes.



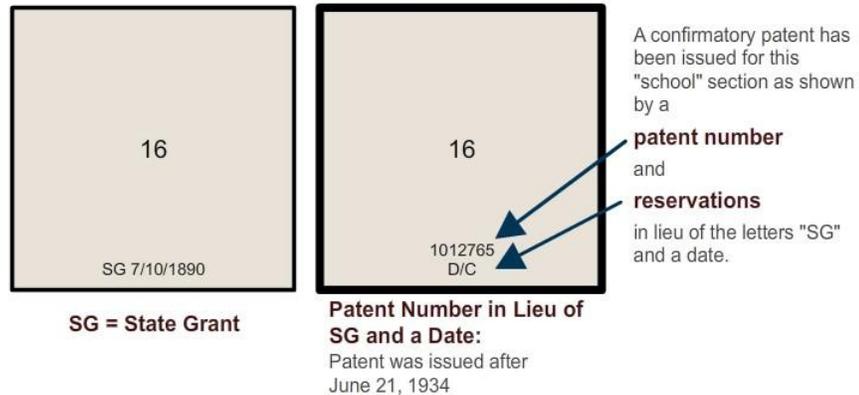
The first two digits of the patent number identify the state office that issued the patent. The second pair of numbers identify the fiscal year of issuance. Prior to 1976, the federal government fiscal year began on July 1 and ended on June 30. Since that time, the federal government fiscal year begins on October 1 of each calendar year. The fiscal year 1982 would begin on October 1, 1981, and end on September 30, 1982. Two digits were used to represent the fiscal year of issuance from 1962 through 1999. Starting in fiscal year 2000, four digits were used to represent the fiscal year of issuance. The last four digits represent the number of the patent issued during that fiscal year. Refer to Resource Aid 3 for a list state codes.

## Public Education Sections

States were granted 1–4 sections of land in each township for support of the public education system.

### Public Education Land Grants

Reference: Refer to Resource Aid 4 for states and their number of public education sections



When admitted to the union, states were granted from 1 to 4 sections of land in each township to be used for support of the public education system. Public education land grants are noted on the Master Title Plat with the letters SG and a date. SG means State Grant. If the school section has a patent number in lieu of the letters SG and a date, then the patent was issued after June 21, 1934. That provided states the right to request a confirmatory patent for the section(s) granted for public education from the federal government. Refer to Resource Aid 4 for a list of the number of public education sections granted to each.

## BLM: Land Status Lesson 2 Study Guide

### SkillCheck

Which of the following correctly describes the present patent numbering system?

- A. Each land district office starts with patent number "1".
- B. A centrally controlled sequential numbering system that requires patents to be numbered from the Washington Office.
- C. A state controlled numbering system in which each state issues the numbers for the patents in that state.

Correct Answer: C. A state controlled numbering system in which each state issues the numbers for the patents in that state.

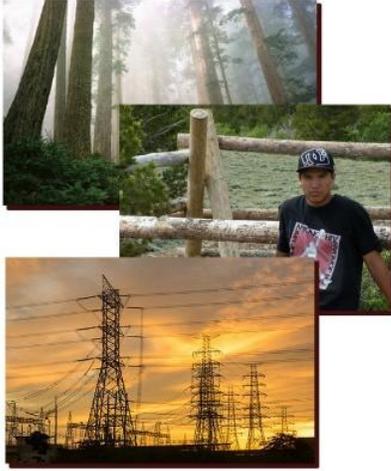


The graphic features the Bureau of Land Management logo on the left, which includes the text "NATIONAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC LANDS", "U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR", and "BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT" above a stylized landscape of a river, mountains, and a tree. To the right of the logo, a dark grey horizontal bar contains the text "Topic 2" in white. Below this bar, a green horizontal bar contains the text "Withdrawn Lands" in white. At the bottom of the graphic, three small square photographs are arranged horizontally, separated by thin white lines. The first photo shows a natural rock archway. The second photo shows a river flowing through a wooded area with a bridge in the background. The third photo shows a wide view of a valley with mountains in the distance.

Topic 2: Withdrawn Lands

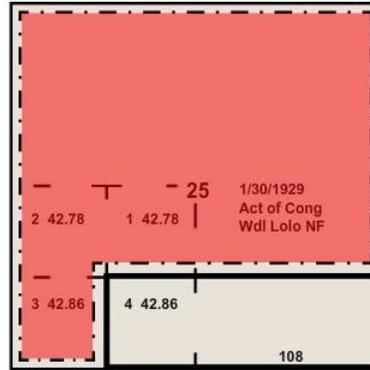
# BLM: Land Status Lesson 2 Study Guide

The Federal Government has the authority to withdraw land.



### Withdrawn Land Include Lands for:

- National Forests
- Reclamation Withdrawals
- Indian Reservations
- Power Site Classifications
- Military Reservations



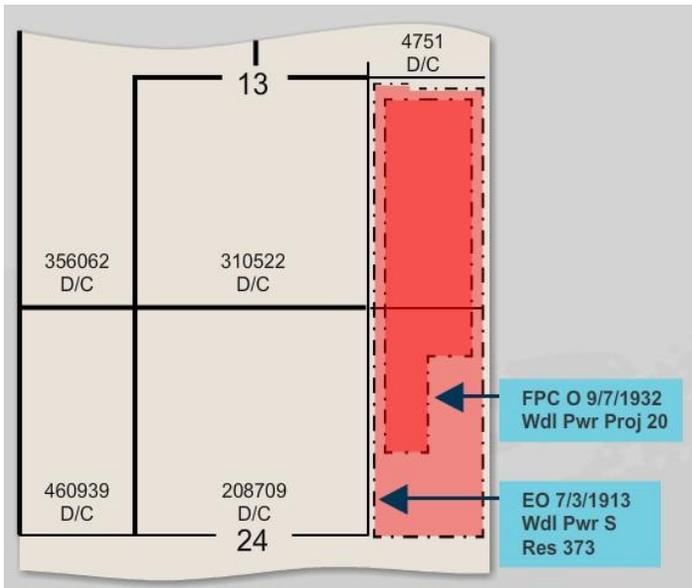
### Withdrawal Line

This withdrawal was due to a 1929 Act of Congress that established the Lolo National Forest in Montana.

The abbreviation "Wdl" stands for Withdrawal.

Withdrawn by Federal Government

The Federal Government has the authority to withdraw land from the public domain for specific purposes. All lands that have been withdrawn are shown by the use of a dash-dot line on the Master Title Plat. Examples of withdrawn land include land for: National Forests, Indian Reservations, Military Reservations, Reclamation Withdrawals, and Power Site Classifications. The dash-dot line in the figure shown here indicates that the land within the boundaries of the section has been withdrawn by the Federal Government.



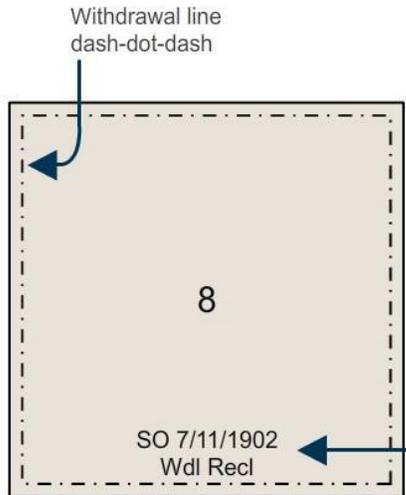
### Withdrawals Can Overlap

Withdrawal made for a power project for the Federal Power Commission

Earlier withdrawal for a power site established by a 1913 Executive Order

Different withdrawals can overlap each other. The figure shown here illustrates an occurrence of overlapping withdrawals. In this case, a withdrawal was made for a power project (Pwr Proj 20) for the Federal Power Commission (FPC) that overlapped an earlier withdrawal for land for a power site (Pwr S Res 373) as established by a 1913 Executive Order (EO).

## BLM: Land Status Lesson 2 Study Guide



Abbreviation	Meaning	Followed by
EO	Executive Order	Date Order Signed
SO	Secretarial Order	Date Order Signed
PL	Public Law	Number of Law
PLO	Public Land Order	Number of Law

**Withdrawal Document Provides Information about Segregation Afforded the Land Under the Public Land and Mineral Laws**

Withdrawals are annotated on the Master Title Plat by various abbreviations, including: EO meaning Executive Order, SO meaning Secretarial Order, PL meaning Public Law, and PLO meaning Public Land Order. When the abbreviations EO and SO are used, they will be followed by a date indicating when the order was signed. The letters PL and PLO have the number of the law or order following the abbreviation. A review of the withdrawal document will provide information as to the extent of the segregation afforded the land under the public land and mineral laws.

### SkillCheck

Which of the following are ways in which the federal government can withdraw land? (Select all that apply.)

- A. Executive (EO)
- B. Public Law (PL)
- C. Public Land Order (PLO)
- D. State Grant (SG)

Correct Answers: A. Executive (EO), B. Public Law (PL), and C. Public Land Order (PLO)

# BLM: Land Status Lesson 2 Study Guide

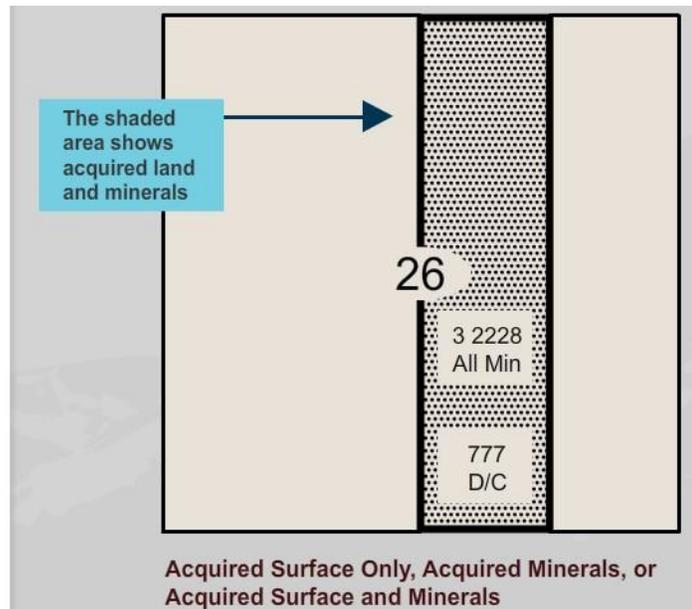


Topic 3: Acquired Lands

### Acquired Lands

- Lands and minerals that were formerly a part of the public domain
- Area shown with shaded dot pattern referred to as stippling

Fractional interests are shown by the notation "Rstd Min" which means "restricted minerals."



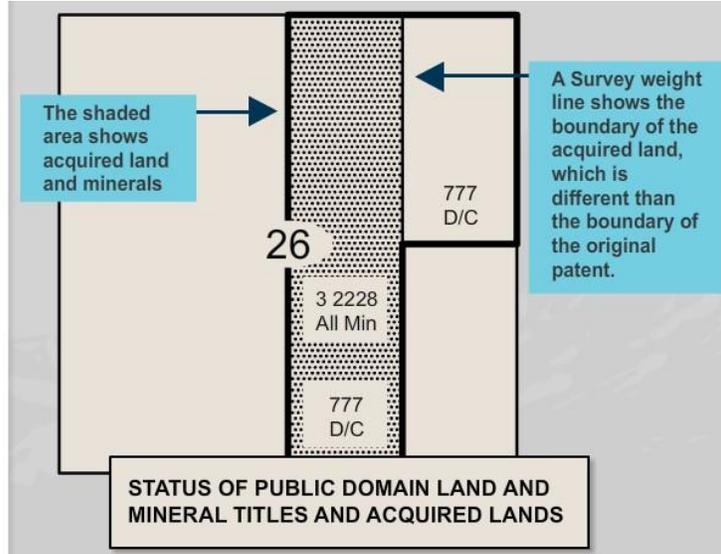
The Federal Government acquires lands and minerals that were formerly a part of the public domain. Those are called acquired lands. Acquired parcels of land or minerals are shown on the Master Title Plat by the use of a shaded dot pattern referred to as stippling. The notation above the original patent number indicates acquired surface only, acquired minerals, or acquired surface and minerals. In some cases, only fractional interests are acquired. They will be shown by the notation "Rstd Min" which means "restricted minerals."

# BLM: Land Status Lesson 2 Study Guide

No Additional Lines of Information Required if Area of Acquisition Is Identical to Original Patented Area

Deviations Shown by a Survey Weight Line

"AND ACQUIRED LANDS" Added to Subtitle on Plats Containing Acquired Lands



No additional lines of information are required if the area of acquisition is identical to the original patented area. If the acquired area differs in some way from the original patented area, the deviation will be shown by the use of a survey weight line. Also, the words AND ACQUIRED LANDS will be added to the subtitle on the plats that contain acquired lands. For example, STATUS OF PUBLIC DOMAIN LAND AND MINERAL TITLES AND ACQUIRED LANDS.

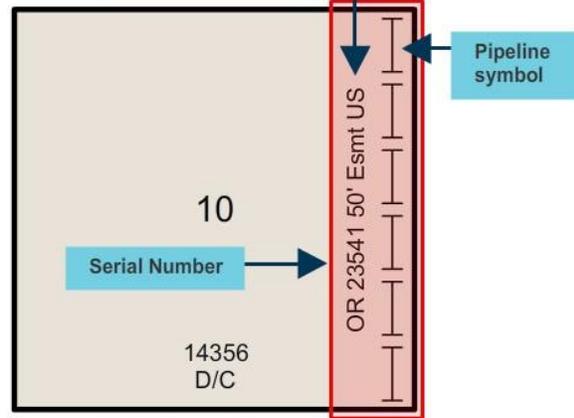
## Easement

Specific Limited Use for:

- Sewer
- Crossing over property
- Putting up power lines



The information from the acquisition document is notated next to the type of easement that was acquired.



Acquired Easements: shown on plat from description in the acquisition document

An easement is an interest or right in land owned by another that entitles its holder to a specific limited use; such as a sewer, crossing over property, or putting up power lines. Acquired easements are shown on the plat from the description in the acquisition document.

# BLM: Land Status Lesson 2 Study Guide

## SkillCheck

True or False: If an acquired area differs in some way from the original patented area, the deviation will be shown by the use of a survey weight line.

- A. True
- B. False

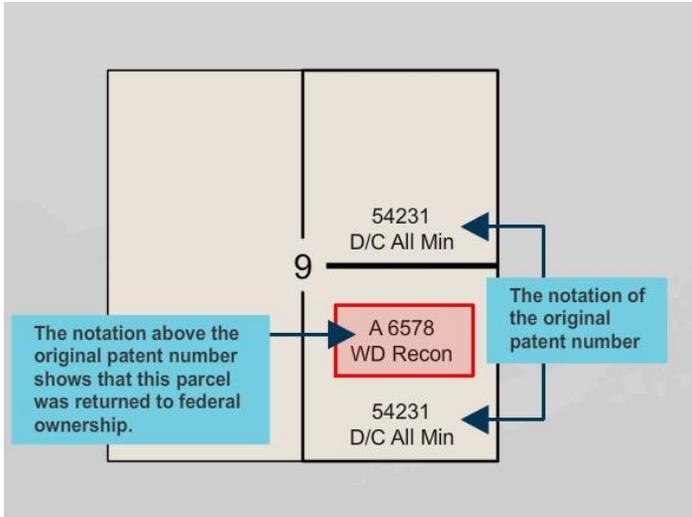
Correct Answer: True



The graphic features the Bureau of Land Management logo on the left, which includes the text "NATIONAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC LANDS", "U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR", and "BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT" above a stylized landscape of a river, mountains, and a tree. To the right of the logo, the text "Topic 4" is displayed in white on a dark grey background, and "Reconveyed Lands" is displayed in white on a green background. Below this text, three small rectangular images are arranged horizontally, connected by a thin dark line. The first image shows a natural rock archway. The second image shows a river flowing through a lush green landscape with a wooden bridge in the background. The third image shows a wide view of a valley with mountains in the distance.

Topic 4: Reconveyed Lands

# BLM: Land Status Lesson 2 Study Guide



## Reconveyed Lands

- Lands once patented or granted but later returned to federal ownership
- Do not require the use of a shading pattern on the plats

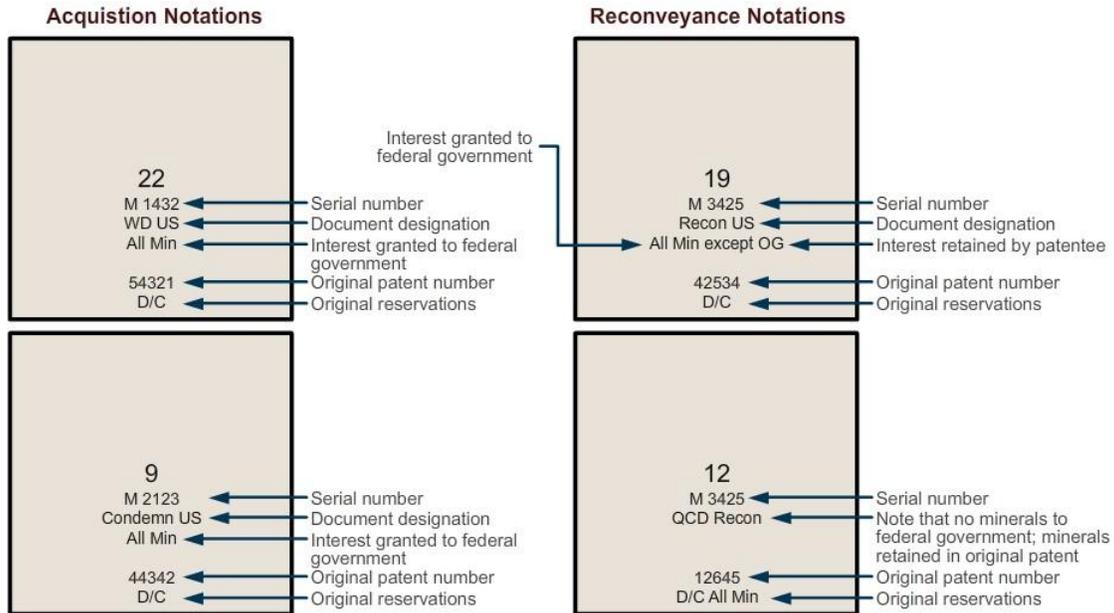
When the area of reconveyance is less than the area in the original patent, the boundary will be shown with a patent weight line.

Area not reconveyed will be annotated with original patent information.

## For Acquired and Reconveyed:

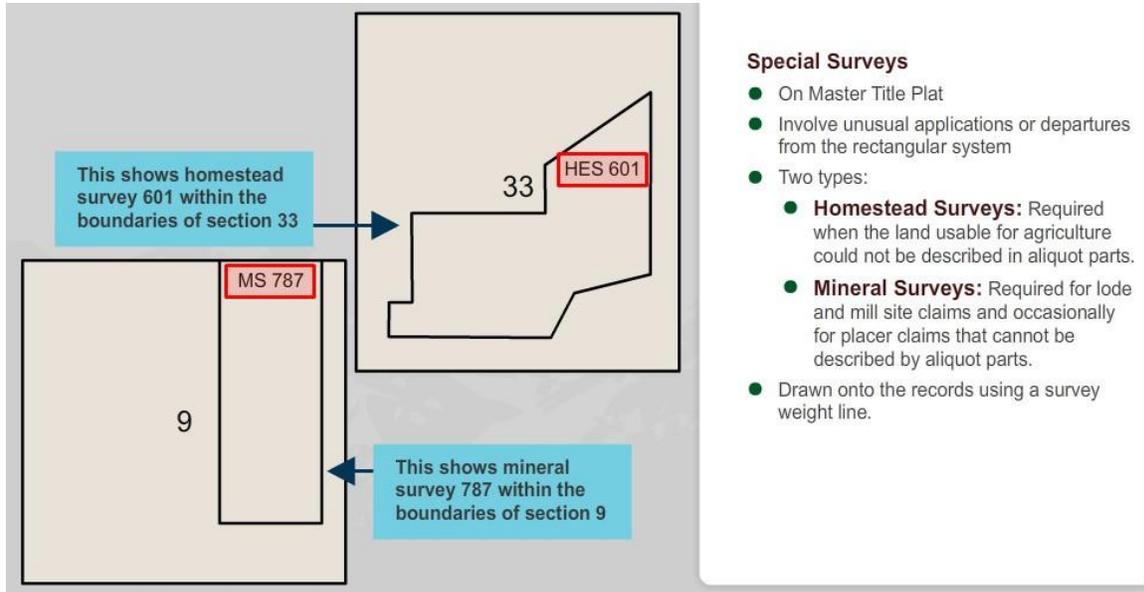
The original patent lines are retained on the plats.

Reconveyed lands are lands once patented or granted but later returned to federal ownership. Reconveyed lands do not require the use of a shading pattern on the plats. When the area of reconveyance is less than the area in the original patent, the boundary will be shown with a patent weight line. The area not reconveyed will be annotated with the original patent information. For both cases, acquired and reconveyed, the original patent lines are retained on the plats. The notation above the original patent number shows which parcel and what right was returned to federal ownership. The serial number of the file that contains the record of the transaction will also be noted.

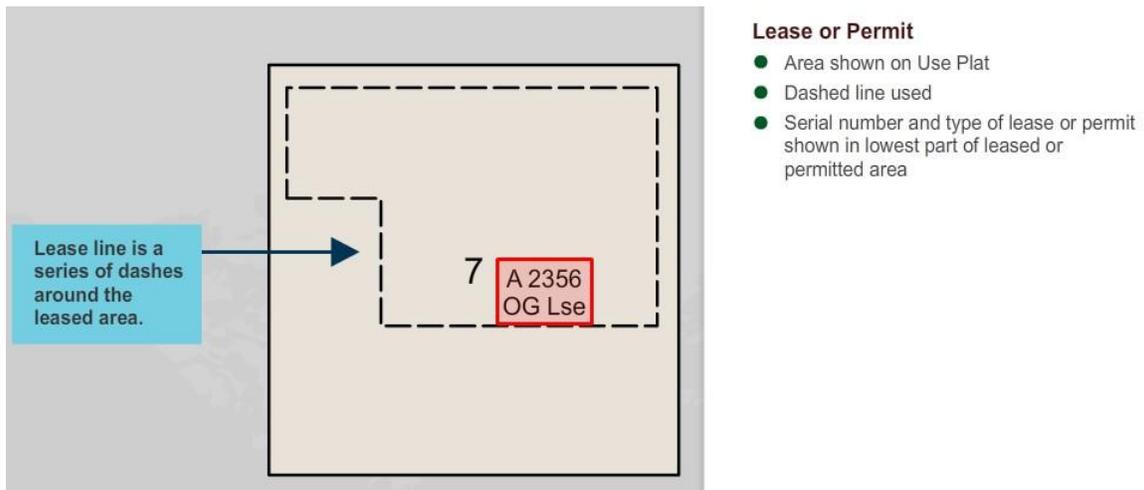


Shown here are some examples of typical acquisition and reconveyance notations.

## BLM: Land Status Lesson 2 Study Guide



Special surveys are also noted on the Master Title Plat. Special surveys are surveys that involve unusual applications or departures from the rectangular system. Homestead and mineral surveys are two types of special surveys. Homestead surveys are required when the land usable for agriculture could not be described in aliquot parts. Mineral surveys are required for lode and mill site claims and occasionally for placer claims that cannot be described by aliquot parts. Both types of special surveys are drawn onto the records using a survey weight line. Within the boundaries of the survey, the abbreviation for the survey along with the survey number is portrayed in the upper portion of the surveyed area.

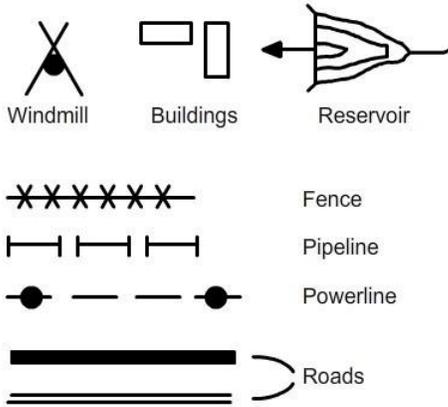


When a lease or permit is shown on the Use Plat, a dashed line is used. The serial number and the type of lease or permit will be shown in the lowest part of the leased or permitted area.

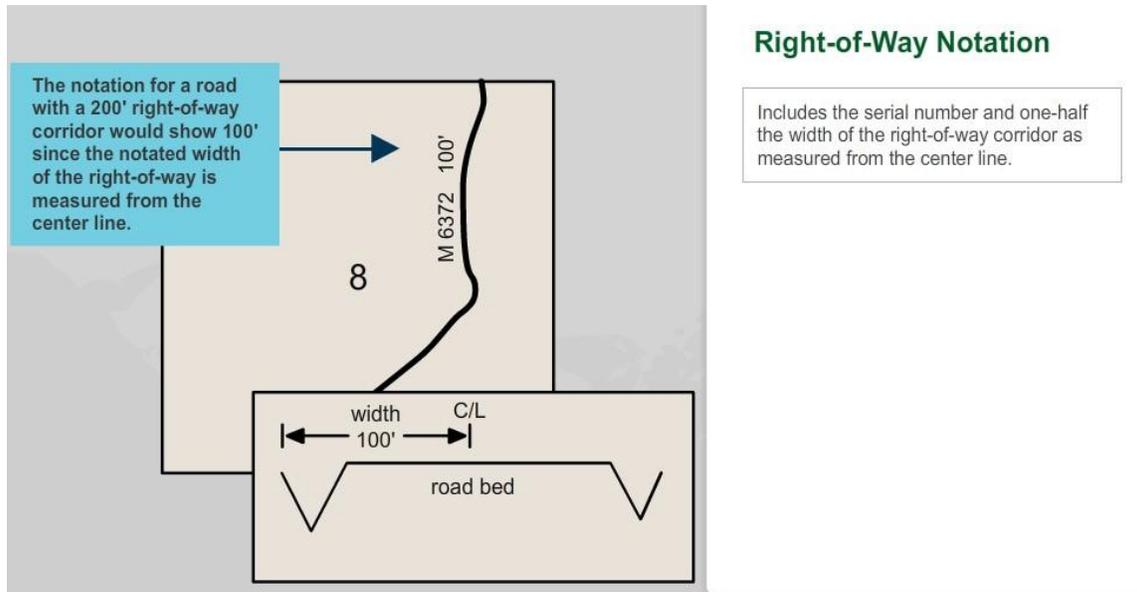
# BLM: Land Status Lesson 2 Study Guide

## Symbols

- Notate physical features and realty actions
- Differ from the U.S. Geologic Survey (USGS) symbols on their topographic maps



Symbols are used to notate physical features and realty actions. Many of the symbols used on BLM Master Title Plats differ from the symbols used by the U.S. Geologic Survey (USGS) on their topographic maps. The symbols below represent objects frequently found on BLM Master Title Plats.



When a right-of-way is approved, the notation to the plat includes the serial number and one-half the width of the right-of-way corridor as measured from the center line.

## BLM: Land Status Lesson 2 Study Guide

### SkillCheck

Which of the following statements regarding reconveyed lands are true? (Select all that apply.)

- A. Special surveys, such as Homestead and Mineral Surveys, are not notated on the MTP.
- B. For acquired and reconveyed lands, the original patent lines are retained on the plats.
- C. The area not reconveyed will be annotated with the original patent information.
- D. When a lease or permit is shown on the Use Plat, a survey weight line is used.

Correct Answers: B. For acquired and reconveyed lands, the original patent lines are retained on the plats, and C. The area not reconveyed will be annotated with the original patent information.

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### Summary

**You should now be able to:**

- Describe the Master Title Plat line types and their purpose
- Identify patent numbers, digits, and notations



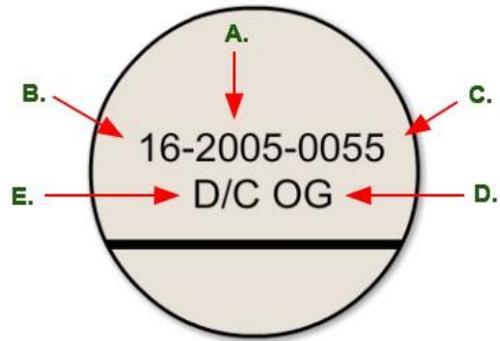
You should now be able to: describe the Master Title Plat line types and their purpose, and identify patent numbers, digits, and notations.

# BLM: Land Status Lesson 2 Study Guide

## Quiz Answer Key

1. In 1964, BLM established a numbering system in which the states, instead of the Washington Office, issued patent numbers. Each set of digits in the patent number has a specific meaning. Review the image and match the label to each part of the notation.

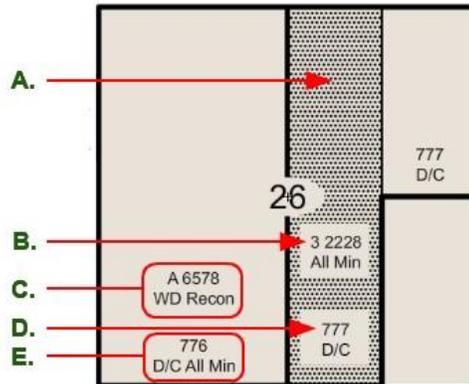
- Ditches and Canals
- Fiscal year of issuance
- Oil and gas reserved
- Patent number
- State office number



Correct Answers: A. Fiscal year of issuance, B. State office number, C. Patent number, D. Oil and gas reserved, and E. Ditches and Canals.

2. The federal government can acquire land and minerals that were formerly a part of the public domain as well as have reconveyed to it lands that were a part of the public domain. Match the letters to the correct answer.

- The W ½ of Section 26 has been reconveyed to the federal government
- Original patent number with notation reserved for ditches and canals, and all minerals
- Record number for the federal government's acquisition of the land
- Original patent number for area acquired
- Designates acquired land

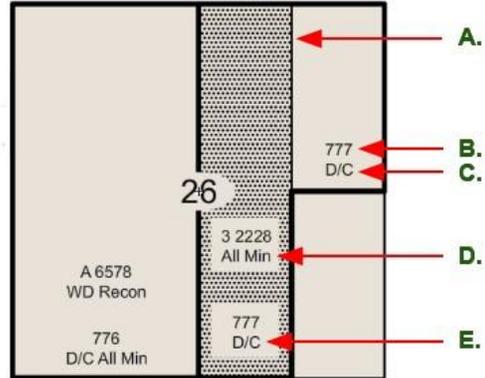


Correct Answers: A. Designates acquired land, B. Record number for the federal government's acquisition of the land, C. The W ½ of Section 26 has been reconveyed to the federal government, D. Original patent number for area acquired, and E. Original patent number with notation reserved for ditches and canals, and all minerals

## BLM: Land Status Lesson 2 Study Guide

2. (cont.) The federal government can acquire land and minerals that were formerly a part of the public domain as well as have reconveyed to it lands that were a part of the public domain. Match the letters to the correct answer.

- Federal government has acquired mineral rights
- The boundary of the acquired land
- Original reservation
- Under original patent, the federal government had reserved the right to ditches and canals only
- Original patent number



Correct Answers: A. The boundary of the acquired land, B. Original patent number, C. Original reservation, D. Federal government has acquired mineral rights, and E. Under original patent, the federal government had reserved the right to ditches and canals only.

3. For which of the following purposes does the federal government have the authority to withdraw land from the public domain? (Select all that apply.)

- A. National forests
- B. Desert land
- C. Indian reservations
- D. Timber culture

Correct Answers: A. National forests, and C. Indian reservations.

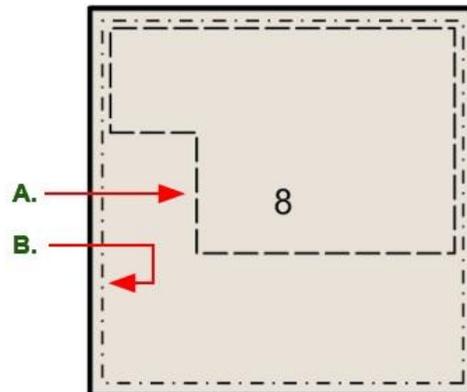
4. Match the lines to their correct name.

- Double weight patent line      A.
- Single weight patent line      B.
- Survey weight line      C.

Correct Answers: A. Double weight patent line, B. Survey weight line, and C. Single weight patent line.

5. The boundaries of withdrawn lands and the boundaries of leases on the public lands are shown in the image. Match the lines to their correct name.

- Leased line
- Withdrawal line



Correct Answers: A. Leased Line, and B. Withdrawal line.