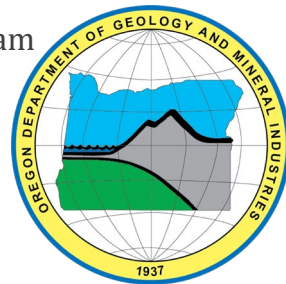


The newsletter of the **Mineral Land Regulation and Reclamation** program

# ENGAGe

Summer 2024



*Exploration, Non-aggregate, Gas/oil, Aggregate, Geothermal*

## DOGAMI Permitting Timelines

***Just a reminder:*** DOGAMI continues to experience an unprecedented volume of applications, inquiries, complaints, and compliance actions resulting in an ongoing increase in processing and response times.

Thank you for your patience as we continue with our increased workload.

***DOGAMI strives to process permit applications as quickly as possible to facilitate applicant/permittee compliance with Oregon law. We appreciate your patience and understanding.***

## Protecting Cultural Resources:

DOGAMI has developed an effective partnership with the Legislative Commission on Indian Services (LCIS), Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and the nine federally recognized Tribal governments in Oregon that emphasizes working cooperatively to address mutual concerns. DOGAMI includes all Tribes in the review and comment process regarding proposed mineral extraction and energy development projects statewide. This process helps identify proposed development projects that have the potential to impact cultural and historic sites, and to then develop mitigation strategies. Permit holders for mineral and energy development projects are now better informed of their responsibilities to report unanticipated discoveries. DOGAMI has actively sought to meet with individual Tribal staff to ensure communication and coordination occurs between the appropriate individuals.

What does this mean for permittees and applicants? Essentially, ORS 358.905 and ORS 97.740 protect archaeological sites, objects, and human remains on federal, state, and private lands in Oregon. Therefore, if any cultural material is discovered during excavation activities, all work should cease immediately until a professional archaeologist can evaluate the discovery. Applicants should familiarize themselves with the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), with the Tribes in the project area, and preemptively reach out to them regarding your project or any future projects. They are important partners to have in any project, and they are genuinely happy to build a relationship. If you need help determining who to reach out to, DOGAMI is happy to help you make the initial connection with the correct Tribal contact. ***\*Please do not send any cultural resource reports to DOGAMI. They should be sent directly to the Tribes and/or SHPO\****

## Staffing Changes to our Permitting Team:

New faces at MLRR! Within the last year we hired Melissa Carley, G.I.T (Aggregate Permitting Reclamationist) and John Hook, C.E.G (Mining Geologist/Reclamationist). We are happy to announce that we are adding two more wonderful people to our team – Nicole Ledbetter, G.I.T (Permit Specialist) and Clayton Rowden, G.I.T (Permit Specialist). While we are thrilled for the new additions to our staff, we are also sad to announce the departure of Justin McGillivray (Permit Specialist) as he starts a new adventure with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

**Contact Us at: 541-967-2039 or [mlrr.info@dogami.oregon.gov](mailto:mlrr.info@dogami.oregon.gov)**

**<https://oregon.gov/dogami/MLRR-overview>**

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## **Summertime: Inspections!**

Summer is finally here and along with it comes increased mine site activity and DOGAMI inspections! Currently, due to an increase in permit applications submitted to the MLRR office and compliance issues identified by the MLRR office, as well as a shortage in our technical staffing, site inspections are being done on sites with a permitting action – an active transfer, amendment, **or** a compliance action.

### What can you do to prepare for your site inspection?

Here are some stellar suggestions:

- Mark your permit boundaries in the field! After DOGAMI issues the permit and prior to mining, the operator **must** mark the boundaries for all excavation areas, stockpiles, setbacks, and buffers. The markings must be accomplished by placing clearly visible, semi-permanent markers, such as T-posts or fiberglass paddles, at no more than 200 feet from each other.
- Request a copy of your digital site file to make sure you know and understand the parameters of approval for the operations of your site (site conditions, permit conditions, operating and reclamation plan, maps, etc.)
- Sites with DEQ Permits: Perform preventative maintenance on your stormwater controls. The DEQ permit registrant must regularly inspect, clean, maintain, and repair all industrial equipment and systems and materials handling and storage areas that are exposed to stormwater to avoid situations that may result in leaks, spills, and other releases of pollutants discharged to receiving waters. Clean, maintain and repair all control measures, including stormwater and mine dewatering structures, catch basins, and treatment facilities to ensure effective operation and in a manner that prevents the discharge of pollution.



*John Hook, R.G., C.E.G.;  
Mining Geologist*



*Vaughn Balzer, R.G., Floodplain Reclamationist*

- Clean up all of the garbage on site.
- To get the maximum benefit from your site inspection, feel free to come prepared with any questions, concerns, and anything you might need clarifications for! We are ultimately here for you!



*Lisa Reinhart, Water Quality Reclamationist*