Land Status Records Interpretation 101

Jo Berg – Land Law Examiner
Jo Kemper – Cartographer
Frank P. Lahr III – Geographer
What are the Land Status Records?

- The land status records include the original case documents, Master Title Plat, and Historical Index.

- These are the ‘Official’ Federal Land Status Records.

- Legal requirements in court cases and adjudication must be sustained by the Official Land Status Records and their supportive documents.
Master Title Plat (MTP)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Township</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>W.R.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Acres</th>
<th>Kind of Entry</th>
<th>Kind of Deed</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Scenario</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>1.4</td>
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<td>7.9</td>
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<td>7.4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Note: The table contains historical index information for TOWNSHIP 23 NORTH RANGE 9 EAST OF THE WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN, WASHINGTON.
What is Land Status?
Current Federal Land Status

- Current Federal Land Status
  - Are the lands available for the use being requested?
  - Rights, Restrictions and Use.
  - Based on the concepts of an original public domain of all potential surface and subsurface rights subject to appropriation over time.
  - Appropriation encompasses actions that:
    - pass rights to and from the U.S.
    - modify their spatial extents
    - assign managing federal agencies
    - impose and revoke restrictions on the rights
    - grant and terminate authorized use of U.S. rights
Current Federal Land Status

- AUTHORIZED USE (e.g., Rights of Way, Leases)
- SEGREGATIONS
  - Restrictions (e.g., Withdrawals)
- SURFACE
- SUBSURFACE
  - Rights (e.g., Conveyances)
Basics on how to read MTPs?

- Think of MTPs and HIs as a single unit.
- It is best to have the entire MTP, not just a clipped portion.
- First check the Right Hand Margin (RHM)!
- Know some basic symbols.
- Follow the symbol.
- Find the text that goes with the symbol
  - Lowest center portion of polygon (typically)
  - Follows a linear feature
  - Sometimes with an arrow
MTP and HI as single unit.
MTP and HI as single unit.

**ST OF THE WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN, WASHINGTON**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acres</th>
<th>Kind of Entry or Purpose</th>
<th>Serial Number or Order Number</th>
<th>Action Date</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>101.55</td>
<td>WD to US</td>
<td>OR 57149 W</td>
<td>04/05/2001</td>
<td>Snoqualmie 182; Acq land; Title accepted 08/15/2001</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>4820100014</td>
<td>08/04/2010</td>
<td>WAW 05241-A; Plat accepted 06/27/1893</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Last Revised: 03/28/2011
Entire MTP (and don’t forget RHM!)
Historical Actions on MTP

1) Original Patent
2) Acquisition to US
3) Quitclaim Deed (Now Private)

The 3rd Action or, the top most action is the most Current.
MTP Help

http://www.blm.gov/or/pubroom/files/MTP_Help.pdf
Withdrawal Symbols
Authorized Use Symbols
Land Records Automation Project

GIS Master Title Plat

GIS Land Status View

Land Status Database Design
- AUTHORIZED USE (e.g., Rights of Way, Leases)
- SEGREGATIONS Restrictions (e.g., Withdrawals)
- SURFACE Rights (e.g., Conveyances)
- SUBSURFACE
Cadastral National Spatial Data Infrastructure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MeanderedWater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MetadataGlance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSSFirstDivision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSSIntersected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSSPoint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSSSecondDivision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSSSpecialSurvey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSSTownship</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Best complete set of PLSS data in a publication format
- The Land Status Geodatabase relies on:
  - Current CADNSDI Geometry
  - Current CADNSDI Attributes
General Land Office Records

Welcome to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), General Land Office (GLO) Records Automation website. We provide free access to Federal land conveyance records for the Public Land Status, including image access to more than five million Federal land title records issued between 1820 and the present. We also have images related to survey plats and field notes, dating back to 1810. Due to the organization of documents in the GLO collection, this site does not currently contain every Federal title record issued for the Public Land States.

Federal Land Patents offer researchers a source of information on the initial transfer of land titles from the Federal government to individuals. In addition to verifying title transfer, this information will allow the researcher to associate an individual (Patentee, Assignee, Warrantee, Widow, or Heir) with a specific location (Legal Land Description) and time (Issue Date). We have a variety of Land Patents on our site, including Cash Entry, Homestead, and Military Warrant patents.
General Land Office Records

To search for CDI documents:
1. Start by selecting the State.
2. You do not have to fill in all fields, but provide at least one additional field.
3. Click the Search CDI button.

You can get a brief description of what each field means by hovering your mouse over it. You can get more detailed information by checking the Glossary in the Reference Center. For more tips and help, check out our CDI Search Overview.

Using the Name field: The name represents a person, group, or entity associated with the document. It is not broken out into first, middle and last name parts. Enter any part or parts of the name in any order. For example, to search for John Smith, you could enter 'Smith John' or 'John Smith'.

Note: This site does not cover every state, but we do have resource links for most states.
References

http://www.blm.gov/or/landrecords/survey/ySrvy1.php
Questions?

jberg@blm.gov
jkemper@blm.gov
flahm@blm.gov