

October 7, 2018

RE: Support for Miners

Hello Mining Community and supporters for the mining community:

My name is Thomas Blalock, Idaho placer mining claim holder of unpatented mining claims located in Idaho County, Idaho.

I would like to thank everyone for their thoughts regarding the issues facing small miners in this age of anti-resistance to everything by the left-wing extremist. As a small miner who has five claims (4 in Warren Mining District & 1 in the former Florence Mining District) I have had my experiences with all of the regulatory agencies and their obstructionist attitudes. At every turn there was an excuse not to proceed with the simplest of mining activities. In my case the mining was placed on hold until I could purchase private property (with land & building purchased) near the claims and set up a base of operations. This activity is still on-going with the vision that the regulatory issues are politically corrected by this administration. One can only hope.

I support the miner's efforts in the following:

1. I oppose the transfer/sale of any Federal Lands through the Forest Service or any other Agency to the State or private company or citizen. Federal Land is under the governance of the Department of Interior with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as the Manager and the Forest Service as acting Regulatory Agency with the final approval of any Federal transfer/Sale go through Congress.
 - a. I strongly oppose the Lochsa River Basin proposal.
 - b. I strongly oppose any reclassification of Federal lands; such as designation Wilderness, Wild & Scenic, Monuments, National Parks.
 - c. I strongly oppose closing access to Federal land by the Forest Service to the mining community.
2. All Federal land open to mining should remain open to the public with unrestricted access to these lands in support of the miners.
3. Lands designated as "open to mining" which has legally filed claims should remain open without restriction to access and no regulatory agency the right to obstruct miners from accessing these lands as what is happening by the obstructionist Forest Service, Fish and Game, along with other Federal and State agencies.
4. All legally filed unpatented and patented claim on Federal land should not be under State government jurisdictions for any reason. Federal land should be without exception under the Federal Government and no other State, County, tribal government or local government.
5. I am of the opinion that mining in the United States should hold high priority for our national defense and that the Federal Government should reenact the **Federal Bureau of Mines** under the direction of the Defense Department with **Federally recognized mining districts** under the direction of the Federal Bureau of Mines. All mining districts would be

required to submit an application to the Bureau of Mines for approval to become a **Federally Recognized Mining District**.

6. I am of the opinion that all states with mining activities should modernize the by-laws of all existing mining districts with consistence by-laws as approved by the Federal Bureau of Mines for all mining districts as agreed by the Mining Districts. If no mining district exist for a particular location then a new mining district should be created where there are none. All mining district Officer's should be staffed and approved by the Federally recognized mining district members and only individuals who are mining claim owners, individuals with the professional mining skills could hold an OFFICER position on federally recognized mining districts board.
7. Any disagreement or grievance by others against a miner or mining company would first be required to notify the Federal Bureau of Mines to submit their case. Then these case then would be discussed between the Bureau of Mines with the plaintiff to attempt to resolve the issue. If the issue is unresolved then the Bureau of Mines would arbitrate the case with the Mining District and the miner. All final decisions would reside with the Bureau of Mines. No action would be taken against the miner until adjudication is final between the Bureau of Mines, the Mining District and the miner.
8. I would like the support of President Trump to reverse Bill Clinton's **moratorium on eliminating the funding for the BLM** on filing patented mining claims. This effort would jump-start the miner's ability to acquire financing to support the mining industry. This effort would also give the miner's collateral at lending institutions for loans or investors.
9. I support the excellent job that President Trump has done and with the current political successes including the superb job with the high court. I feel things will only get better, but as miners we have a long way to go to root out the staff members inside the governments regulatory agencies that oppose the mining industry. Until there is a **complete removal** of these obstructionist on Federal payroll the extremist hold-overs will only wait out President Trump until he is out of office or the Democrat's return to power. That is why I strongly suggest all high, middle and low level management personnel be reassigned (since it is practically impossible to fire Federal employees) to any other position not associated with mining activities and replaced with pro-mining personnel or reconstruct the bureaucrat organizational structure of the government replacing Federal lands under the control of the Defense Department and Federal Bureau Mines under the Department of Defense at the same time giving Federal authority and power to the Federally Recognized Mining Districts over the miners in the individual districts who are staffed with local miner of the individual mining districts.
10. I strongly urge President Trump to send several individuals from his personal staff of trusted individuals to visit with State authorities to work to educate and enforce State and Federal agencies to **comply with all Executive Orders** under penalty of law for **anyone** not complying with Federal Directives. It is well known that individuals who are in positions of authority that do not agree with President Trump will delay, delay, delay and obstruct. A direct pipe line back to President Trump with information for those who do not comply in a timely manner could solve this lack of communications in a timely manner back to the President.

11. That is why it is so important to support President Trump and for everyone to go to the polls this November 6, 2018 , again in 2020 Presidential election and **VOTE REPUBLICAN.**
If not, I guarantee you, if the Democrats return to power nothing they do will support ANY miner.

I am sure there is more to say but I will continue at a later date.

If you have any questions please contact my office.

Sincerely,
Tom

Thomas Blalock

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas E. Blalock". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "X" at the end.

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