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the land records maintained by the BLM office having jurisdiction over the lands involved. If you have any questions regarding the availability of a particular tract of land, you should contact the BLM office having jurisdiction over the lands or records.

PART 1840—APPEALS PROCEDURES

AUTHORITY: R.S. 2478, as amended; 43 U.S.C. 1201.

§ 1840.1 Cross reference.

For special procedural rules applicable to appeals from decisions of Bureau of Land Management officers or of administrative law judges, within the jurisdiction of the Board of Land Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, see subpart E of part 4 of this title. Subpart A of part 4 and all of the general rules in subpart B of part 4 of this title not inconsistent with the special rules in subpart E of part 4 of this title are also applicable to such appeals procedures.

[36 FR 15119, Aug. 13, 1971]

PART 1850—HEARINGS PROCEDURES

Subpart 1850—Hearing Procedures; General

AUTHORITY: R.S. 2478, as amended; 43 U.S.C. 1201.

§ 1850.1 Cross reference.

For special procedural rules applicable to hearings in public lands cases, including hearings under the Federal Range Code for Grazing Districts and hearings in both Government and private contest proceedings, within the jurisdiction of the Board of Land Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, see subpart E of part 4 of this title. Subpart A of part 4 and all of the general rules in subpart B of part 4 of this title not inconsistent with the special rules in subpart E of part 4 of this title are also applicable to such hearings, contest, and protest procedures.

[36 FR 15119, Aug. 13, 1971]

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PART 1860—CONVEYANCES, DISCLAIMERS AND CORRECTION DOCUMENTS

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Subpart 1862 [Reserved]

Subpart 1863—Other Title Conveyances

AUTHORITY: R.S. 2478; 43 U.S.C. 1201.

§ 1863.5 Title transfer to the Government.

§ 1863.5–1 Evidence of title.

Evidence of title, when required by the regulations, must be submitted in such form and by such abstractor or company as may be satisfactory to the

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Bureau of Land Management. A policy of title insurance, or a certificate of title, may be accepted in lieu of an abstract, in proper cases, when issued by a title company. A policy of title insurance when furnished must be free from conditions and stipulations not acceptable to the Department of the Interior. A certificate of title will be accepted only where the certificate is made to the Government, or expressly for its benefit and where the interests of the Government will be sufficiently protected thereby.

[35 FR 9533, June 13, 1970]

CROSS REFERENCE: For evidence of title in mining cases, see § 3862.1-3 of this chapter.

Subpart 1864—Recordable Disclaimers of Interest in Land

SOURCE: 49 FR 35297, Sept. 6, 1984, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1864.0-1 Purpose.

The Secretary of the Interior has been granted discretionary authority by section 315 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1745) to issue recordable disclaimers of interests in lands. In general, a disclaimer may be issued if the disclaimer will help remove a cloud on the title to lands and there is a determination that such lands are not lands of the United States or that the United States does not hold a valid interest in the lands. These regulations implement this statutory authority of the Secretary.

§ 1864.0-2 Objectives.

(a) The objective of the disclaimer is to eliminate the necessity for court action or private legislation in those instances where the United States asserts no ownership or record interest, based upon a determination by the Secretary of the Interior that there is a cloud on the title to the lands, attributable to the United States, and that:

(1) A record interest of the United States in lands has terminated by operation of law or is otherwise invalid; or

(2) The lands lying between the meander line shown on a plat of survey approved by the Bureau of Land Management or its predecessors and the ac-

tual shoreline of a body of water are not lands of the United States; or

(3) Accreted, relicted, or avulsed lands are not lands of the United States.

(b) A disclaimer has the same effect as a quitclaim deed in that it operates to estop the United States from asserting a claim to an interest in or the ownership of lands that are being disclaimed. However, a disclaimer does not grant, convey, transfer, remise, quitclaim, release or renounce any title or interest in lands, nor does it operate to release or discharge any tax, judgement or other lien, or any other mortgage, deed or trust or other security interest in lands that are held by or for the benefit of the United States or any instrumentality of the United States.

(c) The regulations in this subpart do not apply to any disclaimer, release, quitclaim or other similar instrument or declaration, that may be issued pursuant to any provision of law other than section 315 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1745).

§ 1864.0-3 Authority.

Section 315 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1745), authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to issue a recordable disclaimer, where the disclaimer will help remove a cloud on the title of such lands, if certain determinations are made and conditions are met.

§ 1864.0-5 Definitions.

As used in this subpart, the term:

(a) *Authorized officer* means any employee of the Bureau of Land Management who has been delegated the authority to perform the duties described in this subpart.

(b) *Accreted lands* have the meaning imparted to them by applicable law. In general, they are lands that have been gradually and imperceptibly formed along the banks of a body of water by deposition of water-borne soil.

(c) *Avulsed lands* have the meaning imparted to them by applicable law. In general, they are lands that have been uncovered by a relatively sudden change in alignment of the channel of a river, or by a comparable change in