



American Lands Access Association, Inc.

www.amlands.org

alaa@amlands.org

Volume 14 Issue 2

April - June 2022

President's Message

Doug True

president@amlands.org

Pryor Mountain Perfection

On June 4, 2022 members of the Billings Gem And Mineral Club joined the BLM and the Montana Conservation Corps, to assist in placing new signs marking those non-motorized routes within the Pryor Mountains. We assisted in planting posts in cement, building a relationship with the local government agencies and helping protect our Public Lands.



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California News

Important Project! Rockhound Input Needed

Gregor Losson
MTNM DAC Member & ALAA Member
gregor.losson@amlands.org

Dear ALAA members, Rock collecting clubs, and Rockhounds,

Now is the chance to participate in a process that will make permanent decisions for the future of rock collecting in a vast area of the California desert. The Mojave Trails National Monument covers the historic collecting areas of the Cady Mountains and Mesquite Hills to the west, across 150 miles of the Bagdad-Chase, Lava Hills, southern Bristol, Marble, Clipper, and Piute Mountains, to the Sacramento and Homer Mountains in the East. The collecting areas of Danby Dry Lake and the Ship, Calumet, Sheep Hole and Iron Mountains are inside the southern boundaries of the Monument.

Last month the Mojave Trails National Monument opened public participation in the management plan with introductory Zoom sessions and there will be opportunities for direct comment on access roads to collecting sites in the future. The Mojave Trails subgroup of the Desert Advisory Committee has been formed and will advise the BLM on allowing rock collecting in the Monument, and an appropriate route network.

Many of you spent years submitting information during your participation in WEMO, DRECP, and WMRNP, and we still need your help. We have crossed the threshold where the decisions made will last forever and we have a great opportunity to preserve the long tradition of rockhounding in the California Desert. If we do not participate now, decisions will be made for us, so in order for a report to be prepared for the DAC, please send information relating to the history of Rockhounding within the boundaries of the Mojave Trails National Monument (MTNM). Personal recollections, Club field trip announcements, and field trip reports will be helpful, as well as collecting sites and their access roads. Later in the process, please be prepared to use your information for substantive direct comments on the route network plan.

Let's take this last chance to preserve our traditional Rockhounding for the future! Thank you, Gregor Losson. Your Rock and Mineral Collecting Representative to the Mojave Trails Subgroup of the Desert Advisory Committee.

310-227-5647

calnatmonuments@amlands.org or gregor.losson@amlands.org

Don't be worried about your smartphone or TV spying on you. Your vacuum cleaner has been collecting dirt on you for years.

I don't always go the extra mile, but when I do, it's because I missed my exit.

You don't realize how old you are until you sit on the floor and then try to get back up.

Officers and Directors for 2022

- **President..... Doug True**
- **Vice President..... Jennifer Haley**
- **Secretary..... Susy Martin**
- **Treasurer Frank Mullaney**
- **Membership..... Ronna Watkins**
- **Registered Agent*..... Sandy Hansen**
- **Newsletter Editor/Publisher***
- **Website Manager*..... John Martin** * = a permanent board position

Directors

- | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| • 1. Marion Roberts | • 4. Ken Zahn | • 7. |
| • 2. David Wayment | • 5. Lenora Smith | • 8. |
| • 3 David Williams | • 6. Jim Grey | • 9. |

- Due to the continued effect of the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) on all of the country, the Officers and Directors listed above have agreed to continue in their positions for 2022.
- If you would like to fill one of the open positions please contact Jennifer Haley.
- She may be reached at jennifer.haley@amlands.org

Jennifer Haley

American Lands Access Association - Vice President

jennifer.haley@amlands.org

There is good news to share. Two rockhounds applied and were accepted on BLM advisory councils. Gregor Losson is on the Mojave Trails National Monument DAC. Susie Koppert is on two advisory councils, the John Day-Snake River RAC and the Southern Oregon RAC.

Susie and Gregor have been putting a lot work in over the years to help preserve collecting on public lands. Both are great ambassadors on all of our behalf, whether or not you have collected in the areas they are representing. Their input as council members to help keep collecting allowed for the future of rockhounding is crucial. Please give them your support.

Also, I want to recognize the Oregon Council of Rock and Mineral Clubs. This is a wonderful organization who is showing that when rockhounds partner with BLM on needed projects, good things happen.

I want to encourage all of you as individuals and clubs to be inspired by what all these people are accomplishing. The good relationships they are building with BLM

Continued on Page 6.....

Fieldtrip Journal for Public Lands

(Blank Forms are on Page 4 & 5)

This is the simple Journal to document your Fieldtrip Activities and record the access routes needed to get to and from collecting sites. This data will be useful when asked to submit comments to Public Land Managers during the Public Comment Period on potential Public Land Access Closures proposals.

Your information could save your collecting sites from route closures and access restrictions.....

Forms are also available on the ALAA Website (3 Forms): <http://www.amlands.org/437345.html>

**ALAA – DATA BASE OF COLLECTING SITES
BY STATES
PRIVATE COLLECTING SITES**

NAME OF SOCIETY/CLUB: _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____
Zip _____

Field Trip Leader:

Name: _____ Email: _____

Phone: _____

Collected Material: _____

Name of Company, Ranch or Owner: _____

General Manager: _____

Contact Person: _____

Liability Insurance Requirement: Yes: _____ No: _____

Location (Address): _____

GPS: _____

Distance from your Club: _____

Frequency of leading trips to this location: _____

Number of attendance: _____

Day trip or Overnight: _____

Closest Town: _____

Groceries, gas, restaurants, motels, hardware stores or other impact on the town:

Other Comments for this site:

Date Filled in Form: _____

Please keep copy for your files, send a copy to fieldtrip@amlands.org

**ALAA – DATA BASE OF COLLECTING SITES
BY STATES
GOVERNMENT COLLECTING SITES**

NAME OF SOCIETY/CLUB: _____

Address _____ City _____
State _____ Zip _____

Field Trip Leader:

Name: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Collected Material: _____

FOREST SERVICE _____ GRASSLANDS _____ BLM _____

Did you contact District Manager? Yes: _____ No: _____ Contact Name: _____

Did you have to register your group? Yes: _____ No: _____

Routes to the exact collecting site: _____

GPS: _____

Closest Town: _____

Groceries, gas, restaurants, motels, hardware stores or other impact on the town:

Other Comments for this site:

Date Filled in Form: _____

Please keep copy for your files, send a copy to fieldtrip@amlands.org

From the Great Northwest
Northwestern Federation of Mineralogical Societies- PLAC Chairman
Oregon Council of Rock and Mineral Clubs-Director
John Day-Snake River RAC
Southern Oregon RAC
Susie Koppert
susie.koppert@amlands.org

**A Rockhound's Experience,
Serving on a BLM Resource Advisory Council**

I am very honored and happy to be able to serve on the John Day-Snake River Resource Advisory Council. I have been attending meetings for about 7 years at both the Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council and the John Day/Snake River RAC. Last year was a challenge to attend both RACC meetings via ZOOM. Both RACs have treated me with the utmost respect as well as BLM, FORRESTRY DEPT, USDA, and WIDLIFE FISH and GAME. I've learned a lot from the various groups represented.

The BLM arranged for the SERAC to have a fieldtrip to the Sunstone collection area and of course they invited me, as we all had talked about rockhounding practices around the area. BLM was and is still is aware of the misuse of the land by leaving open pits and garbage. It was a fun trip as I got to demonstrate how to find sunstones to SERAC and some of the new folks in BLM. In fact, the BLM staff prepared burritos made from beef and elk with all the fixings plus salad and desert. They prepared it right on the sight on camp stoves. It was a really fun experience.

The RAC also arranged a trip for us to go to Graveyard Point so we could all talk about the area and its condition. I feel that I learn a lot from these meetings from both the government agencies and the RAC members too. My big challenge is to try my best to enlighten and educate those who want to close areas for collecting as many people think that rockhounding practices are the same as mining.

Jennifer Haley.....Continued from Page 3

representing the recreational rockhounding can only expand, it's inevitable by the way they are doing it.

One of the best forms of leadership is to lead by example, as they are doing.

For those of you who live in other states, other localities, you can make a difference too, by discovering ways to create positive working relationships with land management. Working together really is working out well, so don't be afraid of exploring what you or your club can do to help recreational rockhounding stay in good standing on public lands.

Rock and gem clubs have always been big on education, for their members and offering programs at schools. I think helping to educate public land management and

Continued on Page 7.....

News from Nevada

1872 Mining Law under Review

Al Bolshazy
al.bolshazy@amlands.org

In 1872 Ulysses S. Grant signed into law the "General Mining Law" which governs the extraction of critical and valuable minerals from Federal land. On the 150th anniversary the Biden-Harris administration convened representatives from States, Tribes, Mining Industries, environmental groups, law experts plus other groups. The intent of this convention is to Reform the Outdated Law not to examine the law.

Environmentalists have been reeking havoc with the Forestry Services, Bureau of Land Management and other government groups. For example, dredging in California is now and has been for several years illegal. The miners were helping the river system by removing toxic material from the rivers and improving the environment for aquatic wildlife. Environmental groups have been successful stopping dredging not only in California but in other states as well.

Critical minerals needed for our National Security are currently being bought from China. These minerals are used from everything from our iPhones, computers to our military weapons. With our growing tension with China, China can stop imports to us. We do have great resources (located in California) that can be used as long as the environmentalist and climate groups do not restrict our mining companies from extracting the minerals.

As rockhounds, we can claim mineral deposits. Will this continue? It depends on how they change the law. Same with recreational rock hounding. Will that change? Don't know. I will keep an eye on this convention and see how it progresses. At some point I will ask you for your help. Hopefully, the change will not affect us or our country's security.

Jennifer HaleyContinued from Page 6

offering to help them with public programs and projects, is another valuable aspect of the education we can provide. Don't wait to be involved until there is something to fear or something to lose. You can have enjoyable experiences creating ways to build positive relationships with management. If there are openings on public land advisory councils involving collecting areas, please get involved and apply. If there's a rockhound on more of these councils across the country, there's a lot we can accomplish together. The future of recreational rockhounding really is up to rockhounds being involved.

BLM Advisory Councils

Please let us know if you or someone you know who is a rockhound, is currently a member of a BLM Advisory Council. Sharing this knowledge helps encourage other rockhounds to attend meetings and apply to future openings on the councils.

alaa@amlands.org

Does this have an affect on California Recreational Rockhounding?
If it does, it is time to get involved or at least to be aware.

Sequoia and Sierra Forest Plan Revision Update

June 2022

As we mentioned in our last newsletter, we are in the process of finalizing the revised Sequoia and Sierra forest plans, environmental impact statement, and draft records of decision. Today we are sharing [overviews](#) of how the plans address at-risk species and we are also providing an overview of the objection process and next steps in plan revision. We hope these overviews provide insight into what the planning team has been working on and what to anticipate once the final documents are published later this month. Please note, these previews are for information sharing; we are not receiving formal comments at this time.

Want to learn more? For more information about the Sequoia and Sierra National Forests revision effort and to view additional project documents, please visit the [Sierra Sequoia Plan Revision website](#) or contact us by email at: SM.FS.r5reviseplan@usda.gov.

Thank you for being a part of this journey,

Teresa Benson, Sequoia National Forest Supervisor

Dean Gould, Sierra National Forest Supervisor

Bobbie Miller, Plan Revision Team Leader

California News - Closed Collecting Sites

Gregor Losson

MTNM DAC Member & ALAA Member

gregor.losson@amlands.org

Azurite

Cauthers Canyon, New York Mountains, San Bernardino County, California **COLLECTING SITE NOW IN MOJAVE NATIONAL PRESERVE, COLLECTING DECLARED ILLEGAL WITHIN IT'S BOUNDARIES**

Mimetite and Wulfenite

Imperial Lode District, Lava Bed Mountains, San Bernardino County, California **COLLECTING SITE NOW ON 29 PALMS MARINE CORPS BASE AND CLOSED TO CIVILIANS**
The district mines now closed to collecting include the Lava, Sunshine, Mowry, Pat Maloy and Imperial.

Quartz Var. Chapinite

Camp Irwin, San Bernardino County, California **COLLECTING SITE NOW ON FORT IRWIN MILITARY BASE AND CLOSED TO CIVILIANS**

Brecciated Jasper with agateie Mine, Inyo County, California **CLOSED IN 2005 AND TRANSFERRED TO THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE. NO COLLECTING PER DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK RULES.** Collected in the 1525' level drift 7W.

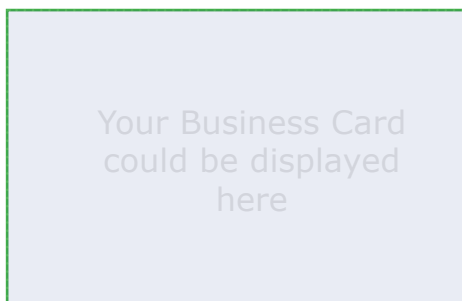
Mine minerals included colemanite, celstine, ulexite and veatchite.

AFMS CODE OF ETHICS

Last revised July 7, 1999 at AFMS Annual Meeting

1. I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without permission from the owner.
2. I will keep informed on all laws, regulations or rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
3. I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
4. I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
5. I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind such as fences, signs, buildings, etc.
6. I will leave all gates as found.
7. I will build fires only in designated or safe places and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
8. I will discard no burning material – matches, cigarettes, etc.
9. I will fill in all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
10. I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supply.
11. I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
12. I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
13. I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (**H**elp **E**liminate **L**itter **P**lease) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
14. I will cooperate with field-trip leaders and those designated authority in all collecting areas.
15. I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
16. I will observe the "Golden Rule" will use Good Outdoor Manners and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public Image of Rockhounds everywhere.

Gem and Mineral Dealers Who Support ALAA with Memberships



Are you a Rock and Mineral Dealer?

A Lapidary Arts Dealer?

Join ALAA

Your Business Card could be displayed here

We invite interested dealers/vendors to become a member of the American Lands Access Association and help support Recreational Rockhounding Activities.

An Annual Dealer Membership is for vendors with a valid resale license, who sell rock and gem hobby related merchandise such as; jewelry, minerals, rocks, gems, fossils, lapidary art and crafts, equipment and supplies, metaphysical and decorative items.

Interactive Membership Form (PDF) is available on the ALAA Website - Membership Page. Open with Adobe Acrobat Reader - Complete, Print, and mail to the address on form.

<http://www.amlands.org/634600.html>

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles for the NEWSLETTER are DUE to the Editor by the
10th of January - 10th of April - 10th of July - 10th of October

For inclusion in each Quarterly Newsletter

Please send articles to: **editor@amlands.org**

Please send articles in plain text, MS Word (.doc)

Pictures in jpg format at not less than 96 dpi or more than 200 dpi.

Please do not send articles in PDF format.

**Concerns or questions on article format please contact the editor at
editor@amlands.org**

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AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION

NEW MEMBERSHIP and ANNUAL RENEWAL FORM

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Must be postmarked by December 31st of each year

Member / Contact Name: _____
Last First

Member / Contact Name: _____
Last First

Organization Name: _____

Address: _____
Street City State Zip Code

Mailing Address: _____
(if different from above) City State Zip Code

Phone Number: _____
Primary Secondary

Email Address: _____

Alternate Email address: _____

Member Signature: _____ Date: _____

Dues are: New Member: ☐ ☒ Donation: ☐ ☒
\$25 for an individual or couple Renewal: ☐ ☒ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____
\$50 for a Club or Society

Leave a
note for us:

Please check an option to subscribe to our Email ☐ ☒ or Snail Mail ☐ ☒ list.

Please make checks payable to: American Lands Access Association (ALAA)

Please mail this completed form along with your check to the following address:

American Lands Access Association
C/O Membership Chairman
P.O. Box 54398
San Jose, CA 95154

For more information or questions, please email: membership@amlands.org

ALAA is a grassroots 501(c)(4) Educational, non-profit organization. Our organization is present wherever there are hobbyists and recreational users of public lands whose interests and concerns are not being heard or are being jeopardized by proposed policy, regulation or legislation at the local, state and federal level.

ALAA Membership Renewal Form Rev. 2016

**Click on the above Membership Form to use the interactive Form
(Fillable when opened in Adobe Acrobat Reader)**

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