



# ENGAGE **Winter 2021**

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

## **DOGAMI Permit Fee Changes – Effective January 1, 2021**

Beginning January 1, 2021, an **Application Fee of \$2,000** will be required with all standard permit application forms. This includes applications for Aggregate, Exploration, Oil & Gas, and Geothermal permits. Exclusion Certificate application fees, DEQ water quality permit application and annual fees, and cost-recovery projects are not included in this fee update.

**Annual Renewal Fees** will increase as follows:

<u>Aggregate Permit Renewal</u>		<u>Oil &amp; Gas Permit Renewal</u>	\$1,160
with production	\$1,460 plus \$0.0125/ton		
no production	\$1,200	<u>Geothermal Permit Renewal</u>	\$2,725
<u>Exploration Permit Renewal</u>	\$1,460	<u>Exclusion Certificate Renewal</u>	\$165

**Complete fee schedules are available on our website:**

- **Oil/Gas:**  
[https://www.oregongeology.org/mlrr/forms/oilgas/520\\_OG\\_FeeSchedule2021.pdf](https://www.oregongeology.org/mlrr/forms/oilgas/520_OG_FeeSchedule2021.pdf)
- **Surface Mining/Mineral Exploration:**  
[https://www.oregongeology.org/mlrr/forms/sufacemining/517\\_FeeSchedule2021.pdf](https://www.oregongeology.org/mlrr/forms/sufacemining/517_FeeSchedule2021.pdf)
- **Geothermal:**  
[https://www.oregongeology.org/mlrr/forms/geothermal/522\\_GEO\\_FeeSchedule2021.pdf](https://www.oregongeology.org/mlrr/forms/geothermal/522_GEO_FeeSchedule2021.pdf)

**ALL our permit forms are online at:** <https://www.oregon.gov/dogami/Pages/MLRR-resources.aspx>

## **Policy Updates:**

DOGAMI continues to align our business processes with that of other State agencies and businesses within the industry, we want to give you a couple of very important reminders. In July of 2019, we started implementing Civil Penalties as part of our enforcement program. With this came the revamping of our renewal process – most notably with regards to when we send out permit renewal notices. Permit Renewal Notices are now sent out approximately 30 days before they are due (instead of 60 days). Oregon Statute requires us to accept a complete renewal packet – which means that we must receive BOTH the check *and* the Permit Renewal Notice form within the allotted timeframe. If we do not receive both the check and the renewal form, your site is eligible to be issued a Notice of Violation at 30 days delinquent, and a Civil Penalty at 60 days delinquent.

This prompts us to remind you of our check holding policy. If the check is not received with the Permit Renewal Notice, or there is some reason that it is incomplete (forgot to sign it, etc.) – we will only hold your check for up to 2 weeks before sending it back to you.

Contact Us at 541-967-2039 email: [mlrr.info@oregon.gov](mailto:mlrr.info@oregon.gov)  
Website: [www.oregongeology.org/mlrr](http://www.oregongeology.org/mlrr)

Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries  
Mineral Land Regulation & Reclamation  
229 Broadalbin St. SW, Albany, OR 97321



## Winter on the (Flood)Plains...

With the arrival of winter, DOGAMI would like to remind folks who operate mine sites adjacent to rivers and streams, as well as those with sites located in Oregon's floodplains, of the risks of flooding and high-water events. While these risks include the potential for mine sites to be inundated with water, which can cause damage to equipment and mining facilities, flood inundation can also result in potential liabilities related to the entrapment of threatened or endangered species, or damage adjacent properties as the result of erosion.

The first step in being aware of these risks is understanding the degree to which your mine site is susceptible to flooding. The "FEMA Flood Map Service Center" is an amazing resource permittees can use if your mine site is located within a FEMA Flood Hazard Zone (<https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search>). If your site is in an Oregon floodplain, it is good to know the topography of your site. This will help you identify the low elevation areas that are more susceptible to flooding or becoming floodwater flow pathways. The DOGAMI LIDAR viewer is another good resource you can use to provide perspective on your site's topography (<https://www.oregongeology.org/lidar/>). It's important to remember that DOGAMI does not recommend or condone grading work in the floodplain to alter flood flows, unless that work has been approved via a Floodplain Development Permit from your local land use authority and the grading work was specifically approved by DOGAMI as part of your approved mine plans.

If your site is not in a floodplain but adjacent to a stream or creek, you may still have a certain degree of flood risk. Most of the DOGAMI permits for sites that are adjacent to streams and creeks include excavation or operational setbacks. While these setbacks are generally intended to protect water quality and sensitive riparian habitats, they also serve to protect operators by reducing the impacts of high-water events on the mine site, as well as reducing the liability to mine operators. If your site is located adjacent to a stream or creek, DOGAMI encourages you to know your excavation or operational setbacks and abide by those permit requirements to protect the environment and limit your own liability.

DOGAMI generally recommends that all operators pay attention to the NOAA weather forecast, but this is especially important for operators with sites located within floodplains or adjacent to streams and creeks. It is also good to monitor the water levels in the adjacent stream, creek, or river system so that you are prepared in advance of a high-water event. Many of the larger streams and rivers in Oregon have USGS river gaging stations that report current stream flows and water levels (<https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis>). The Northwest River Forecast Center provides river level forecasts for all USGS gaging stations which are available on their website (<https://www.nwrfc.noaa.gov/rfc/>).

For more information on how to be prepared for a high-water event please **contact** Vaughn Balzer, DOGAMI Floodplain Reclamationist, at [Vaughn.Balzer@oregon.gov](mailto:Vaughn.Balzer@oregon.gov) or 541-967-2082.

*If you'd like to receive our newsletters via email, sign up for our listserv at: [listsmart.osl.state.or.us/mailman/listinfo/mlrr.newsletter](https://listsmart.osl.state.or.us/mailman/listinfo/mlrr.newsletter)*