

For Rock, Timber—

Trespass Violations

The Bureau of Land Management's Anchorage District Office last week served notices alleging trespass violations on land claims by former Alaska Commissioner of Administration Joseph Henri for the removal of quarry rock and timber from the lands.

Anchorage District Manager Richard Tindall said, Henri, the Burgess Construction Company, Glacier Timber Corporation and Walter Novak, an independent Juneau logger, have 30 days in which to provide information disclaiming their involvement in the alleged trespass on two parcels of land comprising unpatented mineral survey 955, located three miles north of Juneau.

The trespass notices allege that an estimated 170,000 board feet of timber was cut and removed from the two claims and that approximately 400,000 cubic yards of quarry rock was removed also.

Henri filed an amended location notice on the Boston King Dewey claims in 1972 establishing his right to explore and mine for locatable minerals such as gold or silver.

Under the federal mining laws, common minerals such as sand, gravel and rock may not be removed from a mining claim. The laws also state that timber can be cut only if it is used in direct support of the mining operation.

To date, BLM's investigation has produced no evidence of mining activity on the two claims.

Glacier Timber Corporation

of Juneau was served two trespass notices for cutting and removing almost 170,000 board feet of timber from the claims including 57,840 board feet from the Dewey claim, which is still stacked on the land.

Novak, a subcontractor for Glacier Timber, is allegedly responsible for cutting timber from the Dewey claim north of Salmon Creek.

The president of Burgess Construction company, Lon McDermott, was also served a notice for the illegal removal of the rock and timber from the Boston King claim south of Salmon Creek.

The rock was sold to the Alaska Department of Highways for use in the construction of Glacier Highway which runs past the claims on the west from Juneau to the airport.

Henri has told BLM investigators that he sold only 12,000 board feet of timber to Glacier Timber Corporation, but upon completion of scaling and cruising estimates this week, BLM determined the amount of timber removed at 97,000 board feet on the Boston King Claim and 57,840 board feet on the Dewey claim.

Cruising is a forestry technique used to calculate the per acre volume of timber. It was used in this case to measure the amount of Hemlock and Spruce that grew on the five acre parcel on land in question.

BLM began investigating the alleged trespass earlier this year and expects to complete its investigation soon, said Tindall.

Included in the report will be a determination as to the validity of the two mining claims involved and an estimation of the total amount and value of the minerals removed from the area.