§ 947.700 Washington Federal program.

(a) This part contains all rules that are applicable to surface coal mining operations in Washington which have been adopted under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977.

(b) Most of the rules in this part cross-reference pertinent parts of the permanent program regulations in this chapter. The full text of a rule is in the permanent program rule cited under the relevant section of the Washington Federal program.

(c) The rules in this part apply to all surface coal mining operations in Washington conducted on non-Federal and non-Indian lands. The rules in Subchapter D of this chapter apply to operations on Federal lands in Washington.

(d) The information collection requirements contained in this part do not require approval by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3507 because there are fewer than ten respondents annually.

(e) The following provisions of Washington laws generally provide for more stringent environmental control and regulation of some aspects of surface coal mining operations than do the provisions of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act and the regulations in this chapter. Therefore, pursuant to section 505(b) of the Act, they shall not generally be construed to be inconsistent with the Act, unless in a particular instance the rules in this Chapter are found by OSM to establish more stringent environmental controls:

1. Washington Clean Air Act, RCW 70.94.
2. Washington Food Fish and Shellfish Laws pertaining to the Department of Fisheries on operation in streams, RCW 75.
3. Washington Hydraulic Projects Approval Law, RCW 75.20.100.
§ 947.701 General.

(a) Sections 700.5, 700.11, 700.12, 700.13, 700.14, 700.15, and part 701 of this chapter shall apply to surface coal mining operations in Washington.

(b) The following modified definitions shall be applicable under §701.5 of this chapter:

(1) Arid and semiarid area means, in the context of alluvial valley floors, an area of the interior western United States, west of the 100th meridian west longitude, experiencing water deficits, where water use by native vegetation equals or exceeds that supplied by precipitation. All coalfields located in North Dakota west of the 100th meridian west longitude, all coalfields in Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, Idaho, Nevada, and Arizona, the Eagle Pass field in Texas, and the Stone Canyon and the Ione fields in California are in arid and semiarid areas, except that all coalfields located in the State of Washington west of the crest of the Cascade Mountain Range are not in arid or semiarid areas.

(2) Forestry (Forest Land). Includes land used or managed for the long-term production of wood, wood fiber, or wood derived products. All land which is capable of supporting a merchantable stand of timber and is not being actively used in a manner or for a use which is incompatible with timber growing is also included. Land used for facilities in support of forest harvest and management operations which is adjacent to or an integral part of these operations is also included.

(c) Records required by §701.14 of this chapter to be made available locally to the public shall be retained at the county recorder’s office of the county in which an operation is located, and at the nearest OSM Field Office.