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MANUAL TRANSMITTAL SHEET

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Subject:

9687 – Certified Federal Surveyor (CFedS) Program Manual (PUBLIC)

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1. Explanation of Materials Transmitted: This Manual provides guidance, establishes policy, assigns responsibilities and provides direction for development and administration of the (CFedS) Program.
2. Reports Required: None.
3. Material Superseded:
4. Filing Instructions: File as directed below

REMOVE

NONE

INSERT

9687 Certified Federal Surveyor  
(CFedS) Program Manual  
(PUBLIC)  
(Five pages total)

9687- CERTIFIED FEDERAL SURVEYOR (CFedS)  
PROGRAM MANUAL (PUBLIC)

- .01 Purpose
- .02 Objectives
- .03 Authority
- .04 Responsibilities
- .05 References
- .06 Policy
- .07 File and Records Maintenance
- .08 Frequently Asked Questions

.01

## 9687- CERTIFIED FEDERAL SURVEYOR (CFedS) PROGRAM MANUAL (PUBLIC)

- .01 Purpose. This Manual provides guidance, establishes policy, assigns responsibilities and provides direction for development and administration of the Certified Federal Surveyor Program.
- .02 Objectives.
- A. Establish a training and testing program to certify state licensed land surveyors to provide cadastral services for federal interest lands, under the direction and control of BLM
  - B. Increase the number of qualified surveyors to provide cadastral services for federally recognized tribes and individual Indians or Alaska Natives.
  - C. Ensure that land boundary surveys for federally recognized tribes and individual Indians or Alaska Natives are executed in accordance with accepted professional standards, and are in compliance with the current policies and legal interpretations of the Department of the Interior and Bureau of Land Management.
  - D. Protect and preserve Indian trust assets from boundary conflicts, trespass, unauthorized use and ambiguous land descriptions.
  - E. Properly discharge the Secretary's trust responsibilities with a high degree of proficiency, integrity and care.
- .03 Authority. This chapter is issued under the authority of 43 U.S.C. § 2 and its implementing delegation of authorities to the BLM Cadastral Survey to perform all executive duties appertaining to the surveying of the public lands of the United States, 36 Stat. 703,740, which provides that surveys and resurveys will be made by such competent surveyors as the Secretary of the Interior may select and 25 U.S.C. § 176 which identifies whenever it becomes necessary to survey any Indian or other reservation, or any lands, to be under the direction and control of the BLM and in conformity to the rules and regulations under which other public lands are surveyed.
- .04 Responsibilities.
- A. The Director is responsible for ensuring compliance with the requirements of this Manual. This responsibility is exercised through the Washington Office Chief Cadastral Surveyor, in close cooperation with the BLM's Bureau management Team and the BLM's Executive Leadership Team.

## 9687- CERTIFIED FEDERAL SURVEYOR (CFedS) PROGRAM MANUAL (PUBLIC)

- B. The Assistant Directors will ensure that directorates, divisions, and branches under their jurisdiction comply with this manual.
  - C. State Directors will coordinate delivery of cadastral services for trust lands with BLM Cadastral Survey Program.
  - D. Chief Cadastral Surveyor will perform all functions and sign all documents relating to the appointment of Certified Federal Surveyors.
  - E. Field Office Managers, including Monuments, National Conservation Areas, Center, Districts, Field Office, Areas, and other with similar responsibilities will support the CFedS program in their respective areas of jurisdiction.
  - F. State Offices Chief Cadastral Surveyors
    - a. Will provide technical support to CFedS for the delivery of cadastral services on federal interest lands.
    - b. Perform all inherently governmental functions relating to cadastral services performed by CFedS.
- .05 References. A CFedS will follow the current BLM Manual of Instructions for the Survey of the Public Lands of the United States, its amendments and supplements.
- .06 Policy. The delivery of cadastral services to federally recognized tribes and individual Indians or Alaska Natives is under the direction and control of the Secretary of the Interior through the BLM. Certified Federal Surveyors are authorized to perform many of these services and will be utilized whenever possible to accomplish the Secretary's trust responsibilities in the most timely, cost effective and efficient manner. In addition, CFedS may be utilized to deliver cadastral services under the direction and control of BLM on any federal interest land.
- .07 File and Records Maintenance. The CFedS roster will be maintained according to the procedures established by the CFedS Certification Panel and the BLM/GRS Combined Records.

## 9687- CERTIFIED FEDERAL SURVEYOR (CFedS) PROGRAM MANUAL (PUBLIC)

### .08 Frequently Asked Questions.

A. What is the CFedS Program?

The CFedS program is a certification program designed to provide State licensed land surveyor with training necessary to provide cadastral services in Indian Country, to basic federal standards.

B. Who will be managing the CFedS program?

A panel established by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and composed of members selected from BLM, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), the Office of the Special Trustee for American, Tribal or Alaskan Native representatives and the private sector will oversee the program.

C. What is the purpose of the CFedS program?

The CFedS program has been authorized by the Secretary of the Interior to enhance the delivery of cadastral services in Indian country.

D. Who is eligible for the CFedS program?

Applicants must be a State licensed land surveyor in good standing.

E. How does a surveyor become certified?

Surveyors must complete a training module equivalent to a three-credit college course (approximately 120 hrs.) and pass the Certification Examination.

F. How can I find the name of a CFedS in my area?

Upon completion of the program, the surveyor's name will be placed on the CFedS Roster. Individuals, Tribes and the BIA will be encouraged to select surveyors from the CFedS Roster when contracting for cadastral services in Indian Country.

G. Does a surveyor have to be certified to provide cadastral services in Indian country?

The program is voluntary, but certain services must be performed by a CFedS to be accepted by the BLM.

H. Where will the training be held?

The course will be delivered by various forms of distance learning.

9687- CERTIFIED FEDERAL SURVEYOR (CFedS)  
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I. What courses will be included in the training?

The training will include portions of the BLM's Advanced Cadastral Survey and Land Tenure in Indian Country courses along with new material covering Standards for Indian Trust Lands Boundary Evidence.