

# Who Owns The West?

a project of **Environmental Working Group**

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## Mining claims in Carbon County

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Location: Wyoming Carbon County

The hardrock mining industry owns gold, silver, and other precious metals and minerals beneath an estimated 21,821 acres of U.S. public land in Carbon County, acquired for as little as \$0.84 per acre and held in perpetuity for a yearly rental fee as low as \$0.62 an acre. Under a 132-year-old law originally intended to spur development of the West, an industry dominated by a handful of multinational corporations pays no federal royalties, and leaves behind a landscape of dramatically diminished value, scarred with tunnels, pits, and toxic waste piles.

### Quick facts about mining claims in Carbon County

- Total number of claim-holders: **87**
- Acres of public land claimed by the mining industry, estimated: **21,821** (2,182 typical city blocks)
- Dollars paid for each acre: as little as **\$0.84**, and as little as **\$0.62** yearly rental fee
- Reimbursement to the federal government for gold, silver and other precious metals taken from public land: **\$0**
- Percentage of claims held by foreign companies: **9%**
- Land area ever claimed by the mining industry nationally, estimated: **79 million acres** (the size of New Mexico)

EWG analysis of data compiled by the Bureau of Land Management.

### Top Mining Claim Owners in Carbon County Ranked by Acres Claimed

Companies have been consolidated to account for subsidiaries. [View this table without consolidation.](#)

	Company/Individual	Headquarters	Number of Claims	Acreage Claimed	Date(s) Filed
1	<a href="#">Encampment Resources LLC</a>	Jelm, WY	307	6,343	2000 to 2002
2	<a href="#">John W Glasscock</a>	Jelm, WY	281	5,805	2000
3	<a href="#">Cameco Corp</a>	World HQ in Canada	97	2,004	1955 to 1980
4	<a href="#">Sequoyah Fuels Corp</a>	Oklahoma City, OK	94	1,942	1955 to 1973
5	<a href="#">Getty Oil Co</a>	Los Angeles, CA	85	1,756	1957 to 1973
6	<a href="#">Barbara S Mueller</a>	Robinson, KS	9	1,440	1960 to 1983
7	<a href="#">Charles M Maze</a>	Hiawatha, KS	9	1,440	1960 to 1983
8	<a href="#">Betty L Maze</a>	Hiawatha, KS	9	1,440	1960 to 1983
9	<a href="#">David L Christie</a>	Hiawatha, KS	9	1,440	1960 to 1983
10	<a href="#">Micheale A Christie</a>	Hiawatha, KS	9	1,440	1960 to 1983

[See all claim holders in Carbon County](#)

Some of the claimants in this table may be in partnership with other individuals or companies with a claim to the same land.

Location: Wyoming Carbon County

Source: EWG analysis of Bureau of Land Management's Land and Mineral Records 2000 (LR2000) data system. For claims, acreages are estimated based on maximum allowable size of claims. For patents, acreages are taken directly from the LR2000 database where available, and are estimated based on maximum allowable size of claim that preceded the patent where acreages are not noted in LR2000. All notices are assumed to be five acres in size, and the size of plans are calculated directly as the size of the land represented by the legal land description in the LR2000 database. The acreages we estimate through these methods would tend to overestimate the actual amount. We welcome corrections [here](#), and would welcome a federal data management system that included the acreages involved in these important federal land transactions.