

## The University of New Mexico

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Examination No	
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## **Federal Lands**

UNM School of Law

**Professor Denise Fort** 

- 1. Using the text book please consider and write a well organized thoughtful analysis of
  - a) whether <u>Leo Sheep</u> is reconcilable with <u>Camfield</u>?
  - b) Whether Bergen v. Lawrence (157-159) was properly decided?
- 2. You may do any electronic or library research that you like to answer this question, but do not discuss it with any person

You represent a landowner who is purchasing a large private ranch that contains a number of old trails that cross it. As you research the title, you learn that it was in the public domain almost a century earlier. What steps would you take to determine if there was a valid existing right across it? How would you attempt to settle any claims?

3. The state of Ecotopia has adopted a stringent mining reclamation law that requires that land be returned to its original contours and revegetated following mining. This essentially makes strip mining of coal impossible. The stated rationale for the law is that the state benefits economically from preserving the natural appearance of the land and that revegetation is necessary to prevent water pollution from runoff from piles of disturbed earth. Acme Mining contends that the state lacks the ability to regulate its activities on federal land. Acme's federal mining lease contains reclamation provisions, but they do not require revegetation. Must Acme follow state law, even if it makes mining uneconomical?