By-Laws
THE SLATE CREEK MINING DISTRICT
ESTABLISHED: July 16, 1894
APPROXIMATELY 200 SQUARE MILES

On July 16th, 1894: Grantor: M. Justin Karr
Grantee: Public

The boundaries of this district shall include all land drained by Slate and Canyon creeks and their tributaries from their sources to the mouth of Slate creek, being and lying in Whatcom county, state of Washington.

The first branch of Slate creek flowing from the south shall be known as the South Fork of Slate creek and the other branch flowing from the northeast, as the North Fork of Slate creek, and the creeks forming the north fork, the one flowing from the east, shall be known as the West Fork of the North Fork, and the one flowing from the north, as the north fork of the North Fork of Slate creek.

The two forks of Canyon creek be called the East and West forks of Canyon creek; the westerly, the West Fork and the easterly the East Fork.

The range of mountains lying in this district west of Canyon creek, west fork and Canyon, shall be known as the West Range, and the mountains lying between the east and west forks of Canyon creek, as the Central Range. The mountains lying between Slate and the north fork of Slate creek, and Canyon and the East fork of Canyon creek, as Slate Mountains. The mountains lying between the north and east forks of the north fork of Slate creek, as Benson mountain. The mountains lying between the east fork of the north fork of Slate and the south fork of Slate creek, as Crater Mountain, and the range lying south of Slate creek and it’s south fork, as Mill Mountain.

SLATE CREEK MINING DISTRICT MODIFIED AND OR AMENDED ARTICLES AND BYLAWS FOR 2017

Established: July 16, 1894
Updated: June 12, 2017
Hereby adopt the bylaws, articles and amendments from July 16, 1894 to date and amend the bylaws as so:

ARTICLE I
Name and Information

Section 1.1. Name. The name of this organization is the Slate Creek Mining District. It is a group of miners organized under the 1872 Mining Law in a given geological area of mineralization. Mining Districts are congressionally and federally recognized entities throughout the United States of America.

Section 1.2. Address. The center of Slate Creek Mining District activities shall be the Bellingham Post Office at 4256 Hoff Rd., Bellingham, WA. 98225  Contact: e-mail: greg.auminer@gmail.com

ARTICLE II
Object

Section 2.1 Purpose: The purpose of the Slate Creek Mining District is to support the miner members in the mining district, to arbitrate any and all problems between miners, agencies, organizations and groups within a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), if possible, with the local agency. In Slate Creek Mining District's case this would be the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) or United States Forest Service, Methow Valley Ranger District, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest.

Section 2.2 Slate Creek Mining District shall institute local mining district laws that pertain to management of the miner and land in the district per the 1872 Mining Law in conjunction with Congress and with laws that apply.

Section 2.3 Also Slate Creek Mining District is there to promote public interest, awareness, knowledge and education in a symbiotic relationship between agencies, organizations, man, animal, reptile, plants and land.

Section 2.4. To adopt and update the existing Slate Creek Mining District Bylaws from 1894, by existing federal law.

ARTICLE III
Members/Membership/Eligibility
Section 3.1 Eligibility and Membership. Any person or entity may become a member of the Slate Creek Mining District upon:

(a) Payment of dues prescribed by Slate Creek Mining District Bylaws.
(b) Be listed on an active public lands mining claim or mineral patent deed, whether personally or by entity.
(c) Not part of a detrimental group, agency, or organization to the Slate Creek Mining District.
(d) Are currently of good moral character and reputation.
(e) Agree to be bound by and comply with the Bylaws and pledge of the Slate Creek Mining District and the policies determined by the Board.
(f) Agree to actively promote the aims and objectives of the Slate Creek Mining District.
(g) Eighteen (18) years old or over.
(h) Dues are not in arrears
(i) An American citizen

Simply put: One person, one claim, one vote, one fee for membership.
If multiple owners on a claim, if all want to vote, all must pay a membership fee.
If one person owns multiple claims; one membership fee, one vote.

Section 3.2. Dues.

(a) A one-time payment of one hundred dollars ($100.00) is due and payable at time of Slate Creek Mining District acceptance of the miner or mining entity into the mining district.
(b) Also there will be yearly dues of fifty dollars ($50.00) per year payable by July 14th each year, for a single entity.
(c) If dues are not paid by Dec. 31st, the member is considered delinquent and dropped from the rolls and as a member.
(d) If the miner or mining entity wishes to reapply for membership, they must pay dues, plus a fine of ten dollars ($10.00).
(e) Membership and one-time payments are not prorated.
(f) Memberships may be paid in gold or silver at current market price.

Section 3.3. Communications

All members should have some capability of communication by email. However, the BOD will make every effort to contact those without this capability by phone or postal letter.

Section 3.4. Termination of Membership. The membership of any member shall terminate upon occurrence of any of the following events:

(a) The resignation of the member.
(b) The member must have a valid claim or patented mining property within the District. If for any reason the member’s name is removed from the claim(s) or property, the membership shall become invalid.
(b) The failure of a member to pay annual dues as per section 3.2.
(c) The determination that the member, miner or mining entity has failed to adhere to
the purposes of the Slate Creek Mining District provisions, Bylaws or pledge in a material and serious degree then they shall be terminated from the Slate Creek Mining District membership.

(d) Resignations. Any member may resign membership and withdraw from Slate Creek Mining District by submitting a written resignation. A resigning member shall automatically forfeit all rights and privileges in the Slate Creek Mining District and all prepaid dues as of the effective date of the resignation.

Section 3.5. Membership Voting Rights. Voting privileges are given to those with valid membership and may be taken away if the member has compromised any Articles of listed Bylaws of the Slate Creek Mining District.

Section 3.6. Application and Acceptance. Application for membership shall be in writing on a standard form furnished by Slate Creek Mining District. Such form shall be accompanied by sufficient documentation to verify and establish clearly, each applicant's eligibility for membership such as a Notice of Location, Bill of Sale, Quit Claim Deed or other documentation. The membership form shall be completely filled out and signed by the applicant.

(a) After the board reviews the application, it shall be presented to the membership for approval. Voting may be done electronically, by mail or phone, or in person at a membership meeting.

ARTICLE IV
Pledge for All Members of the Slate Creek Mining District

Section 4.1. Members are not to refer to themselves as recreational miners, hobbyist, clubs or rock hounds.

Section 4.2. Members may not become argumentative, cause division, lie about, defame, cause derogatory or negative comments about the Slate Creek Mining District, fight between miners, mining districts or claim owners either on-line, in social media, Facebook or any written or verbal arena. This would be cause for termination of membership in the Slate Creek Mining District.

ARTICLE V
Board of Directors (BOD's)

Section 5.1. BOD's. The BOD's consist of: One (1) Chairman of the Board (COTB), One (1) Secretary, One (1) Treasurer, One (1) Vice Chairman, and One (1) At Large position. The BOD's shall be the governing body of the Slate Creek Mining District. BOD's shall not be a BOD or board member of any club, non-profit or organization that may impede or seek to discredit the SCMD Mission.
Section 5.2. Nominations and Elections. At the spring meeting of each voting year, the membership shall nominate candidates for the positions on the board and on subcommittees, if needed.

Section 5.3. Ballot Election and Term of Office. BOD’s will be elected by ballot or show of hands, for a term of two (2) years. The secretary shall identify each vote, by person, and cause that name to be entered into the record. Elected BOD’s shall take office immediately after the meeting where the voting takes place.

Section 5.4. Vacancies. If there is a vacancy in the BOD’s, at the next regularly scheduled meeting there will be an election for that vacated position, by the membership. In the interim, any remaining board member can assume the vacated office and its duties.

Section 5.5. Removal from Office. Officers can be removed from office with or without cause by a majority vote of the membership at a regular meeting where a previous (2) two week written notice has been given.

Section 5.6. Emblem. The BOD’s may adopt a single emblem to represent the Slate Creek Mining District for all legitimate purposes.

Section 5.7. Budget and Finance Committee. Shall be the BOD’s.

ARTICLE VI
Duties of Board of Directors

Section 6.1. Chairman Of The Board (COTB). The COTB shall be responsible for conducting meetings.

(a) The COTB shall be the chief elective officer of Slate Creek Mining District, and shall, if present, preside at all meetings of Slate Creek Mining District and of the Board, and shall be entitled to vote in the balloting on applicants for membership, electing offices, or in the case of a tie vote.

(b) The COTB shall observe and enforce the By-laws of Slate Creek Mining District.

(c) Appoint all standing and Special Committees except Special Committees whose personnel are named by a vote of the members or by the Board.

(d) Be an ex-officio member of every committee and have the power to remove any member, with the vote of the BOD’s of any committee, for the good of Slate Creek Mining District in general, or the committee in particular.

(e) Have the powers and perform the duties usually incident to the office of the President.

(f) Execute all authorized documents requiring the signature of Slate Creek Mining District.

Section 6.2. Secretary. The secretary shall be responsible for keeping the minutes, correspondence, and working with the other BOD’s and members.
(a) With the Treasurer, prepare and mail yearly to members: statements of dues, or, at the yearly membership meeting, read a list of who has not paid.

(b) With the Treasurer, cause an annual roster of the current membership of Slate Creek Mining District, with the names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of all members whose dues are not in arrears.

(c) Keep or cause to be kept, a complete (Slate Creek Mining District Minute book), a concise and accurate record of the proceedings of all Board meetings, to be presented at the following Board meeting.

(d) Refer to the minutes of the previous board meetings and prepare a summary of all discussion to be presented at the next Board meeting.

(e) Send to the membership and/or BOD’s, notices of all regular and board meetings in the form of an email, phone or postal mail, at least (2) two weeks before the meeting date. Include information of activities, anticipated activities and meeting agenda of Slate Creek Mining District and its membership.

(a) If required, prepare a summary of all documents and papers relating to Slate Creek Mining District (except those kept by the Treasurer) and keep them in such place as may be determined by the Board.

Section 6.3. Treasurer. The treasurer shall be responsible for sending out the dues notices and delinquent slips, collecting dues, giving the secretary information on who are delinquent and paying bills upon BOD approval.

(a) Shall maintain all funds designated for the SCMD.

(b) Shall cause to be paid, upon direction from the BOD, any outstanding bills or payments to entities, over $1000.00.

(c) Shall have the discretionary power to pay or use SCMD funds for expenditures of less than $1000.00.

(d) All expenditures must be reported to the BOD within 30 days and accounted for at the next general membership meeting.

(e) Accurate records must be kept and reviewed by the BOD annually.

Section 6.4. Vice Chairman of the Board. (VCOTB) Shall be responsible for all duties of the Chairman of the Board (COTB) when the COTB is absent, for any reason. See Section 6.1.

Section 6.5. At Large Position. Shall act as directed by the COTB and/or VCOTB.

Section 6.6. Other Duties. These BOD's shall perform the duties assigned to them in the Bylaws and Articles, and other such duties applicable to the office as prescribed by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Slate Creek Mining District.

ARTICLE VII
Meetings
Section 7.1. Regular meetings. The annual meeting shall be held immediately following the USFS/SCMD meeting, usually in May/June of each year. The annual meeting is for receiving reports, seating new BOD’s and subcommittee members, and other business that shall arise. 

(a) At all meetings, a “vote” must be nominated, seconded and voted on by all members in good standing and have not been detrimental in any way to Slate Creek Mining District and, present or by proxy and must have a majority vote to be enacted. If this does not happen, the nominated person, idea, letter or decision shall be abandoned.

Section 7.2. Special meetings. The Chairman may call a special meeting; or, a majority of BOD’s submitting a written request to the secretary can call a special meeting. Previous notice of the meeting shall be sent to the BOD’s at least Thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.

Section 7.3. Quorum. The quorum shall be a minimum of (3) three Slate Creek Mining District members.

Section 7.4. Meeting Requirements. No BOD, subcommittee member, Slate Creek Mining District member or public shall be allowed to attend a meeting if found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol or unruly by at least three (3) BOD’s. This person(s) shall be kicked out immediately and if any trouble occurs shall be arrested by the local law enforcement.

Section 7.5. Voting. All meetings, motions, communiqués, amendments, letters and arbitration must be voted on by (at least) a quorum and carry a majority vote. Anything less than a majority vote shall not proceed. Proxy voting will be allowed.

Simply put: One person, one claim, one vote, one fee for membership.
If multiple owners on a claim, if all want to vote, all must pay a membership fee.
If one person owns multiple claims; one membership fee, one vote.

Section 7.6. Changes. Minor changes in form or wording of an amendment may be made prior to its adoption, provided such changes do not alter the essential meaning, spirit and intent of the amendment, article or bylaw as first submitted.

ARTICLE VIII
Law Enforcement Recognition

Section 8.1. Self Initiation. There are many combinations of Law that must be present for this to be recognized by Congress. This includes a modern MOU with the USFS and/or BLM.

Section 8.2. All Slate Creek Mining District members should carry the local United States Marshall’s phone number in their phones in case a Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) is needed to challenge a federal agency in the field to protect the member.

Section 8.3. Orange Challenge Cards: If at any point a Slate Creek Mining District member is challenged by an agency official, follow the template to get his or her information and try to
record with your phone or camera what the problem is. Once you have completed this, turn in your challenge card to the Slate Creek Mining District BOD’s.

ARTICLE IX
Disciplinary Proceedings

Section 9.1. Cause(s). Membership in Slate Creek Mining District shall automatically be suspended and/or revoked for:

(a) Failure to pay dues within the time prescribed.
(b) A member may be disciplined for any of the following causes:
   (i) Commission of any act involving moral turpitude.
   (ii) Practices of acts of injurious to Slate Creek Mining District, and its interests or mission.
   (iii) Breach or violation of the By-laws, Articles, Pledge, or Policies of Slate Creek Mining District
   (iv) False and misleading statements made by a member against another or against Slate Creek Mining District and/or purposely misleads a member of Slate Creek Mining District in an illegal or false manner.
   (v) Misuse of the Slate Creek Mining District name or emblem.

Section 9.2. Procedure(s). Disciplinary proceedings against SCMD members or the public may be instituted for any of the causes herein by filing with the Chairman of the Slate Creek Mining District:

(a) A written statement of the charges against the member or public accused. Such charges must be signed by at least three BOD’s in good standing. The COTB shall immediately cause a copy of the charges to be served by registered mail, FedEx or UPS upon the member named in the charges, along with a copy of the current By-laws of Slate Creek Mining District.
(b) The accused shall have at least fifteen (15) days after service in which to prepare a defense to the charges. Thereafter, the COTB shall call and pick a Tribunal made up of three (3) BOD’s and/or members in good standing, all to be chosen by the COTB to hold a hearing, at which evidence for and against the charged shall be heard or submitted. The accused and defenders, and those bringing the charges shall be given a full and fair opportunity to appear and be heard. Legal rules of evidence shall not be applied. After the hearing is adjourned, the Tribunal shall meet in closed session to decide the case. A majority vote of the Tribunal shall be necessary; the COTB may break a tie vote, to find the accused guilty or innocent. A decision and the penalty, if any, must be reached and reported in writing to the defendant within thirty (30) days of the date of the hearing, or the charges shall be deemed dismissed.
(c) If the accused is found guilty, the Tribunal may suspend membership for a specific time, may set a probationary period, may expel the member or impose
other or additional penalties deemed appropriate under the circumstances.
(d) The member can appeal this decision to the entire membership.
(e) The decision of the board shall be final.

Section 9.3. Rights. A member who has been suspended shall have neither voice nor vote in the affairs of Slate Creek Mining District, until the period of suspension is ended and the member is reinstated. A member who has been expelled shall not again be admitted to membership unless extenuating circumstances are later found. In no case shall an expelled member be readmitted within one (1) year from the date of expulsion. Upon expulsion, a member shall lose all rights of every nature in Slate Creek Mining District.

ARTICLE X
Non Discrimination

Section 10.1. Non Discrimination. Membership in the Slate Creek Mining District shall be open to persons of all races, creeds, nations, religious belief, and persons of any sex and age. NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS IN THESE BYLAWS, which pertains to persons who have not attained legal majority.
(a) The Slate Creek Mining District also concurs with the federal mining law 30 U.S.C. § 22 and has adopted it for prospective claim owners and current claim owners for membership. 30 U.S.C. § 22 states, “If you are not an American Citizen you may not own claims” so then you may not apply for Slate Creek Mining District membership.
These By-laws are adopted this 12 day of June, 2017, By the following Members of the Board of Directors of the Slate Creek Mining District.

M. Justin Karr
Chairman of the Board
9221 224th St SW Edmonds, WA 98020 206-930-7881
Address/City/State/Zip Code/Phone Number

Email(s)
lenape_sapps@yahoo.com

Secretary of the Board

4433 SE Land Summit Rd Port Orchard WA 98366
Address/City/State/Zip Code/Phone Number
360-362-0444

Email(s) Luscio90@msn.com

Treasurer of the Board

4250 Hoff Rd Bellingham WA 98225

Email(s) greg.auminer@gmail.com

Sean Wheeler
Vice-Chairman of the Board

5066 Ash Way Seattle WA 98188
Address/City/State/Zip Code/Phone Number

Email(s) Wheelercarly666@gmail.com

John Michael Brown
At-Large Position

360-214-4640 P.O. Box 302 Marblemount, WA 98267
Address/City/State/Zip Code/Phone Number

Email(s) JasonKimBrown@gmail.com