

49-402. Declaration of policy. Where surface mining operations are conducted, it is declared to be the policy of this state to provide for the reclamation of affected lands to encourage productive use including but not limited to: The planting of forests; the seeding of grasses and legumes for grazing purposes; the planting of crops for harvest; the enhancement of wildlife and aquatic resources; the establishment of recreational, home and industrial sites; and for the conservation, development, management and appropriate use of all the natural resources of such areas for compatible multiple purposes and protecting the health, safety and general welfare of the people, as well as the natural beauty and aesthetic values, in the affected areas of this state. It is also declared to be the policy of this state to authorize the secretary to take such action as may be necessary to qualify to administer the regulatory programs adopted by the United States department of the interior, office of surface mining reclamation and enforcement, pursuant to the national surface mining control and reclamation act of 1977 (public law 95-87).

History: L. 1968, ch. 395, § 2; L. 1978, ch. 208, § 1; L. 1988, ch. 192, § 6; July 1.