



L A N D

B u y - B a c k P r o g r a m

f o r



T R I B A L N A T I O N S

www.doi.gov/buybackprogram

Presentation Overview



Background

Progress thus far

Current Program areas of interest

Landowner and tribal leader feedback, questions, and comments

What is the Buy-Back Program?



The Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations was created to implement the **land consolidation** component of the **Cobell Settlement Agreement**.

The Settlement provided a **\$1.9 billion fund** to purchase

- fractionated interests
- in trust or restricted land
- at fair market value
- from willing sellers
- within a 10-year period.

Refer to the Program's [Updated Implementation Plan](#) (2013) for more information and fractionation data.



President Barack Obama with the late American Indian Activist Elouise Cobell

What are the major phases of the Program?



1. **Outreach:** To advertise the Buy-Back Program, answer questions, find willing sellers, and define tribal priorities as to what type of fractionated tracts each tribe wishes to have purchased.
2. **Land Research:** To collect data necessary to establish fair market value for fractionated tracts that might be acquired.
3. **Land Valuation:** To determine the fair market value of tracts where Interior will offer to buy fractional interests.
4. **Land Acquisition:** To purchase interests in fractionated tracts valued in the valuation phase that individuals would like to sell.

Progress so far



Established the Program

- Published the Initial Implementation Plan and the Updated Implementation Plan following tribal consultation (including consultation in 2011 and tribal and public input on the draft plan dated January 2012)
- Updated deed to address feedback from landowners
- Obtained review of appraisal methodology by The Appraisal Foundation
- Expanded Trust Beneficiary Call Center to answer questions, updated addresses, and log "interested sellers"
- Created and published [cooperative agreement guidance](#) and [award templates](#)

Progress so far



Shared information with tribes and landowners

- Held three formal government-to-government consultations in early 2013
- Conducted outreach to all 50 states and several foreign countries
- Launched a substantive website (www.doi.gov/buybackprogram) and [public service announcements](#)
- Participated in [webinars](#) hosted by NCAI; held an additional webinar on cooperative agreements for tribal leaders
- Developed and shared an implementation schedule through the end of calendar year 2015 after an open solicitation period (November 2013 – March 2014)



Progress so far

Consolidated land

- Exceeded \$62 million in land sales
- Consolidated over 177,155 acres of fractionated land
- Mailed offers to owners with interests at Pine Ridge, Rosebud, and Makah reservations

Contributed to Scholarship Fund

- Made [initial contribution](#) to Scholarship Fund – nearly \$580,000 transferred

Conducted land research and appraisals

- Completed mass appraisal at Pine Ridge and Rosebud, and direct appraisals at Makah
- Completed initial mapping at 19 locations
- Began appraisal work at 18 locations

Progress so far



- **Entered into agreements with seven tribes:**
 - Coeur D'Alene Tribe of the Coeur D'Alene Reservation
 - Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation
 - Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
 - Gila River Indian Community
 - Northern Cheyenne Tribe of the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation
 - Oglala Sioux Tribe of the Pine Ridge Reservation
 - Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation

Some current Program areas of interest



Ideas for effective outreach

Common questions from owners

Feedback on acquisition documents

Coordination and communication among Buy-Back
Program and tribes

What's next?



Feedback from this session will be used to improve Buy-Back Program implementation.

The Buy-Back Program will focus on implementation at locations on the initial implementation schedule, continuing to receive input from all tribes with fractionated land.

Where can I get more information?



Buy-Back Program website: www.doi.gov/buybackprogram

Trust Beneficiary Call Center: (888) 678-6836

Land Buy-Back Program Tribal Relations Advisors





Landowner and tribal leader feedback, questions, and comments

