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## Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations Listening Session

Albuquerque, New Mexico

March 3, 2016



Written remarks are invited, and may be emailed to:

[buybackprogram@ios.doi.gov](mailto:buybackprogram@ios.doi.gov)

[www.doi.gov/buybackprogram](http://www.doi.gov/buybackprogram)

# Agenda

1:00 pm	Invocation
1:10 pm	Opening Remarks
1:40 pm	Program Presentation
1:50 pm	Oral Comment period
2:45 pm	Break, Resource Tables open
3:15 pm	Remarks
3:20 pm	Tract Appraisal Presentation
3:35 pm	Oral Comment period
4:30 pm	Listening Session ends
5:30 pm	Resource Tables close



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## Program Presentation

Santee Lewis, Senior Advisor-Tribal Relations



[www.doi.gov/buybackprogram](http://www.doi.gov/buybackprogram)

# What is the Buy-Back Program?

The Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations implements the land consolidation component of the **Cobell Settlement Agreement**.

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

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

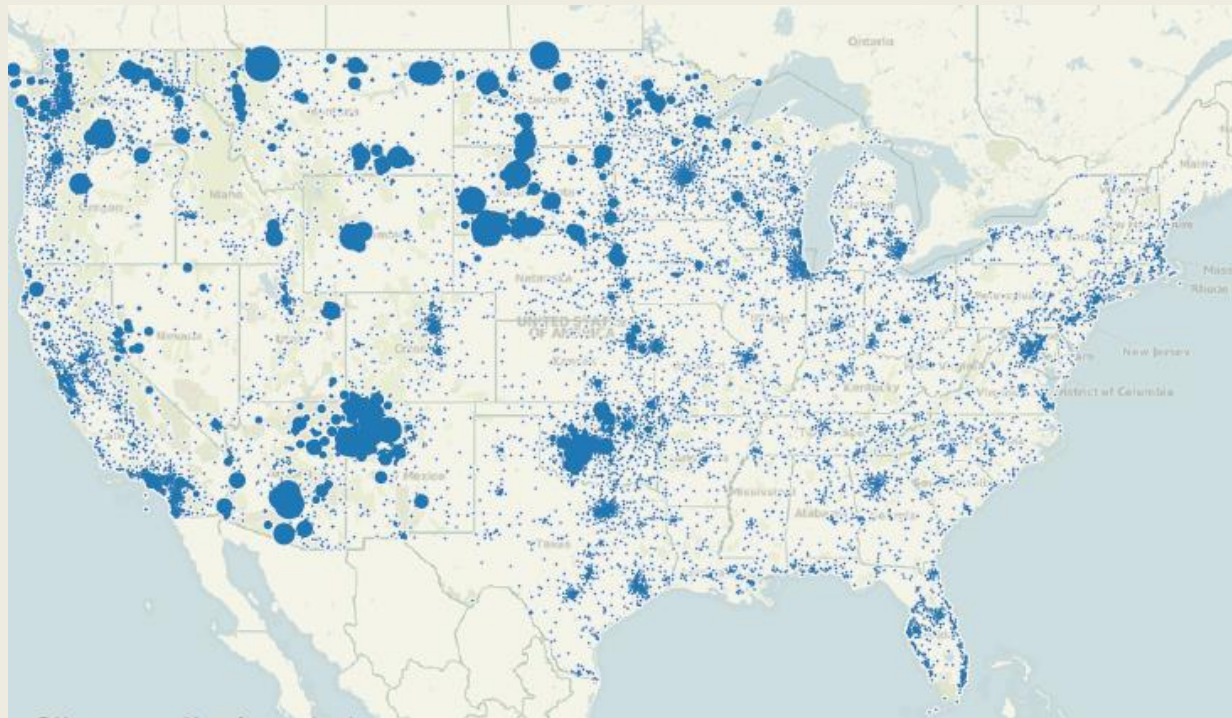
Purchased interests will be immediately held in trust for the tribe with jurisdiction over the land.



President Barack Obama with the late American Indian Activist Elouise Cobell

# What are the Program priorities?

1. **Individuals.** Promoting landowner awareness and education to facilitate informed landowner decision making. Maximizing landowner opportunities to participate.
2. **Tribes.** Strengthening partnerships and respecting and upholding tribal sovereignty. Tailoring the effort to each location based on tribal involvement and priorities.



Location of owners with fractional interests

# What are the major phases of the Program?

## Outreach to Tribal Leaders

Tribal relations team holds meetings with tribe and consults directly with the tribe to ascertain priorities for acquisition.

## Outreach to Landowners

Program and tribes inform individual landowners of the opportunity to sell interests (intense outreach **6-9 months** before/after mailing offers).

**Land  
Research**  
(1-3 months)

**Valuation** (3-12 months)

**Acquisition** (3-6 months)

← Approximately **12-18 months** per Location →

# Accomplishments

## **Consolidated land (as of 2/19/16)**

- More than \$736 million in land sales (payments to individuals)
- Consolidated nearly 1.5 million equivalent acres of fractionated land
- Purchased 399,500 interests on over 26,500 tracts
- Over 10,100 tracts have reached at least 50% tribal ownership (as of 1/31/16)

## **Managed Implementation Costs**

- Expended 15% of the \$285 million authorized for implementation costs

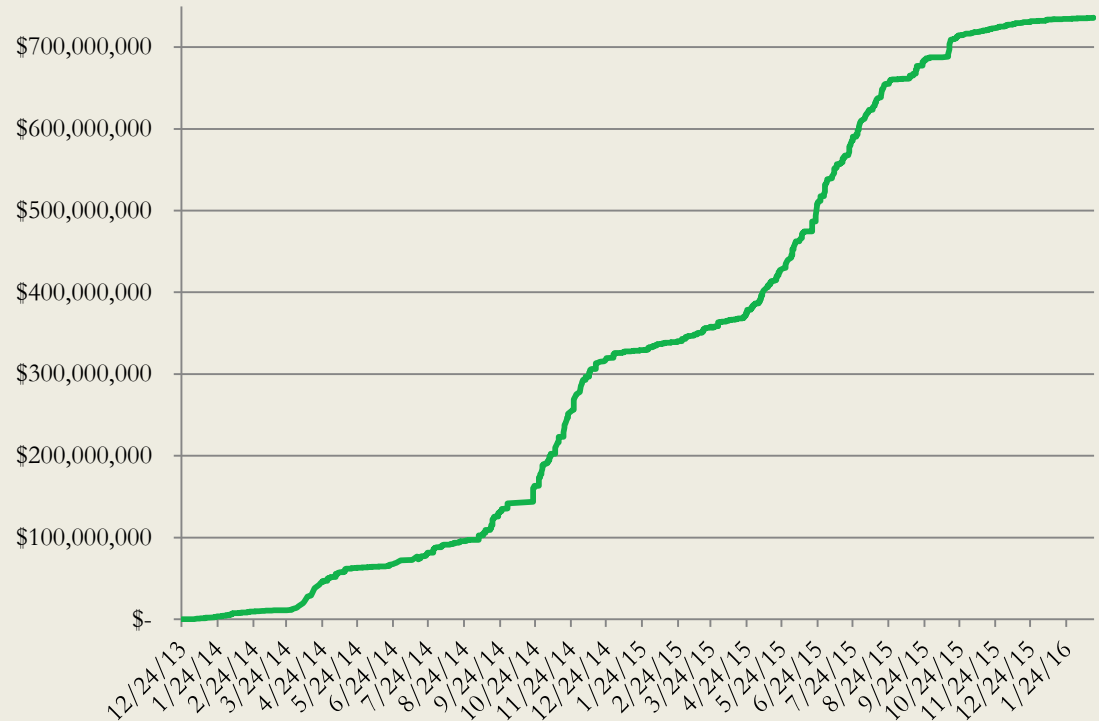
## **Contributed to Scholarship Fund**

- Transferred approximately 57% or \$34 million thus far

# Accomplishments - Sales to Date (as of February 19, 2016)

	Total to Date
<b>Individuals receiving offers</b>	67,744
<b>Individuals returning offers (rate)<sup>1</sup></b>	32,717 (48%)
<b>Individuals with offers accepted (rate)<sup>2</sup></b>	32,029 (47%)
<b>Equivalent acres purchased</b>	1,493,846 equivalent acres
<b>Total value of offers mailed</b>	\$1,722,442,941
<b>\$ Amount of offers accepted</b>	\$736,383,721

## Total Payments to Individuals



<sup>1</sup>This rate is calculated by dividing the number individuals who returned offers by the number of individuals who received offers.

<sup>2</sup>This rate is calculated by dividing the number of individuals whose offers were accepted by the number of individuals who received offers.



# Planning Initiative – Tribes

- The Program is developing its 2018-2022 offer location schedule.
- Eligible tribal governments not already scheduled for implementation are invited to formally indicate their interest in the Program **no later than March 11, 2016**.
- This may be the final opportunity for tribes to register their interest in participating in the Program, which is authorized through November 2022.
- Because effective planning and coordination takes many months, it is critical that we begin the process now to educate landowners, identify tribal priorities, and build cooperative working relationships.

# Planning Initiative - Landowners

- An important factor for scheduling will be the number of willing sellers for each location.
- Go to the Welcome Area today or contact the Call Center at (888) 678-6836 to register your interest in potentially receiving and considering an offer when the Program comes to a location where you have land interests.
- Registration in no way commits you to sell your land – nor does it guarantee that you will receive an offer.
- Registering and updating your contact information is the best way to ensure that the Program is aware of your interest and provides an opportunity for advance outreach and information to be shared at the earliest possible date.
- **Feedback received by March 11, 2016, will help us determine the schedule.**

# Planning Initiative - Landowners

The following table shows the top ten locations with the highest percentage of willing sellers as of 1/31/16. The percentage of landowners who are registered as willing sellers equals the number of willing sellers for a particular land area code divided by the total number of landowners with fractional interests for that land area code.

Locations with Highest % of Registered Willing Sellers	% of Landowners that are Willing Sellers
Swinomish Indians	29.6%
Crow (LAC 208)	25.6%
Crow (LAC 202)	20.2%
Upper Sioux Community	25.0%
Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate	22.5%
Lower Brule Sioux	22.1%
Oglala Sioux	20.4%
Blue Lake Rancheria	20.0%
Crow Creek Sioux	19.9%
Spirit Lake	19.4%
Nooksack	19.3%

## How can landowners prepare?

- Update address and information with the Call Center  
(888) 678-6836
- Obtain details about your land
- Consider financial implications of land consolidation
- Visit your local Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (OST) office
- Explore Buy-Back Program's website  
([www.doi.gov/buybackprogram](http://www.doi.gov/buybackprogram))
- Understand fractionation and American Indian Probate Reform Act of 2004 (AIPRA)  
(<https://www.doi.gov/buybackprogram/landowners/>)  
(<https://www.doi.gov/ost/>)

# How can landowners learn more about their land?

- Review Quarterly Statement of Performance
  - Ownership percentage and income production
- Study Individual Trust Interest (ITI) Report
  - Location of land, tract ID information, and any income from the land
- Research land on BLM site (<http://www.gloreCORDS.blm.gov/search>)
  - Locate original allotment documents using ITI tract legal description

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS,  
PLEASE CALL 888-678-6836  
TRUST BENEFICIARY CALL CENTER  
HOURS OF OPERATION:  
MONDAY - FRIDAY: 7:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. (MT)  
SATURDAY: 8:00 A.M. - NOON (MT)



## INDIVIDUAL INDIAN MONEY STATEMENT OF PERFORMANCE

||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||

John Doe  
10 Downing St.  
England, ND 58910

ACCOUNT OF JOHN DOE  
XXXXXXXX1234

TRANSACTION ACTIVITY FOR ACCOUNTING PERIOD : 4/01/10 THROUGH 6/30/10

DATE	TRANSACTION DESCRIPTION	CASH
	BEGINNING BALANCES	0.00
04/12/10	CASH RECEIPT FARM PASTURE B B 12 345 56789101112 AU 20060423 AB12C123456, DOCUMENT ID: 123 123456789 TRACT ID: 111 2222 RECEIVED FROM: FARMER MCDONALD INVOICE #: 1000 PAYMENT DUE: 05/01/10 OWNERSHIP: 0.3000000000	100.00
04/23/10	CASH RECEIPT OIL & GAS BONUS X X 12 345 6789101112 AU 20060430 XX12X345678, DOCUMENT ID: 234 567891011 TRACT ID: 123 4567 RECEIVED FROM: FAUX OIL COMPANY INVOICE #: 0100 PAYMENT DUE: 05/01/10 OWNERSHIP: 0.5200000000	214.36

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Section #:

Miscellaneous  
Land Office: Any Land Office  
Document #:   
Indian Allot. #:   
Survey #:   
Authority: Any Authority

Issue Date: to  
Militia:  
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