LAND
Buy-Back Program
for
TRIBAL NATIONS

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

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
Program Presentation

Santee Lewis, Senior Advisor-Tribal Relations

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.
### What are the major phases of the Program?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outreach to Tribal Leaders</strong></td>
<td>Tribal relations team holds meetings with tribe and consults directly with the tribe to ascertain priorities for acquisition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outreach to Landowners</strong></td>
<td>Program and tribes inform individual landowners of the opportunity to sell interests (intense outreach <em>6-9 months</em> before/after mailing offers).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Land Research</strong></td>
<td>(1-3 months)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Valuation</strong></td>
<td>(3-12 months)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Acquisition</strong></td>
<td>(3-6 months)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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)

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

$^1$This rate is calculated by dividing the number individuals who returned offers by the number of individuals who received offers.

$^2$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.

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