



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

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State Land Board
Theodore R. Kulongoski
Governor

Bill Bradbury
Secretary of State

September 12, 2005

TO: Persons interested in proposed land transfer
from federal government to State of Oregon

Randall Edwards
State Treasurer

FROM: Ann Hanus, Director 
Department of State Lands

SUBJ: BLM announces decision on land transfer

You may have already seen a news item about the Bureau of Land Management decision regarding the proposed transfer of federal land to the State of Oregon to settle the long-standing debt to the Common School Fund.

In late August, Elaine Brong, State BLM Director, sent the attached letter to Governor Kulongoski about the state's selection of lands for transfer. In the letter she said:

- The BLM will quickly process 1,100 acres of lands classified for disposal that are part of our request. This includes the South Redmond parcel adjacent to the Deschutes County fairgrounds and 240 acres near Cline Buttes.
- The BLM is proceeding with their record of decision for the Proposed Upper Deschutes Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement.
- The remaining acres that we requested would require reclassification of about 3,900 acres of lands currently classified for retention by the BLM in the management plan. BLM will address this request by initiating work on a subsequent management plan amendment process as soon as funding allows. The process will deal with the Deschutes Market Road tract and the remaining Cline Buttes acreage.
- In the meantime, while they are working on the subsequent plan amendment, the BLM invites the State of Oregon to consider selecting from the 9,000+ acres of land classified for disposal in the plan.

The State Land Board and DSL staff will discuss the options available. DSL will work with BLM to quickly transfer the 1,100 acres classified for disposal so that these lands can start to benefit the schoolchildren of Oregon.

We may offer to assist BLM with the costs of preparing a management plan amendment related to transfer of lands classified for retention.

In addition, we may consider other lands identified in the plan for disposal. However, we believe we have looked at most of these parcels already. Please keep in mind that any selection must meet our Common School Fund trust obligation of obtaining the highest benefit for the schoolchildren of Oregon.

We will keep you informed about all these elements of this process. If you have questions, please contact Steve Purchase, assistant director for Land & Waterway Management, at 503-378-3805 ext. 279 or steve.purchase@dsl.state.or.us.

Attachment: Letter to Governor