

Department of State Lands

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State Land Board

LaVonne Griffin-Valade

Secretary of State

Tobias Read

State Treasurer

Tina Kotek Governor

March 22, 2024

TO: INTERESTED PARTY

FROM: Oregon Department of State Lands

RE: BLM Classification Decision for In Lieu Lands

When Oregon became a state in 1859, the federal government granted Sections 16 and 36 of every township to the state for the support of its public schools. However, not all these lands of sections 16 and 36 were available because the land was already settled or otherwise reserved. Therefore, the federal government was required to provide other lands in lieu of Sections 16 and 36. There remain approximately 1,400 acres of these "In Lieu" lands owed to Oregon from the federal government.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is working with the Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL) to identify In Lieu lands. Attached is the BLM Proposed Classification Decision, which is a public notice that two properties in Deschutes County have been identified to meet criteria for In Lieu lands owed to the State of Oregon, and are described as follows:

BLM Identifier: OROR 070351; DSL Application 64934-LA Willamette Meridian, Oregon, T. 21 S., R. 10 E., Sec. 35, E1/2SE1/4. The area described contains 80 acres, according to the official plat of the survey of the said land, on file with the BLM. See Exhibit A.

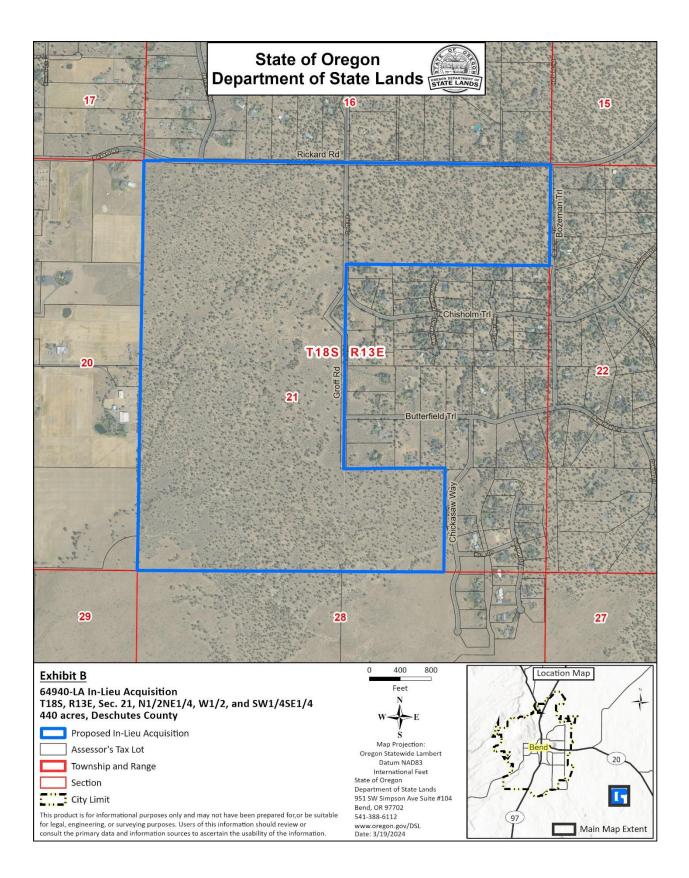
BLM Identifier: OROR 070357; DSL Application 64940-LA Willamette Meridian, Oregon, T. 18 S., R. 13 E., Sec. 21, N1/2NE1/4, W1/2, and SW1/4SE1/4. The area described contains 440 acres, according to the official plat of the survey of the said land, on file with the BLM. See Exhibit B.

This notice is to inform you that both a federal and state comment period is open on the consideration of these lands as potential In Lieu school lands for transferring from the BLM to Oregon Department of State Lands. The Department will collect public comments until June 18, 2024.

If you have any questions or concerns, you may email the Department of State Lands Real Property Program at <u>realproperty@dsl.oregon.gov</u>, or contact the Real Property Program in writing at:

Oregon Department of State Lands Real Property Program 951 SW Simpson Ave., Ste. 104 Bend, OR 97702 Alternatively, or additionally, you may contact the BLM, as indicated in the attached letter.





U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management Prineville District, Oregon

> State of Oregon OROR 070351 OROR 070357

OREGON; PROPOSED CLASSIFICATION OF PUBLIC LANDS FOR STATE INDEMNITY SELECTIONS

- 1. The Oregon Department of State Lands has filed a petition for classification and application to obtain public lands, including the mineral estate in lieu of lands to which the State was entitled, but did not receive under its Statehood Act. These public lands are described in paragraph 5 below, The State is requesting to obtain these public lands under the provisions of 2275 and 2276 of the revised statutes, as amended (43 U.S.C. 851, 852), in lieu of certain school lands granted to the State at statehood, that were part of a fractional township and the State could take title to said lands. These applications have been assigned serial numbers OROR 070351, and OROR 070357.
- 2. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Oregon/Washington (OR/WA) will examine these lands for evidence of prior valid rights or other statutory constraints that would bar transfer. This proposed classification is pursuant to Section 7 of the Act of June 28, 1934, and Title 43, Code of Federal Regulations, Subpart 2400, and Section 7 of the Act of June 28, 1934.
- 3. Information concerning these lands and the proposed transfer to the State of Oregon may be obtained from the BLM OR/WA State Office.
- 4. For a period of 45 days from the date of publication indicated below, persons asserting a claim to or interest in the described lands, other than holders of leases, permits, or rights-of-way listed below, may file such claim with the BLM OR/WA State Director at the BLM OR/WA State Office, 1220 SW 3rd Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204, with evidence that a copy thereof has been served Oregon State Land Board.

Any adverse comments will be evaluated by the State Director, who will issue a notice of determination to proceed with, modify, or cancel the action. In the absence of any action by the State Director, this classification action will become the final determination of the Department of Interior.

As provided by Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations, Subpart 2540.4 (c), a public hearing may be scheduled by the State Director if they determine that sufficient public interest exists to warrant the time and expense of a hearing.

5. The lands included in the proposed classification are in Deschutes County, Oregon and are more specifically described as follows:

OROR 070351 Willamette Meridian, Oregon T. 21 S., R. 10 E., sec. 35, E1/2SE1/4. The area described contains 80 acres, according to the official plat of the survey of the said land, on file with the BLM.

OROR 070357

Willamette Meridian, Oregon T. 18 S., R. 13 E., sec. 21, N1/2NE1/4, W1/2, and SW1/4SE1/4. The area described contains 440 acres, according to the official plat of the survey of the said land, on file with the BLM.

The following listed corporations and individuals are holders of valid leases, permits, and/or rights-of-way on the public lands described above:

Avion Water Company, Inc. Bend Broadband Central Electric Cooperative CenturyLink City of La Pine Deschutes County Midstate Electric Cooperative, Inc. Qwest Corp.

6. Rights-of-way granted by the BLM OR/WA on the above lands will transfer with the land or may be reserved to the United States (see the Federal Land Management and Policy Act Section 508). Oil and gas leases (geothermal, other leasing act minerals) will remain in effect under the terms and conditions of the lease. Upon expiration or termination of the leases, or any authorized extensions thereof, such rights shall automatically vest in the State.

State law and Oregon State Land Department procedures provide for offering current BLM grazing permit, license, and lease holders the first right to lease lands that are transferred to the State. This classification notice constitutes official notice to holders of grazing use authorizations from the BLM that such authorizations shall be terminated in part upon transfer of the land described above to the State of Oregon.



Digitally signed by MICHAEL DECKER Date: 2024.03.19 10:03:03 -07'00'

Michael G. Decker Acting District Manager, Prineville District Date