

Appropriation: Land Acquisition

APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE SHEET

For expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of sections 205, 206, and 318(d) of Public Law 94-579, including administrative expenses and acquisition of lands or waters, or interests therein, [\$48,900,000] \$60,900,000, to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, to remain available until expended. (*P.L. 106-113, Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000, as enacted by section 1000(a)(3) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2000.*)

APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE CITATIONS

For expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of sections 205, 206, and 318(d) of Public Law 94-579 including administrative expenses and acquisition of lands or waters, or interests therein, \$60,900,000, to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, to remain available until expended.

16 U.S.C. 460I
16 U.S.C. 460y
43 U.S.C. 1715, 1716, 1718
P.L. 105-277, section 101(e)
P.L. 106-113, section 1000(a)(3)

16 U.S.C. 460I provides that funds received by the Secretary as "exchange equalization payments" be deposited in the Treasury and are authorized to be appropriated for acquisitions in the King Range National Conservation Area and are to remain available until expended.

16 U.S.C. 460y authorizes acquisition of lands or interests in lands, within or in the proximity of the King National Conservation Area.

43 U.S.C. 1715, 1717, and 1748 authorize the acquisition of lands or interests in lands where it is consistent with land use plans, by purchase, exchange, donation, or eminent domain, when such actions are in the public interest.

P.L. 105-277, section 101(e). The Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999, as included in Public Law 105-277, section 101(e) provides funding for BLM programs.

P.L. 106-113, section 1000(a)(3). Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000, as enacted by section 1000(a)(3) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2000

AUTHORIZATIONS

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.)

Provides authority for acquisition (1715, 1716) of lands or interests in lands by purchase, exchange, donation, or eminent domain, when it is consistent with the mission of the Department and with land use plans (1715(b)); in exercising this authority, appropriations from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) may be used to purchase lands which are primarily of value for outdoor recreation purposes (1748(d)).

The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460I-4 et seq.)

Authorizes planning, acquisition, and development of needed land and water areas and facilities; in exercising this authority, appropriated funds from the LWCF may be used for such acquisition to assist in preserving, developing, and assuring accessibility for the benefit of present and future citizens of the United States of America.

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.)

Authorizes, 1277(d), the Secretary to exchange or dispose of suitable Federally-owned property for non-Federal property within the authorized boundaries of any Federally-administered component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Similar exchange authority is contained in The National Trails System Act of 1968, as amended 16 U.S.C. 1241et seq.).

Other

Other acts such as, **The King Range National Conservation Area Act of 1970, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460y)**, **The San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area Act, in Arizona (16 U.S.C. 460xx)**, **The Arkansas-Idaho Land Exchange Act of 1992 (P.L. 102-584)**, **Utah School Lands Act (P.L. 103-93)**, and **The California Desert Protection Act of 1994 (P.L. 103-433)**, authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into land exchanges.

SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS

(dollars in thousands)

Comparison by Activity/ Subactivity	1999 Actual ^{1/} Amount		2000 Enacted to Date Amount		Uncontrollable & Related Changes (+/-)		Program Changes (+/-)		2001 Budget Requests Amount		Inc(+) Dec(-) from 2000 Amount	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Land Acquisition	33	14,591	35	15,500	0	0	0	+45,400	35	60,900	0	+45,400
Land Acquisition	2	11,591	2	12,500	0	0	0	+45,400	2	57,900	0	+45,400
Acquisition Mgmt.	31	3,000	33	3,000	0	0	0	0	33	3,000	0	0
Suppl. Approp. - Title VI [non-add]		0		[+24,500]	0	0	0	[-24,500]	0	0	0	[-24,500]

1/ FY 1999 budget authority is the net of \$9,000 reduction imposed by P. L. 106-51.

Activity: Land Acquisition

Activity Summary (\$000's)

Subactivity	1999 Actual	2000 Enacted to date	Uncontrollable & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2001 Budget Request	Change From 2000 (+/-)
Land Acquisition \$	11,600	12,500	0	+45,400	57,900	+45,400
FTE	2	2	0	0	2	0
Acquisition \$	3,000	3,000	0	0	3,000	0
Management FTE	30	33	0	0	33	0
Total Dollars	14,600	15,500	0	+45,400	60,900	+45,400
Total FTE	32	35	0	0	35	0

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

Land Acquisition funds provide opportunities to acquire properties that protect threatened natural and cultural resource values, critical habitat and ecosystems, historic and cultural sites, and also benefit the public's need for outdoor recreation and open space. Land acquisitions support the BLM's strategic goals by providing opportunities for environmentally responsible recreation and preservation of our natural and cultural heritage. Also, the BLM can more effectively manage Congressionally or Administratively recognized natural and cultural heritage resources by acquiring inholdings within these areas.

In addition to purchasing environmentally sensitive lands, the BLM also uses LWCF funding to accomplish its preferred method of acquisition -- land exchanges. Both methods of acquisition may be used in one project. In 2001, the BLM plans to acquire nearly 186,000 acres.

Funds are also used to pay for processing actions necessary to complete land acquisition, including costs associated with title research, appraisals, project planning, surveys, relocation, program coordination with other program areas and with local governments and private parties.

Activity: Land Acquisition

Subactivity: Land Acquisition

2001 PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The 2001 budget request is \$60,900,000, and 2 FTEs.

The BLM will direct its efforts toward acquisitions supporting California Wilderness, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail (NHT), National Wild and Scenic Rivers (NWSR), several Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) and to secure key properties necessary to protect endangered species, promote biological diversity or protect lands containing scarce or critical resources. The BLM acquisitions will also increase the efficiency of its public land management through consolidating public lands into manageable areas, and to this end, enlisting the support of Federal, State, local, and Tribal governments, interested individuals, and non-profit organizations; participating in collaborative habitat conservation plans (HCP); and assuring the public of access to environmentally responsible recreation on public lands.

2001 Land Acquisition Projects:

(each project is described in detail in the following pages)

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>(\$000's)</u>
Upper Missouri NWSR / Lewis and Clark NHT, MT	3,000
California Desert (Catellus property), CA	14,100
San Pedro Ecosystem, AZ	3,000
Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, UT	2,000
Upper Snake/South Fork Snake River, ID	2,000
Lower Salmon River ACEC, ID	2,000
North Platte River, WY	250
Santa Rosa Mountains National Scenic Area, CA	1,000
Chain-of-Lakes/Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, MT	2,000
Upper Sacramento River ACEC, CA	2,000
Otay Mountain/Kuchamaa HCP, CA	1,000
Gunnison Basin ACEC, CO	2,000
Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area, ID	2,400
Upper Arkansas River Basin, CO	2,000
Grande Ronde National Wild & Scenic River, OR/WA	500
West Eugene Wetlands, OR	1,350
Carrizo Plain Natural Area, CA	5,000
Cerbat Foothills, AZ	750
Potomac River, MD	3,000
Soda Mountain, OR	350
Royal Teton Ranch, MT	3,700
Potrero Creek, CA	2,000
Wild Sandy River/Little Sandy River, OR	1,000
Japanese/American Relocation Centers, Various States	500
<u>Emergency/Inholding</u>	<u>1,000</u>
TOTAL	57,900

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 1999, the BLM made significant acquisitions in the projects that were appropriated funds by Congress. A number of projects that were funded with FY98 Title V monies, including Bodie Bowl ACEC, Headwaters, King Range NCA, and Otay Mountain/Kuchamaa HCP in California; Idaho Lands and Three Island Crossing/Oregon NHT in Idaho; Devil's Elbow and Sacrifice Cliff in Montana have been closed. In 2000, the BLM has already made significant acquisitions including lands in the California Desert and mineral rights in the Grand Staircase/Escalante NM. The BLM also continues to make significant acquisitions with its Emergency/Inholding fund. This allows the BLM to acquire properties that come available upon short notice, and which will not remain available if quick action is not taken. These projects, although small in dollars, protect important resources and habitat and are strongly supported by local communities. In 1998, some examples of projects that were acquired using emergency funds include:

- C A 6.28 acre acquisition by purchase of land contiguous to the Anasazi Heritage Center (AHC) near Dolores, Montezuma County, Colorado. The tract contains a number of extremely important resources which compliment the AHC's mission and significantly enhances the preservation and protection of cultural resources in southwest Colorado.
- C A 12,800 acre acquisition by exchange with assistance from The Conservation Fund to acquire a parcel of exceptional habitat diversity called the Rock Creek Project area, near Spokane, Adams and Whitman Counties, Washington. The property provides seasonal habitat for abundant waterfowl common to the Pacific Flyway in many potholes and ponds.
- C Acquisition of a 40 acre inholding within the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, near Kanab, Kane County, Utah that eliminated the looming threat of commercial and residential development.

JUSTIFICATION OF 2001 PROGRAM CHANGES**2001 Program Changes**

	2001 Budget Request	Program Changes (+/-)
\$ (000's)	57,900	+45,400
<i>FTE</i>	2	+0

The 2001 Budget Request for Land Acquisition is \$57,900,000 and 2 FTE, a program increase of \$45,400,000 and no FTE from the 2000 enacted level.

The funding increase will support efforts to enhance conservation of natural treasures. Completing these high priority land acquisitions directly supports the mission goals of providing quality recreation opportunities for the public and preserving natural and cultural heritage. Key acquisitions will occur in the priority areas of the California Desert, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, lands within the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area (NCA) and adjacent to the San Pedro NCA, within the Grand Staircase National Monument, and in components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

**Upper Missouri National Wild and Scenic River/
Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail**

MONTANA		Chouteau and Fergus Counties		Congressional District 1	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$2,694,000	\$3,000,000 ²	\$77,900,000 ²	\$80,000	\$78,700,000
Acres	6,806 ¹	1,110 ³	44,752 ³	N/A	44,752

Location: Central Montana, on the Missouri River, 40-80 miles northeast of Great Falls.

Purpose: Acquisition of inholdings and parcels within and contiguous to the Upper Missouri National Wild and Scenic River (UMNWSR) corridor boundary. State of Montana inholding lands (10,163 acres) will be acquired by exchange. Priority will be given to acquisition of conservation easements.

Acquisition Opportunities: Seven ranches--some historic--within the UMNWSR corridor.

Other Cooperators: Pheasants Forever, The Conservation Fund and The River Network.

Project Description: The major means of transportation for the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery western expedition, the Wild and Scenic portion of the Missouri River remains largely unchanged since their well-documented 1804-1806 journey. With the enormous popularity of Stephen Ambrose's book *Undaunted Courage*, and the approaching bicentennial anniversary, interest in the explorations of Lewis and Clark is at an all time high. The level of national interest in the Corps of Discovery was recently featured in *National Geographic* magazine's May 1999 article titled *Missouri Breaks*. Indicative of this interest, floater use of the river has increased substantially, by 30% a year since 1997. Public use is expected to triple or quadruple, as the bicentennial commemoration approaches. In April 1999, *American Rivers* ranked the Missouri River #2 on its list of "Most Endangered Rivers in 1999" due to threats from development.

The 149 miles of free-flowing UMNWSR offer a diversity of resources: T&E species habitat; scenic, ecological, historical, cultural, riparian, and recreational resources, and key access points. The River supports a wide variety of wildlife: raptors such as bald eagle, songbirds, and waterfowl; fish, including sports fish and the endangered pallid sturgeon; mammals, from predators to prey.

These acquisitions contain several historic sites associated with Lewis and Clark, the Native Americans, early fur traders, the first military presence in Montana, and the years of steamboat travel and commerce. Spectacular landscapes are found on these properties--unusual and colorfully named rocky landmarks and high bluffs overlooking cottonwood galleries along the meandering river. Acquisition would eliminate development threats within the historic UMNWSR landscape for future generations.

¹ Includes 110 acres acquired by exchange with the State of Montana.

² These figures represent the cost of acquiring entire parcels, which may include lands within and outside of the UMNWSR boundary (see footnote #3). Many willing sellers are only interested in the sale of their entire property and are unwilling to subdivide for a partial sale, based on the UMNWSR designated boundary.

³ The UMNWSR boundary was established in 1976 irrespective of private property boundaries. As a result, many available parcels include acreage on both "sides" of the boundary. This figure represents only those portions of each property within the UMNWSR boundary.

California Wilderness (Catellus)

CALIFORNIA		San Bernardino County		Congressional District 40	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$10,000,000	\$14,100,000	\$24,100,000	\$300,000	\$27,100,000
Acres	225,000	132,000	357,000	N/A	375,000

Location: Southern California.

Purpose: Acquire non-Federal lands by purchase and donation wilderness areas designated by the California Desert Protection Act of 1994, critical desert tortoise habitat, and recreation areas.

Acquisition Opportunities: Through the partnership of BLM, The Wildlands Conservancy, the Catellus Development Corporation, and the National Park Service (NPS), the opportunity exists to acquire 487,000 acres of private inholdings in the California Desert. Of that total, 357,000 acres would be retained and managed by the BLM.

Other Cooperators: The Wildlands Conservancy, National Park Service, the Catellus Development Corporation.

Project Description: The Wildlands Conservancy (TWC), a private conservancy in southern California, negotiated an agreement involving \$62.5 million in public and private funds to acquire approximately 487,000 acres of private inholdings in the California Desert, mostly owned by Catellus Corporation, holder of alternate sections of lands once owned by the railroads. The agreement involves TWC contributing a total of \$26.5 million (\$19 million in cash towards Catellus, \$5 million in donated land, and \$2.5 million in cash targeted towards small inholders) to be matched by \$30 million from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF).

The 487,000 acres targeted for acquisition and transfer to BLM and the NPS for protection and management includes 437,000 acres of Catellus-owned lands, 24,000 acres of small private inholdings in Joshua Tree National Park and Mojave National Preserve, and 26,000 acres of small private inholdings already acquired by TWC to be donated in Joshua Tree NP, Big Morongo Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), the San Geronio Wilderness, and other key areas. The 437,000 acres of Catellus lands to be acquired by TWC and the Department are situated throughout the California Desert in the following areas: 87,000 acres in Mojave National Preserve, 150,000 acres in BLM-managed wilderness, 120,000 acres of desert tortoise habitat, and 80,000 acres of other wildlife habitat, recreation, and public access routes throughout the desert. In addition to fee purchase, BLM has committed to continuing its land exchange efforts with Catellus to acquire another 65,000 acres of Catellus checkerboard inholdings. An exchange bringing 12,000 acres into public ownership in the Black Mountain Wilderness and Rainbow Basin ACEC was recently completed.

The figures in this table represent BLM's portion of the \$30 million match of LWCF funding. The FY2000 Interior Appropriations Act allocated \$5 million to NPS, \$5 million to BLM, and \$5 million to the Secretary, which was subsequently transferred to BLM for its portion of the purchase. BLM, with \$10 million in Federal funds and \$15 million donated by TWC, acquired the first phase of 225,000 acres from Catellus in January 2000. The \$15 million balance of the Federal matching funds is being requested in the FY 2001 budget justifications by BLM (\$14.1 million) and the National Park Service (\$900,000).

San Pedro Ecosystem

ARIZONA		Cochise, Graham and Pinal Counties		Congressional Districts 5 & 6	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$1,824,000	\$3,000,000	\$12,710,000	\$150,000	\$14,210,000
Acres	2,674	3,330	15,356	N/A	15,356
<p><i>Location:</i> Southeastern Arizona, along the San Pedro River and two of its tributaries.</p> <p><i>Purpose:</i> Provide long term protection for southwestern riparian habitat and compatible outdoor recreation activities. Acquisitions to compliment the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area.</p> <p><i>Acquisition Opportunities:</i> Opportunities to link existing protected lands via fee or conservation easement purchases and via land exchanges with large tract owners.</p> <p><i>Other Cooperators:</i> The Nature Conservancy (Arizona Chapter).</p> <p><i>Project Description:</i> These eight areas of emphasis reflect adjustments based upon recent development pressures and public input. Use of conservation easements to limit development is popular with local governments, property owners and Natural Resource Conservation Districts and will continue to be utilized.</p> <p>The San Pedro River supports functioning desert riparian systems. Most notable are the Cottonwood-Willow and Mesquite Bosque forests. The San Pedro supports nearly 400 species of birds and is especially important as a corridor for neotropical migrants. T & E species such as the Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, the Cactus Ferruginous Pygmy Owl and the Huachuca Water Umbel depend upon habitats within the project area as do many other species of wildlife.</p> <p>By negotiating with individual property owners and coordinating with other federal, state and local governmental entities we have enjoyed many successes. Other entities and individuals have also furthered protective efforts independent of this BLM administered acquisition program. Nonetheless, this program is an important component to furthering riparian protection efforts in the San Pedro River watershed. Through the assistance of The Nature Conservancy and through partitioning of properties we have been successful in bringing lands with high natural resource values into public ownership while leaving major improvements in private ownership and on the tax rolls.</p> <p>On June 22, 1999, Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt joined Mexico's Environmental Minister and the Mexican Ambassador to the United States to forge a multi-million dollar "River That Binds Us" partnership, which will permanently protect the San Pedro River Basin, a critical watershed shared by both nations. The U.S. side of the border announced a major initiative to buy land and water rights to help protect the river from drying up. The plan is an unprecedented collaboration that shares funds, information, and conservation expertise between land and resource managers in both countries.</p>					

Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument

UTAH		Garfield and Kane Counties		Congressional District 3	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$96,275	\$2,000,000	\$15,000,000	\$0	\$15,000,000
Acres	163	2,000	15,000	N/A	15,000

Location: South central Utah, east of Kanab.

Purpose: Inholding acquisitions within the designated boundary of Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM). These acquisitions “further the protective purposes of the monument” (Presidential Proclamation 6920, September 18, 1996).

Acquisition Opportunities: Parcels along the Paria River, in Round Valley, and other areas facing imminent residential development; Parcels along Highway 12 facing imminent commercial development; other scattered parcels which would further protect Monument resources.

Other Cooperators: The Conservation Fund, The Nature Conservancy.

Project Description: Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument was created to protect a spectacular array of scientific, historic, biological, geological, paleontological, and archaeological objects (or resources). As stated in the Presidential Proclamation, the Monument is “a geologic treasure”; is “rich in human history”; is “an outstanding biological resource”; contains “important ecological values”; it is “in the heart of perhaps the richest floristic region in the Intermountain west”; containing “an abundance of unique, isolated [plant] communities”. The Proclamation, which is the principal direction for management of the Monument, clearly dictates the BLM protect these resources. Development of inholdings would be incompatible with the protective purposes for which the Monument was created.

Since establishment of the Monument, numerous landowners have contacted the BLM expressing a desire to either sell their lands to the BLM or exchange for other Federal lands outside of the Monument. There are several subdivisions within the Monument that have not yet been developed, although the developers have indicated this is imminent. There are other parcels within the Monument that, due to their highway frontage location, make commercial development an imminent threat. Acquisition of these inholdings is crucial in avoiding severe adverse impacts that would result from their development. Acquisition would also enhance the BLM’s ability to manage the lands and protect Monument resources. Acquisition may be accomplished through direct purchase, exchange and donation. The GSENM was the cover article in the June issue of Smithsonian magazine and a feature article in the July issue of National Geographic.

GSENM receives much attention from the media and interested publics (both locally and nationally). It is anticipated that acquisition of inholdings would receive support from the majority of the public.

Upper Snake/South Fork Snake River

IDAHO		Bonneville, Fremont, Jefferson, and Madison Counties		Congressional District 2	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$3,896,000 ¹	\$2,000,000	\$19,400,000	\$10,000	\$19,500,000
Acres	1,389 ²	665	6,060 ³	N/A	6,060

Location: Southeastern Idaho, 20 miles northeast of Idaho Falls.

Purpose: Acquisition within the South Fork, Henrys Fork, and Main Snake Rivers corridors. Provides a wide variety of water-based and terrestrial recreation opportunities, habitat for multiple T&E species, rich variety of wildlife, and outstanding scenic values.

Acquisition Opportunities: Valuable river front and cottonwood riparian properties along the river corridors which are threatened by housing and resort development as well as land use practices which degrade and fragment the integrity of the river ecosystem.

Other Cooperators: The Conservation Fund, The Nature Conservancy, Teton Regional Land Trust, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Shoshone-Bannock Tribe, Ducks Unlimited, Greater Yellowstone Coalition, the Henrys Fork Foundation, conservation buyers, and land owners.

Project Description: The Upper Snake/South Fork Snake River area exhibits one of the most extensive cottonwood riparian forests remaining in the west. A 1980 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service evaluation of Idaho's ecosystems rated this area the most valuable, biodiverse, and unique ecosystem in the state. The project area provides crucial habitat for 126 different bird species (including 21 types of raptors), the majority of these birds (67%) are neotropical migrants, and supports 28 other sensitive species (three threatened or endangered species depend on this riverine habitat). One-half of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem's (GYE) bald eagle productivity and the largest bald eagle winter roost in the GYE occur in the river corridor. Additionally the project area sustains eleven great blue heron rookeries, three peregrine falcon eyries, and habitat for the recently discovered Ute Ladies' Tresses Orchid, a threatened wetland species.

The South Fork Snake River is a world-famous, "blue-ribbon" fishery supporting the largest native wild cutthroat trout population outside of Yellowstone National Park. The first World Fly Fishing Championship in the United States took place on the South Fork in 1997. Recreational activities are dramatically increasing, accounting for approximately 350,000 visitor use days per year.

The scope of this project has increased dramatically as a result of enormous public support and the residual impact from the 1997 100-year flood event, both producing an increased number of willing sellers.

¹ Does not include \$3.1 million from conservation buyers, \$300,000 from conservation easement donation, or \$6.3 million from Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) grants.

² Does not include 2,000 conservation easement acres secured by partners and donation; 3,682 acres purchased by conservation buyers, and 3,000 acres granted to BLM by the BPA.

³ Does not include potential to protect an additional 1,000 acres with exchange and donation.

Lower Salmon River ACEC

IDAHO		Idaho, Lewis and NezPerce Counties		Congressional District 1	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$2,190,000	\$2,000,000	\$7,190,000	\$10,000	\$7,290,000
Acres	5,115 ¹	2,000	10,115	N/A	10,115
<p><i>Location:</i> West central Idaho, adjacent to Hell's Canyon National Recreation Area.</p> <p><i>Purpose:</i> Protect the outstanding scenic and recreational values of the river corridor. This river is proposed for Scenic designation under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Acquisition and preservation of lands along the river will maintain and enhance habitat for seven species listed under the Endangered Species Act. The Lower Salmon is designated an ACEC, a Special Recreation Management Area and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The oldest known human occupied site in the northwestern U.S. was recently discovered on this river.</p> <p><i>Acquisition Opportunities:</i> Along the lower 53 miles of river, BLM owns, or holds protective easements, on 92% of the river frontage. Remaining properties considered for acquisition are at risk of subdivision and recreational homesite development. Acquisitions and conservation easements will provide further public recreation opportunities.</p> <p><i>Other Cooperators:</i> Include Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Idaho Steelhead and Salmon Unlimited, Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association, American Rivers, Idaho Rivers United, Friends of the Lower Salmon, The Conservation Fund and The Nature Conservancy.</p> <p><i>Project Description:</i> The Salmon River is the longest free-flowing river in the lower 48 states. An estimated 300,000 visitors come each year to boat, fish, hunt, and recreate on the river. Forty-six outfitting businesses make their living on the river. The number of recreation visitors is increasing each year. The single most important attraction for people is the undeveloped breath-taking scenery of the river canyon. Numerous wildlife species from Bighorn Sheep to White Sturgeon are found here. Species listed under the Endangered Species Act that inhabit the Lower Salmon River corridor include three species of salmon (spring/summer chinook, fall chinook, and Sockeye) Steelhead trout, Bull trout, Bald eagle, Peregrine falcons, and McFarlane's Four-O'Clock, a listed plant. Acquisition of lands or protective easements within the river corridor has prevented irreversible impacts from subdivisions and property development. Completion of this project will insure that the Lower Salmon will remain eligible for designation under the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act, and the unique and highly sought after public recreation resources will be available for future generations.</p> <p>¹ Over 70% of this acreage is protected with conservation easements.</p>					

North Platte River

WYOMING		Natrona County		Congressional District 1	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$0	\$250,000	\$2,750,000	\$2,000	\$2,770,000
Acres	0	25	2,500	N/A	2,500

Location: Central Wyoming, along the North Platte River, between the City of Casper and Pathfinder Reservoir/Pathfinder National Wildlife Refuge (NWR).

Purpose: Acquisition of land and easements to cooperatively establish a public greenway, increase recreational access to the river, preserve wetland/riparian areas, and protect wildlife habitat.

Acquisition Opportunities: Acquisition of lands within the existing management area, typically adjacent to existing federal tracts of land. Target is currently listed properties suitable for expansion of the management unit, with future outlook to suitable parcels as they enter the market.

Other Cooperators: The Platte River Parkway Trust (PRPT), a community non-profit organization, continues acquiring land and easements to develop a hiking/biking trail along the North Platte River through the City of Casper. With the urban portion of the Parkway nearing completion, the PRPT has expressed an interest in extending the Parkway to the west. The Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) has acquired considerable access for parking areas and for fishing access along the river. Local sporting groups continue to support and contribute to riverfront access acquisition.

Project Description: There are approximately 9 riverfront parcels of Federal land totaling 3,300 acres along the North Platte River between Alcova/Grey Reef County Park and Casper. Ten 40-acre riverfront tracts of private land lie between Alcova/Grey Reef County Park and Pathfinder Reservoir/Pathfinder NWR. This proposal would acquire fee or easement interest in adjoining or nearby lands and would be compliment the acquisition activities by the PRPT and the WGFD.

The North Platte River is a blue ribbon trout fishery throughout most of the management area. It supports a diverse and extensive habitat for wildlife, including bald and golden eagles, waterfowl, a variety of songbirds, and numerous mammals, reptiles, and insects. A large segment of the river has been designated as habitat for bald eagle, particularly those areas that remain unfrozen in the winter. Along the river is a relatively narrow band of riparian vegetation that is highly productive, and supports many of the fish and wildlife species noted above. The river also provides numerous recreation user days for hunting and fishing, canoeing, floating and jet skis, bird watching and other casual recreational uses. Because of the significant resource potential and the very limited acreage of public land along the river, acquisition of land and easements for river access has been a priority for BLM and other management agencies. The WGFD has been instrumental in acquiring river access points for vehicle parking and watercraft launching, and has secured several miles of fishing access easements along the river. An integral part of the North Platte River Recreation Management Plan is acquisition of land and easements.

Santa Rosa Mountains National Scenic Area

CALIFORNIA		Riverside County		Congressional District 44	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$9,987,000	\$1,000,000	\$13,000,000	\$50,000	\$13,500,000
Acres	10,619	750	14,230	N/A	14,230
<p><i>Location:</i> Southern California, immediately west of Palm Springs.</p> <p><i>Purpose:</i> Protect/manage important scenic, cultural, recreational, wildlife and wilderness resources.</p> <p><i>Acquisition Opportunities:</i> Opportunities now available to acquire over 3,000 acres.</p> <p><i>Other Cooperators:</i> Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy, Wildlife Conservation Board, Forest Service, The Wildlands Conservancy, California Dept. of Fish & Game, Trust for Public Land, cities of Palm Desert, Cathedral City, Rancho Mirage, La Quinta, Friends of the Desert Mountains.</p> <p><i>Project Description:</i> The Santa Rosa Mountains National Scenic Area (NSA) covers 285 square miles of scenic desert mountains, forming the backdrop for the resort communities of the Coachella Valley, including Palm Springs. Rising 11,000 feet, the mountains provide a rich biodiversity of plant and animal life. Federal, State, Native American, and private lands form a checkerboard land pattern in the area. Rapid urbanization and pressures from the over two million visitors to the Coachella Valley each year raised concerns over the quality of life and the loss of natural and scenic resources. The NSA was designated in March 1990 by the Secretary of the Interior in recognition of the need to protect and manage the area's unique natural resource values. The Scenic Area supports the nation's largest herd of federally endangered Peninsular bighorn sheep, habitat for the federally listed Least Bell's Vireo, the only known population of the desert salamander, and over 500 species of plants, including six listed or sensitive plant species. The NSA also includes the Santa Rosa Mountains wilderness area comprising over 64,000 acres. Visitors and local residents use the area for hiking, picnicking, horseback riding, bicycling, camping, etc.</p> <p>The Scenic Area is a showcase for BLM to demonstrate both integrated and cooperative management benefits in full partnership with landowners, local and State governments, interested organizations, and the general public.</p> <p>The Scenic Area is a part of the Coachella Valley Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan initiated in 1994 by local and city governments. Under a Memorandum of Understanding signed in 1996 by several federal, state, county and city entities, the Plan will be prepared in accordance with the California Natural Communities Conservation Planning (NCCP) Act. A draft HCP was completed in December 1999. BLM understands that Congresswoman Bono will introduce legislation in the 106th Congress to designate the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument. The proposed monument boundary includes the Scenic Area along with portions of the San Bernardino National Forest.</p>					

**Chain-of-Lakes/
Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail**

MONTANA		Lewis and Clark County		Congressional District 1	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$4,650,000	\$10,000	\$4,750,000
Acres	0	2,052	4,702	N/A	4,702
<p><i>Location:</i> West central Montana, on the Lewis and Clark NHT, 12 miles northeast of Helena.</p> <p><i>Purpose:</i> Wetland protection/enhancement, waterfowl and big game habitat, T&E species habitat, multiple recreation opportunities, and historic properties.</p> <p><i>Acquisition Opportunities:</i> Lakeshore frontage and upper slopes facing imminent residential/commercial development.</p> <p><i>Other Cooperators:</i> The Conservation Fund, Ducks Unlimited, North American Wetlands Conservation Act, Montana Conservation Corps, and Pennsylvania Power and Light Company. There may be FERC relicensing mitigation funding available in the near future.</p> <p><i>Project Description:</i> The historic Ward Ranch which was established in 1906 and includes 2,052 acres along two miles of the east shore of Hauser Lake, on the Missouri River, and is a critical acquisition within the Chain of Lakes Recreation Management Area (RMA). The original ranch structures are still in place. The Ranch includes critical wildlife habitat and is integral to providing a variety of recreation opportunities within the "Chain-of-Lakes" area.</p> <p>The Chain-of-Lakes RMA is the uppermost section of the Missouri River from Three Forks, Montana, to the Wolf Creek Bridge below Holter Lake Dam along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. The four lakes within this corridor are Toston, Canyon Ferry, Hauser and Holter, all are reservoirs on the Missouri River. This is the highest recreation use area in Montana, exceeding 1,000,000 visitor days per year, with all primary activities increasing. The entire RMA is under serious pressure from recreational and residential subdivision, with much of the private lakeshore already subdivided. BLM is committed to acquiring properties along the RMA, when opportunities arise, to enhance public recreation opportunities and to protect important natural and historic values.</p>					

Upper Sacramento River ACEC

CALIFORNIA		Shasta and Tehama Counties		Congressional Districts 2 & 3	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$3,516,000	\$2,000,000	\$19,000,000	\$50,000	\$19,500,000
Acres	1,935	2,250	12,277	N/A	12,277

Location: Northern California, three miles north of Red Bluff.

Purpose: Preserve a landscape-scale ecosystem along the Sacramento River and two of its tributaries.

Acquisition Opportunities: BLM has acquired a portion of the Orwick ranch through land exchange. The owner remains willing to sell the balance of the ranch holdings which he has attempted to develop over the past several years.

Other Cooperators: BLM enjoys a large number of cooperators within the project area, ranging from local to national organizations. In August 1998, the Trust for Public Land and the BLM were awarded \$3.7 million from the Packard Foundation's Conserving California's Landscape initiative. Other cooperators in the area have received approximately \$30 million from the CALFED Bay-Delta Program for restoration of fisheries. Some of BLM's cooperators are Battle Creek Watershed Conservancy, Shasta College, Tehama Farm Bureau, and Pacific Gas and Electric. Active partners include the California Department of Fish and Game, The Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB), the American Land Conservancy, the Trust for Public Land, and Sierra Pacific Industries.

Project Description: The Sacramento River/Bend ACEC encompasses 40,000 acres in a 26-mile river corridor of which nearly 90% remains in pristine condition. BLM has been working to consolidate federal ownership within the Sacramento River Area for more than 25 years to protect the area's riparian and wetland values, enhance the river's anadromous fisheries, and provide continued recreation opportunities. BLM is continuing its land acquisition efforts to acquire undeveloped lands within the project area primarily with monies from the Packard Foundation. Land and Water Conservation Funding will provide leverage with those funds and better secure future funding from the Packard Foundation. The BLM's Redding RMP determined portions of the river and its tributaries were eligible for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The area provides habitat for the federally endangered bald eagle, tadpole shrimp, and Chinook salmon, and other numerous sensitive and candidate plant species.

BLM has entered into a cooperative agreement with the Santa Clara Unified School District to facilitate the construction and maintenance of various trails and facilities within the area. Cooperative agreements completed with California State University, Chico and Shasta College have been integral to the conservation and inventory of important cultural sites. Tehama County, WCB, Department of Boating and Waterways, and the BLM are working together to provide a boat launching and day use facility near the community of Bend. Orientation/information displays and a wheelchair accessible fishing platform and dock have been provided in part by a grant from the El Paso Natural Gas Company.

Otay Mountain/Kuchamaa HCP

CALIFORNIA		San Diego County		Congressional District 45	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$4,750,000	\$1,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$100,000	\$21,000,000
Acres	2,143	700	10,000	N/A	10,000

Location: Southern California, 20 miles east of San Diego, on the United States-Mexico border.

Purpose: Protect key habitat areas and wildlife corridors and meet the requirements of the Federal and State Endangered Species Acts in a manner consistent with land use and economic objectives of the San Diego region.

Acquisition Opportunities: Opportunity currently exists to acquire three key private land tracts.

Other Cooperators: Trust for Public Land, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Game, City and County of San Diego, and the San Diego Association of Governments.

Project Description: The Otay Mountain/Kuchamaa HCP project is a 38,000-acre area linking public lands at Otay Mountain and Cedar Canyon with those at Tecate Peak (also known as Kuchamaa) and Little Tecate Peak. The project overlaps the Otay National Cooperative Land and Wildlife Management Area designated in 1952.

The project area is the focus of California Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) efforts to protect the rapidly diminishing habitat of the coastal sage scrub and Federally listed California gnatcatcher. It is also the focus of multi-habitat/species conservation planning by the City and County of San Diego and the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG). The BLM, California Department of Fish & Game, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the City and County of San Diego and SANDAG have signed a MOU to develop a proactive, coordinated planning and acquisition effort for lands necessary to protect the habitats of the area's native plant and animal species. The Secretary of the Interior is personally committed to insuring the success of these programs, and his office has been very active identifying and acquiring lands with critical resource values for protection.

Otay Mountain, now officially protected as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System by P.L. 106-145, is listed in the *Directory of Federal Natural Areas*, and supports at least fifteen plant species that are candidates for federal listing, including the world's largest stand of Tecate cypress. Four other plant species are found only on or near Otay Mountain. Sensitive wildlife species include the threatened California gnatcatcher and two other federal candidate species. Cedar Canyon is an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) and contains the only known population of Mexican flannel bush, listed as rare by the State of California. The Tecate Peak and Little Tecate Peak ACEC is also an Outstanding Natural Area, and are a cultural link for the Kumeyaay people to their religious heritage. Recreational use of the area is largely non-motorized and dispersed consisting of plant studies, photography, natural history groups and educational institutions.

Gunnison Basin ACEC

COLORADO		Gunnison and Montrose Counties		Congressional District 3	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$800,000	\$2,000,000	\$5,800,000	\$100,000	\$6,800,000
Acres	2,120	3,030	5,900	N/A	5,900
<p><i>Location:</i> West central Colorado, 70 miles southeast of Grand Junction.</p> <p><i>Purpose:</i> The principal purpose is to protect imperiled resources by acquiring inholding properties to maintain and protect critical wildlife habitat, threatened and endangered plant communities, and protect and/or enhance national recreation sites and areas.</p> <p><i>Acquisition Opportunities:</i> Several inholding tracts containing important resource values are currently on the market.</p> <p><i>Other Cooperators:</i> Current and potential cooperators include Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Colorado Division of Wildlife, National Park Service, Foundation for North American Wild Sheep, Mule Deer Foundation, National Wildlife Foundation, and Bureau of Reclamation. Local conservation and civic groups are also potential partners.</p> <p><i>Project Description:</i> The project area contains significant wildlife, recreation, T & E species, and riparian resources. Numerous special status animal and plant species such as the Gunnison sage grouse (a newly identified species on a downward trend), peregrine falcon, bald eagle, and three species of milkvetch inhabit the area. It is home to one of the largest elk herds in the west and was formerly home to one of the largest deer herds before recent severe population declines. Bighorn sheep are also present in the rocky areas. Blue Mesa Reservoir in the Curecanti Recreation Area and the Dillon Pinnacles are widely known attractions within the project area. The area also contains a number of special management areas such as special recreation management areas and areas of critical environmental concern. Threats to the varied resources occur from residential and commercial development as well as from an explosive growth in outdoor recreational activities.</p> <p>Five inholding properties within the project are currently being examined for acquisition. BLM has acquired a number of properties in the Gunnison Basin over the past five years and believe these tracts can be acquired if funding is provided. All tracts contain important nesting and brood rearing habitat for the Gunnison Sage Grouse, critical winter range for elk and deer, and other significant resource values. This appropriation will enable BLM to continue its acquisition work to enhance resource management programs in the Gunnison Basin.</p>					

Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area

IDAHO		Ada County		Congressional District 1	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$152,000	\$2,400,000	\$10,600,000	\$45,000	\$11,050,000
Acres	344	1,500 ¹	6,844	N/A	6,844

Location: Southwestern Idaho, along the Snake River Canyon, 20 miles southwest of Boise.

Purpose: Inholding acquisition within the boundary of the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area and within the Guffey Butte/Black Butte Archaeological District and ACEC. Provides diverse recreational opportunities and habitat for T&E and candidate species.

Acquisition Opportunities: Farmland in immediate jeopardy of being sold for dairy development, which would be incompatible with the purposes for which the NCA was established.

Other Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy (Idaho).

Project Description: The purpose of this project is to acquire 2,120 acres of private land along the Snake River Canyon, within the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area (NCA) and within the Guffey Butte / Black Butte Archaeological District. The NCA hosts the highest density of nesting raptors in North America, and perhaps the world, with more than 700 pairs, representing 15 species nesting in the canyon. Another 9 species migrate through the NCA during different seasons. The NCA enabling legislation authorizes inholding acquisitions. The Archaeological District, which is also a designated ACEC, contains over 200 sites listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The private lands were proposed for imminent sale to three large dairy operations, but the landowner offered BLM the opportunity to acquire the property to mitigate potential impacts to T&E species and the visual corridor along Swan Falls Road and to prevent dairy-related activities and odors from impacting adjacent Dedication Point, the NCA's premier canyon overlook, visitor interpretive area, and Watchable Wildlife site, which accommodates about 70,000 visitor days annually. Residents in Ada County, local and national environmental organizations overwhelmingly support this acquisition.

This proposal supports Recreation 2000 and Fish & Wildlife 2000 strategies and goals by facilitating raptor habitat management, special status species management, and watchable wildlife.

¹ Does not include 620 acres to be acquired by land exchange.

Upper Arkansas River Basin

COLORADO		Chaffee, Fremont, and Lake Counties		Congressional District 3	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$1,537,000 ¹	\$2,500,000	\$20,000,000	\$100,000	\$21,000,000
Acres	1,176	1,440	12,000	N/A	12,000

Location: Central Colorado, 148-mile segment of the Arkansas River, from Leadville to Pueblo Reservoir.

Purpose: Acquire inholdings along the Arkansas River and its tributaries to preserve critical wildlife habitat, conserve open space, and enhance recreational opportunities.

Acquisition Opportunities: Four important inholdings are currently on the market.

Other Cooperators: The Conservation Fund (TCF) and Colorado Department of Natural Resources.

Project Description: The Upper Arkansas river is a nationally significant multiple use resource which, in addition to being a preeminent whitewater rafting river, also contains outstanding wildlife, riparian, cultural and scenic values. Traditional habitat and migration routes for elk, deer, and other wildlife species are being lost or disrupted. Riparian/wetland areas are being lost and recreation opportunities and scenic values are being reduced. The project area is close to the major population cities in Colorado and is experiencing greatly increased recreational.

A partnership of over 18 federal, state, and local agencies and organizations was formed for the common purpose of preserving and enhancing the natural resource values of the Upper Arkansas Valley. The 2,160-acre Cache Creek Ranch, which has been purchased by The Conservation Fund on behalf of BLM, is a high priority for BLM acquisition in FY 2000. BLM's highest priority acquisitions for FY 2001 are the Hayden and Arkansas River Ranches near Leadville and the Texas Creek and Blue Heron Rookery tracts further downstream. These properties contain a wide variety of high value resources including year-round elk habitat, critical winter range for elk and deer, extensive riparian areas and outstanding scenic and wildlife values.

¹ Appropriation received for Arkansas River Headwaters SMA project plus reprogramming from Cross Mountain.

Grande Ronde National Wild and Scenic River

OREGON		Malheur County		Congressional District OR 2/WA 5	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$938,000	\$500,000	\$4,720,200	\$20,000	\$4,920,020
Acres	2,113 ¹	1,000	25,673	N/A	25,673
<p><i>Location:</i> Grande Ronde River, 75 miles southeast of Richland-Pasco-Kennewick, Washington.</p> <p><i>Purpose:</i> Acquisition of inholdings inside Wild & Scenic River corridor and ACECs.</p> <p><i>Acquisition Opportunities:</i> Isolated tracts subject to development as rural recreational retreats.</p> <p><i>Other Cooperators:</i> None.</p> <p><i>Project Description:</i> The Grande Ronde River project area, which includes a segment of the Wallowa River (from the community of Minam to its confluence with the Grande Ronde) and a segment of the Grande Ronde River from the community of Palmer Junction to the Snake River, is located in northeastern Oregon and southeastern Washington. The Grande Ronde is considered to be one of Oregon's and Washington's most remote and scenic rivers.</p> <p>The area has outstanding recreational and scenic values, including whitewater boating, fishing, upland and big game hunting, camping, hiking and scenic sightseeing. Annual visitation has increased dramatically over the last 10 years due to increased publicity of the area and its proximity to the Spokane MSA (90 miles).</p> <p>The river provides crucial winter range for elk, mule deer and bighorn sheep. The bald eagle is a common winter resident and the river provides potential eagle nesting habitat. Both native and stocked steelhead and rainbow trout are found in the river which is critical for the anadromous fish runs in northeast Oregon. The Grande Ronde and side streams contain valuable riparian habitat.</p> <p>Management objectives to be aided include improved access to public lands, enhanced public recreation opportunities, and protection of valuable wildlife, riparian, scenic and anadromous fisheries habitat from increased development and unrestricted logging.</p> <p>Most additional acquisitions are expected to be accomplished with land exchanges, but purchases and conservation easements may also be considered.</p> <p>¹ Does not include 5,143 acres valued at \$2,158,000 acquired by exchange.</p>					

West Eugene Wetlands

OREGON		Lane County		Congressional District 4	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$8,275,000 ¹	\$1,850,000	\$12,275,000	\$150,000	\$13,775,000
Acres	1,220	770	3,500	N/A	3,500

Location: This project is located on the western edge of Eugene.

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to acquire wetlands, wetland restoration sites, riparian areas, and adjacent uplands within the Willamette watershed as a component of the West Eugene Wetlands (WEW) Plan. This is a local plan that was approved by the Eugene City Council and the Lane County Board of Commissioners in 1992 and adopted by BLM in 1993. The local planning effort was designed to resolve conflicts between wetland protection and economic development within and adjacent to Oregon's second largest metropolitan area.

Acquisition Opportunities: Commercial, industrial, residential, and agricultural lands with valuable wetlands, wetland restoration potential, or watershed buffer sites are available within the plan area. Negotiations are currently in progress for a valuable wetland prairie parcel that will link BLM land with a Nature Conservancy preserve.

Other Cooperators: The Nature Conservancy, City of Eugene, Army Corps of Engineers, Oregon Youth Conservation Corps, Oregon Department of Transportation, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon Division of State Lands, Lane Council of Governments.

Project Description: The project area includes the largest remnants of the once vast wet prairie grasslands of the Willamette Valley. Less than one percent remains of an estimated 350,000 acres. These prairie remnants in the WEW include habitat and substantial populations of a number of special status species, including one Federally listed endangered species and several other species proposed for listing. Opportunities for outdoor recreation, environmental education and visitor interpretation are abundant and handicapped accessible. If the Federal acquisitions in this project area are not completed in the near future, these wet prairie ecosystem remnants are likely to be further fragmented by urban development. If acquired for public ownership they will provide an ecological legacy with local, regional and national significance.

The WEW Project supports several Bureau initiatives. In addition, the project is covered under the North American Waterfowl Management Plan Pacific Coast Joint Venture (Oregon Wetlands Joint Venture), with early planning underway for joint habitat improvement projects under this partnership.

¹ Does not include 310.4 acres acquired using \$343,000 to equalize land value in an assembled land exchange.

Carrizo Plain Natural Area

CALIFORNIA		Kern and San Luis Obispo Counties		Congressional Districts 21 and 22	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$19,746,000	\$5,000,000	\$40,000,000	\$150,000	\$41,500,000
Acres	87,000	22,000	182,000	N/A	182,000

Location: West Central California, 75 miles west of Bakersfield.

Purpose: Inholding acquisition within and contiguous to the boundary of Carrizo Plain Natural Area.

Acquisition Opportunities: Opportunity to acquire the 22,000-acre Bidart Ranch, epitomizing California's interior grassland/prairie. Approximately half of the Bidart Ranch lies within the Carrizo Plain Natural Area and represents the largest remaining block of private land in one ownership. The remainder of the ranch lies adjacent to the Natural Area to the northeast. An additional opportunity exists to acquire the Chimineas Ranch, a 28,000-acre property immediately adjacent to the Natural Area possessing characteristics of interior California's grassland/savannah. This property would link the Natural Area to large blocks of BLM and Forest Service land to the west and provide biogeographic linkage between the Coast Range and the Mojave Desert. Numerous small tracts continue to be available for purchase within Carrizo Plain Natural Area.

Other Cooperators: California Department of Fish & Game, California Energy Commission, California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo, California Wildlife Conservation Board, The Nature Conservancy, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Project Description: The Carrizo Plain Natural Area serves as the cornerstone of the San Joaquin Valley Bioregional Plan and is an important element in the Kern County Habitat Conservation Plan. The area represents the largest remaining example of the native San Joaquin Valley ecosystem and its endangered wildlife and plants. Agriculture, energy, and urban development have left only four percent of the native San Joaquin Valley habitat unaltered. Much of the project area has been overgrazed or tilled for dryland grain. The Carrizo Plain Natural Area was created out of a critical need to balance the national priority for energy development with preservation of the native San Joaquin Valley ecosystem. The Natural Area supports a wealth of threatened and endangered animals, including the San Joaquin kit fox, giant kangaroo rat, greater sandhill crane, and habitat for the California condor. Management goals include the preservation of rare species, possible downlisting of certain species, ecological studies, habitat restoration using native plants, reintroduction of pronghorn antelope and tule elk which disappeared from the Plain in the early 1900's, and providing a large area for open space and non-motorized public recreation. A bill is now pending before Congress to establish the Carrizo Plain National Conservation Area.

Cerbat Foothills

ARIZONA		Mohave County		Congressional District 3	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$0	\$750,000	\$4,200,000	\$12,000	\$4,320,000
Acres	0	480	2,759	N/A	2,759

Location: Adjacent to the western city limits of Kingman.

Purpose: Inholding acquisition within the administratively-designated boundaries of the Cerbat Foothills Recreation Area. Purpose of acquisition is to facilitate development of recreation facilities for the public within an urban area and to preclude private development within the recreation area. Facilities would include a multiple-use trail system, trailheads, and day use facilities.

Acquisition Opportunities: 15 parcels, totaling 2,759 acres, are owned by private parties within the Recreation Area. Acquisition of these properties will eliminate the threat of development of these lands into subdivided parcels, as imminent growth within the area continues to increase.

Other Cooperators: City of Kingman, Mohave County Trails Association.

Project Description: The 13,250-acre Cerbat Foothills Recreation Area (CFRA) is an administrative designation made in the Kingman Resource Management Plan in 1995. The concept calls for the provision of open space in close proximity to the communities of Kingman and Golden Valley. BLM intends to make this open space available over the long-term to residents and visitors for recreational activities. This need for recreational outdoor space will become increasingly desirable as the local communities grow, as anticipated over the next 20 years. A study undertaken by Arizona State University in 1992, and adopted by the Arizona Outdoor Recreation Coordinating Commission indicated that while the vast majority of Arizonans desire outdoor recreation in their lifestyle, there was "not enough time" to do so, and "recreation areas were too far away." The CFRA concept attempts to address those issues by providing an area easy to get to in a short period of time.

The CFRA contains about 8,400 acres of public land, 2,100 acres of city property and minor amounts of AZ State Trust Land and Mohave County property. There are also 2,759 acres of private land interspersed throughout the unit. Acquisition of private lands would prevent residential or commercial development and the associated impacts of visual intrusion, dumping, and other private/public land interface problems. Purchase of these properties would also facilitate development of a hiking trail network through the area.

The BLM and the City of Kingman have jointly committed to the development of this area for public recreation use, as evidenced by a Cooperative Management Agreement signed between the two entities in 1995. The *Recreation 2000 Strategy Update* directed BLM offices to define and focus recreation management efforts on their "recreation niche".

Potomac River

MARYLAND		Charles County		Congressional District 5	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$0	\$3,000,000	\$11,000,000 ¹	\$0	\$11,000,000
Acres	0	1,000	5,000-6,000	N/A	5,000-6,000

Location: On Maryland's tidal Potomac River watershed.

Purpose: Acquisition of property in the Potomac River watershed will help to protect the habitat and water quality of a tributary of the largest estuary in North America.

Acquisition Opportunities: Private land available for acquisition, (Douglas Tract).

Other Cooperators: State of Maryland.

Project Description: The proposed project area lies in lightly populated southern Maryland near Maryland Point. The remaining portions of these agricultural and rural peninsula counties are experiencing rapid suburban growth, as the outlying suburbs of Washington, DC push further south.

Acquisition of these lands will safeguard the area from urbanization while protecting the Chesapeake Bay watershed and associated habitat. Public acquisition of these lands will complement public forests and recreation areas popular with visitors from urban areas of Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, DC.

The Bureau is in the process of verifying the area's resource values to determine the appropriate mix of access, recreation, and resource conservation when this area is under public management. The BLM will soon begin a planning process under the National Environmental Policy Act, which will include site surveys and solicitation and review of public comment. This process will be coordinated with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, which has indicated its intent to share acquisition costs with the Federal government. The State is requesting a matching \$3 million appropriation in FY2001 from the Maryland legislature.

The project area contains the following historic and environmental values;

- the location of a Civil War encampment of approximately 25,000 troops.
- Native American archeological sites and other land and water archeological sites.
- wildlife habitat for innumerable animals including American bald eagle, osprey, egret, river otter, beaver, painted tortoise, and anadromous and semi-anadromous fishes.
- unique wetland and woodland habitat including evolving ecology within the shipwreck area.

To expedite transfer of this land the BLM will conduct planning and negotiations with the prospective seller(s) simultaneously.

¹ The State of Maryland expects to contribute half of the \$11 million needed to complete this acquisition.

Soda Mountain

OREGON		Jackson County		Congressional District 2	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$0	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$1,000	\$360,000
Acres	0	560	560	N/A	560

Location: Southern Oregon, 14 miles southeast of Ashland.

Purpose: Inholding acquisition within the Cascade/Siskiyou Ecological Emphasis Area designated in the Northwest Forest Plan and adjacent to the Soda Mountain Wilderness Study Area. Provides dispersed recreational opportunities.

Acquisition Opportunities: Acquisition of the surface estate adjacent to the Soda Mountain Wilderness Study Area. Mineral estate will be acquired by exchange.

Other Cooperators: The Soda Mountain Wilderness Council is a strong supporter of this acquisition opportunity but has not offered partner funding.

Project Description: Public ownership of this parcel would preclude future use inconsistent with the management goals for the Cascade/Siskiyou Ecological Emphasis Area. A management plan for the areas is being prepared and should be completed by October 2000. The plan will develop management options to maintain the ecosystems of the area. Acquisition would enable BLM to eliminate problem roads on the parcel that is causing sedimentation which is impacting downstream aquatic habitat.

Royal Teton Ranch

MONTANA		Park County		Congressional District 1	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$13,000,000 ¹	\$3,700,000	\$20,000,000	\$50,000	\$20,500,000
Acres	7,775 ²	6,000 ³	13,775	N/A	13,775

Location: South central Montana, adjacent to the northern boundary of Yellowstone National Park.

Purpose: A cooperative effort between the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service, the project will protect key winter range and migration corridors for several species of wildlife passing in and out of Yellowstone National Park. National attention has recently been focused on the plight of migrating bison moving outside the boundary of Yellowstone National Park. This request would acquire and extinguish all grazing rights of the Church Universal Triumphant on their remaining 6,000 acres in order to minimize bison vs. cattle conflicts, thereby protecting Montana's *brucellosis* "class free" status.

Acquisition Opportunities: Opportunities to acquire and extinguish outstanding grazing leases, providing additional winter range for migrating bison and wildlife.

Other Cooperators: Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

Project Description: A portion of the 12,000 acre Royal Teton Ranch (RTR) was cooperatively purchased by the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service in 1999 and is currently managed by the U.S. Forest Service. The past purchase included fee and easement interests and a partial land exchange. These lands provide crucial habitat for antelope, bighorn sheep, bison, elk, mule deer and grizzly bear. This acquisition acquired inholdings in the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness Area and all geothermal rights on the Ranch. At the time this acquisition was negotiated Royal Teton Ranch was not offering the sale of grazing rights on the property.

¹ Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service each contributed \$6,500,000.

² Includes fee and easement (development rights) interest and a partial land exchange.

³ Grazing rights (includes acquisition of grazing rights which overlap previously acquired development rights easement).

Potrero Creek

CALIFORNIA		Riverside County		Congressional District 44	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$40,000,000	\$200,000	\$42,000,000
Acres	0	400	8,780	N/A	8,780

Location: Southern California.

Purpose: Protection and management of T&E species habitat, cultural and paleontological resources, and recreation opportunities.

Acquisition Opportunities: The Lockheed Corporation has expressed interest in exchanging or selling their entire land holdings in the Potrero Creek basin. In 1993, Lockheed estimated the value of its holdings to be \$40 million. BLM has not formally appraised Lockheed's property.

Other Cooperators: Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency (RCHCA) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Project Description: The Potrero Creek basin is located just east of Highway 79 and south of Interstate 10, near the City of Beaumont in western Riverside County. The project has a similar purpose to and partially overlaps the Western Riverside County HCP project areas for which BLM previously received \$3 million in Congressional LWCF appropriations.

Southern California contains contains some of the richest diversities of native plant and animal species in the United States. This richness, however, is fast diminishing due to the pressures of urban development. The challenge is to preserve southern California's biodiversity without bringing urban development to a halt due to endangered species conflicts. The Potrero Creek basin is an assemblage of four distinct ecosystems: valley grassland, riparian, coastal sage scrub and chaparral. The geographic proximity of these four distinct habitats results in an unusually high number of plant and animal species within the area. Studies conducted by BLM, USFWS, RCHCA, and the California Department of Fish & Game indicate that the Potrero Creek basin contains some of the best available habitat for management and recovery of the federally endangered Stephens' kangaroo rat. In addition, the basin provides potential habitat for the federally endangered Least Bell's Vireo and the California Gnatcatcher. The importance of the Potrero Creek basin as a multi-species preserve in western Riverside County becomes more critical as planned urban development in the Riverside, San Bernardino and Coachella Valley metropolitan areas begins to surround the basin. Acquisition would preserve a reasonably accessible, biologically diverse open space to the public.

Cultural resource surveys with the Potrero Creek basin revealed several prehistoric archeological sites, including one very extensive residential base camp, and other features and artifacts such as rock art, pottery, and prehistoric rockshelters. Paleontological surveys of the basin revealed 101 recorded fossil sites of national paleontological importance and a high potential for additional fossil remains and as-yet recorded fossil sites. The basin also provides excellent recreational opportunities for wildlife viewing, nature study, photography, and hiking.

Wild Sandy River/Little Sandy River

OREGON		Clackamas and Multnomah Counties		Congressional Districts 3 and 5	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$17,500,000	\$50,000	\$18,000,000
Acres	0	520	3,500	N/A	3,500

Location: Northwestern Oregon, 10 miles southeast of Portland.

Purpose: Acquisition of multiple parcels along the Sandy River within the Sandy and Mount Hood Special Recreation Management Areas. The acquisitions will provide diverse recreational opportunities and conserve significant habitat for multiple T&E species and resources, near one of the fastest growing metropolitan areas in the Northwest.

Acquisition Opportunities: BLM has been working with Portland General Electric (PGE) and other parties, including The River Conservancy, in the surrender of the FERC license for the Bull Run Project and decommissioning of Marmot Dam and other project facilities on the Sandy River. PGE has committed to transfer its lands into public ownership to protect and conserve important watershed, habitat and recreation values. BLM has expressed interest in acquiring lands with high riparian and recreation values adjacent to existing BLM lands.

Other Cooperators: Forest Service, State of Oregon, Clackamas and Multnomah Counties, METRO, City of Portland, The River Conservancy, Northwest Steelheaders, Oregon Trout, The Nature Conservancy, City of Sandy, Sandy River Watershed Council and other organizations.

Project Description: The Sandy River drainage is a breath-taking scenic corridor which contains the route of the historic Barlow Road segment of the Oregon Trail. The river canyons are bounded by second growth and mature conifer forest, riparian and wetland areas. Winter steelhead, lower Columbia coho salmon, fall and spring chinook salmon use the river and tributary drainages for spawning and rearing. Old growth stands of Douglas fir are prime habitat for the threatened northern spotted owl. Several bald eagles winter in the area as well.

The acquisition priority for BLM includes a 520 acre portion of "non-FERC project" land, owned by PGE which have no facilities or other improvements, contain significant riparian resource values and are adjacent to BLM lands. This level of funding (\$1 million) would leverage State and other funds (\$10.0 million) for acquisition of this priority "non-FERC project" land. The remaining "non-FERC project" lands are not practical for Federal acquisition as they are associated with Roslyn Lake and the powerhouse. Approximately 180 acres of "FERC project" land near Marmot and Little Sandy Dams could be acquired by BLM once the project facilities have been decommissioned and the lands reclaimed in 2-3 years.

The PGE land contains more than four miles of river frontage along an eligible wild and scenic segment of the Sandy River and one mile of Little Sandy River frontage; extensive riparian and listed anadromous fish habitat (350+ acres) incorporating many small tributary streams; excellent elk and big game winter habitat; upland parcels have approximately 250 acres of generally second growth forests; and important recreation access and opportunities for fishing, hiking and white-water boating. The proposed acquisitions are consistent with the Northwest Forest Plan, Aquatic Conservation and Riparian Strategies.

Acquisition of these parcels would enhance the BLM's ability to manage the lands within the Sandy River and Mt. Hood Corridor for endangered species habitat, recreation and other values.

Japanese-American Relocation Centers

VARIOUS		Unknown Counties		Congressional District Unknown	
	To Date	FY 2001	Acquisition Total	Estimated out year costs/yr (development, O&M, etc.)	Total (over 10 yrs)
Cost	\$0	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$TBD	\$500,000
Acres	0	TBD	TBD	N/A	TBD

Location: Various locations in the western and central United States.

Purpose: Protection and management of historic resources.

Acquisition Opportunities: Acquisition would preserve the original internment center sites, provide public access, and offer greater protection and interpretive opportunities. Acquisition of lands and building improvements will preserve the historical record of these Japanese-American relocation centers.

Other Cooperators: Potential cooperators include the National Park Service (NPS). The FY 2001 NPS budget includes funding (\$42 million) for construction of a facility at the Manzanar, CA relocation center, and a description of planned studies at the Tule Lake (CA) and Granada (CO) centers.

Project Description: These internment centers, among 10 such war relocation centers in the western and central United States, were established by the War Relocation Authority for the purpose of temporarily housing all persons of Japanese ancestry living near the Pacific Coast in the states of Washington, Oregon, California, and Arizona. Pursuant to Executive Order of the President, announced on March 2, 1942, these people (many of whom were American citizens born in the United States) were evacuated to these centers in order to exclude them from designated military areas and insure efficient, unhampered military operations. These large-acreage sites were chosen because almost half of the evacuees were engaged in agriculture employment before the war and the isolated nature of the areas helped satisfy the rigid facility siting requirements. Properties will be acquired through acquisitions and, where possible, by exchange.

Activity: Land Acquisition

Subactivity: Acquisition Management & Exchange

2001 PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The 2001 budget request is \$3,000,000 and 33 FTEs.

The BLM's ability to accomplish its goal of using land acquisition to preserve our nation's natural and cultural heritage depends largely on the technical, administrative, and program management support provided by the Acquisition Management and Exchange activity. This program includes costs associated with processing purchases and exchanges, such as title research, appraisals, project planning, surveys, relocation, program coordination both internally and with local governments and private parties.

Land exchange will continue to be the preferred method of acquiring lands to meet the Administration's initiatives, especially the protection and enhancement of wetlands and riparian areas. BLM exchanges are funded through both the Land Acquisition Appropriation and the Management of Lands and Resources Appropriation, Lands and Realty Management subactivity. Many of the BLM's LWCF projects are completed through a combination of both purchase and exchange.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The BLM achieved the major planned workload accomplishments in 1999 and has already completed important acquisitions for 2000. Examples of some significant land acquisitions, accomplished through both purchase and exchange, that were completed in 1999 include:

- a 330-acre acquisition by purchase to acquire the last of three inholdings in the Marron Valley Environmental Preserve, a contiguous area of natural open space between Otay Mountain and Little Tecate Peak Area of Critical Environmental Concern. These lands support the greatest concentration of target T&E species and other sensitive species, as identified by the California Natural Community Conservation Plan. These lands, rich in biodiversity, are directly adjacent to Otay Mountain Wilderness Study Area and provide diverse recreational opportunities, within the Otay Mountain/Kuchamaa Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) east of San Diego, San Diego County, California.
- a 226-acre fee and conservation easement acquisition by purchase with assistance from The Nature Conservancy, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, to acquire farmland, irrigated pasture and two islands within the Snake River corridor. The purchase protects historic Three Island Crossing, a major emigrant river crossing of the Snake River on the Oregon National Historic Trail. The acquisition compliments Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation and community plans to construct a \$3.2 million interpretive/education center immediately north of the parcel, near Glens Ferry, Elmore County, Idaho.
- a 765-acre acquisition by purchase, exchange and donation, within the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail corridor, including over two miles of frontage on the Yellowstone River. The acquisition secures a key component of the Yellowstone River Greenway master plan, providing for public recreation and open space. The Four Dances Natural Area (previously referred to as Sacrifice Cliff) uplift forms a dramatic southern backdrop for the City of Billings, Yellowstone County, Montana.

- 76-acre acquisition by purchase, acquiring rocky shoreline and beach adjoining Watmough Bay. The tract includes unique wetland and forested upland areas and an impressive cliff face used by peregrine falcon and bald eagles. The parcel comprises the highest quality known occurrence in Washington of the Douglas fir-Pacific madrone/American vetch plant community, along with high quality occurrences of two rare plant communities in the Puget Sound Lowland Ecosystem. Acquisition of this parcel completes the Lopez Island - Chadwick Hill/Point Colville project area, in the San Juan Archipelago, San Juan County, Washington.