PART 3

COMMERCIAL USES AND REVENUES GENERATED

The demands being placed on the public lands are growing in tandem with the number and diversity of the people the BLM serves. Our ability to meet these new demands will depend on improving the Bureau's accountability to users of the public lands, while emphasizing the responsibility of these users to adhere to an ethic that is sensitive to the land's health and responsive to the public's right to receive fair value in return.

The BLM historically has made land available for authorized private sector activities, such as recreation, energy and mineral commodity extraction, livestock forage use, sawtimber harvest, and other related land use authorizations and land dispositions, and we will continue to do so. The BLM strives to ensure that taxpayers receive a fair return from such transactions, consistent with existing laws. The BLM also strives to ensure that adverse impacts on the land, to other users, and on the American public are minimized so as to prevent long-term environmental impairment or the creation of unfunded taxpayer liabilities.

The BLM administers about 264 million surface acres of public land and approximately 700 million acres of Federal subsurface mineral estate underlying both Federal surface ownerships and privately owned lands. The BLM also provides technical supervision of mineral development on 56 million acres of American Indian trust lands.

The following tables of statistics show the essential outputs of various interrelated programs that provide commercial uses as shown in Tables 3-1 through 3-23. Tables 3-24 through 3-32 display outcome-oriented information in terms of receipts or payments and the allocation of funds generated from commercial use activities on public lands. Table 3-33 is a new table that presents a financial update for the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act.

Please note that only receipts and payments collected by the BLM are listed. For revenues derived from BLM energy and mineral activities, refer to Mineral Revenues in the Annual Report of the Minerals Management Service, a Department of the Interior agency. The total onshore Federal mineral revenues, including royalties, rents, and bonus bids, were $1,577 million for Fiscal Year 2000. Mineral operations on Indian trust lands generated $242 million in royalties for Indian mineral owners.