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BLM UNCOMPAHGRE FIELD OFFICE RMP PLANNING FACT SHEET

Land Tenure

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The BLM Uncompahgre Field Office (UFO) is revising the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the Uncompahgre planning area. The Uncompahgre RMP will provide detailed information about the current state of resources on public lands within the planning area, and set forth a plan of action for managing those resources for the next twenty or so years under the BLM's dual mandate of *multiple use* and *sustained yield*.

In managing nearly 700,000 surface acres of public land within the planning area, the BLM provides for land use, purchase, exchange, donation, and sale, determines federal land boundaries, and maintains historic records for these ownership transactions.

LAND TENURE ADJUSTMENTS

Land ownership transfer is an important component of the BLM's land management strategy. The BLM completes ownership transactions involving land and interests in land when such transactions are in the public interest and consistent with publicly-approved land use plans.

LAND TENURE PROGRAM GOALS

The BLM's Land Tenure program is designed to:

- Improve management of natural resources through consolidation of federal, state and private lands
- Increase recreational opportunities and preserve open space
- Secure key property necessary to protect endangered species and promote biological diversity
- Preserve archaeological and historical resources
- Implement specific acquisitions authorized by Acts of Congress
- Allow for expansion of communities and consolidation of non-federal land ownership.

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LAND TENURE ADJUSTMENT TOOLS

The Federal Lands Policy Management Act provides the BLM with the following land tenure adjustment tools:

Exchanges: Land exchanges are considered on a case-by-case basis. An exchange must be in the public interest, and lands proposed for acquisition must contain higher resource or public values than the public lands being disposed.

Acquisitions: Acquisitions, including access easements, can be completed through purchases, including Land and Water Conservation Fund purchases, and donations or receipts from Federal Land Transaction Facilitations Act (FLTFA) sales. FLTFA acquisitions are limited to lands adjacent to public lands with special designations, such as National Monuments and National Conservation Areas.



Sales: Public lands have potential for disposal when they are isolated and difficult to manage. Land sales are typically accomplished through competitive bid at fair market value. Lands must be identified for disposal in the RMP prior to being offered for sale.

Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP): The R&PP Act of 1926 provides a means for state or local governments or non-profit organizations to acquire public lands at reduced or no cost, subject to BLM approval. The conveyed land must be used for a specific public need or recreational purpose such as a hospital, school, or park.

UTILITY CORRIDORS

Utility corridors for oil, gas, and hydrogen pipelines and electricity transmission facilities on federal lands were approved in January 2009 in the **Resource Management Plan Amendments/Record of Decision for Designation of Energy Corridors on Bureau of Land Management Administered Lands in the 11 Western States.**

The BLM wants your input...

- Is there BLM-administered land in the planning area that you think should be purchased, sold, or exchanged for land with greater public value? If so, which land and why? What criteria should be used to make such decisions?
- Is legal access to public land needed anywhere within the planning area?
- Should additional utility corridors and communication sites be designated in the planning area? If so, where? Are there areas that should be designated as unsuitable for major utility and road rights-of-way?

UFO Planning Webpage:
www.UFORMP.com

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