

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Nevada State Office
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Reno, Nevada 89520-0006

IN REPLY REFER TO:
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EMS TRANSMISSION 7-12-00
Information Bulletin No. NV-00-136

To: Field Managers, Nevada

From: Deputy State Director, Natural Resources, Lands & Planning

Subject: Exchange Workshop

DD: 7/28/00

The Nevada State Office (NSO) announces a Nevada Land Exchange Workshop for Nevada Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Field Managers, Assistant Managers for Non-renewable Resources and staff directly involved in processing land exchanges. The workshop will take place on October 17, 18 & 19 (if needed), 2000, in the NSO Great Basin A&B Room beginning at 8:00 a.m. each morning. The BLM National Land Exchange Team will also participate in the workshop.

The BLM is experiencing extraordinary review in its processing of land exchanges, in particular assembled land exchanges, from the General Accounting Office (GAO). GAO submitted a report to U.S. House Representative George Miller of California criticizing BLM for processing land exchanges inconsistent with agency policies, inappropriately documenting public interests determinations, and misusing ledger balances and escrow accounts among other items. The BLM will pay for a costly contract for another review audit on the issues GAO raised in their report.

Many exchanges in Nevada face processing difficulties and rarely meet the proponent's expectations. The land exchange process is a valuable tool for the acquisition of lands with environmental sensitivity or that contain other significant resource values. We must ensure that appropriate authorities and procedures are used for the continued availability of this important resource management tool.

An agenda is being developed. We plan to tailor the workshop to your needs concerning BLM land exchange policies, procedures, issues and technical information. We request you complete the attached survey to submit the topics you want discussed. Please respond by July 28 with your suggested agenda items. Information regarding lodging will be provided at a later date. Responses should be addressed to Dennis Samuelson, either through e-mail or fax at 775-861-6712. Each office will be responsible for travel expenses of their participants.

Signed By:
Meg Jensen
DSD, NRL&P

Authenticated By:
Debbie Spitale
Staff Assistant

1 Attachment
1. Survey (1 page)

SURVEY FOR LAND EXCHANGE WORKSHOP

(Please respond by e-mail or fax)

1. Please provide the names and titles of individuals that will be attending. (Field Managers and Assistant Field Managers are strongly encouraged to attend the morning session, Tuesday, October 17.)

Name

Title

2. What topics would you like to see discussed in detail?

W0-300 Review & Concurrence Requirements

Feasibility Report

Appraisals

NEPA Documentation

Cadastral Needs

Requests for segregation

Notice of Decision, Protests, and Appeals

Value Equalization

Title Standards

Land Exchange Closing Procedures

Assembled Land Exchange Process

Notice of Exchange Proposal

Other Topics: