

NOTICE OF EXCHANGE PROPOSAL

Proposed Amendment of Central Washington Assembled Land Exchange to Include Additional Lands in Douglas, Grant, Okanogan, Kittitas, and Yakima Counties (WAOR 53911)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District, Wenatchee Resource Area, 915 Walla Walla Avenue, Wenatchee, Washington 98801.

Notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is proposing to amend land exchange #WAOR 53911, by identifying ten additional non-federal properties for possible acquisition. The BLM is also offering the opportunity to comment on two small tracts of federal land inadvertently left off of a previous public notice. Said exchange is being considered pursuant to Section 206 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1716), as amended. The proponent for this exchange is Clearwater Land Exchange (P.O. Box 1238, Orofino, Idaho, 83544-1238). As proponent, Clearwater would facilitate an assembled land exchange involving multiple-party property transactions.

An initial public notice, dated September 3, 1999, provided legal descriptions of 6,009 acres of federal lands to be considered for disposal in this exchange, along with 9,664 acres of non-federal land nominated for possible acquisition. Said notice was sent to interested parties of record and published in several regional newspapers four times during September and October, 1999. After necessary exchange processing steps were completed, including an environmental assessment and land appraisals, BLM subsequently issued a "Notice of Decision" giving public notice of BLM's intent to complete a first phase of the exchange. This notice was issued April 10, 2001, and Phase I was completed September 26, 2001. Through that transaction, BLM acquired 6,530 acres of non-federal lands in trade for 841 acres of federal land.

Besides describing Phase I, the April 10, 2001 notice stated BLM's intent to later identify additional non-federal lands for possible acquisition in exchange for a portion of the federal lands remaining after Phase I was completed (approximately 4,091 acres of potentially suitable federal lands remain in the exchange proposal). The need to include additional non-federal lands stems from two reasons: several non-federal tracts dropped out due to value disagreements or other reasons during exchange processing, and not enough non-federal lands were identified (or available) when the exchange was initiated. Legal descriptions of the new non-federal lands proposed for inclusion in the exchange are described in the attached "Exhibit A." Carryover non-federal tracts (identified in the original notice and still available) will also be considered for acquisition.

Identified in the attached "Exhibit B" are two tracts of federal lands that were included in the original exchange agreement with Clearwater, but inadvertently left off the initial public notice (Notice of Exchange Proposal) dated September 3, 1999. These lands were officially segregated from appropriation under the public land laws and mineral laws for a period of five years beginning on Sept. 9, 1999. The BLM proposes to examine these two tracts for possible disposal through this exchange.

The BLM desires to include the additional non-federal and federal lands and process a second phase of this exchange because of expected benefits to Bureau programs, and improvement in general public land management. The federal lands identified for disposal are largely remote, widely scattered parcels of relatively small size that are located in BLM's Scattered Tracts and Okanogan Management Areas. They generally lack public access and are difficult to manage. In exchange for these lands, the United States would acquire non-federal properties located in BLM's Moses Coulee, Yakima Canyon, and Scattered Tracts Management Areas. These non-federal lands fit in well with existing federal ownership, and include shrub-steppe and riparian habitats important to a variety of wildlife species. The lands include public access and offer public recreation opportunities. The public interest would benefit from the completion of this exchange.

More detailed information concerning the proposed exchange may be obtained from William Schurger, Realty Specialist, at the address given above. Interested parties may submit comments concerning the proposed exchange to Jim Fisher, Field Manager of the Wenatchee Resource Area, at the same address. Comments may include notification of any liens or other claims relating to the non-federal lands identified in this notice. To be given consideration, comments must be made in writing, be specific to a particular parcel described in this notice, and be submitted or postmarked by **October 28, 2002**, which is 45 days from initial publication of this notice. The BLM will consider all valid comments, and respondents will be notified of the Bureau's decision prior to completing the exchange.

/s/ William Schurger
William Schurger, Realty Specialist

August 29, 2002
Date

Exhibit A (Non-Federal Lands)

Property A:

T.23N., R.22E., Willamette Meridian, Douglas County, Washington
Section 14: N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ and SW $\frac{1}{4}$ EXCEPT County Road, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$
Section 15: All EXCEPT County Road & easement to Douglas County PUD
Section 23: N $\frac{1}{2}$ EXCEPT County Road

Total: $\pm 1,312.65$ acres

Property B:

T.23N., R.22E., Willamette Meridian, Douglas County, Washington
Section 21: All
Section 28: NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$

Total: ± 949.06 acres

Property C:

T.23N., R.22E., Willamette Meridian, Douglas County, Washington
Section 7: Lots 1-4, E $\frac{1}{2}$ EXCEPT County Road, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$
Section 8: E $\frac{1}{2}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$
Section 9: All
Section 10: All
Section 11: W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ EXCEPT County Road
Section 17: All

Total: $\pm 3,100.60$ acres

Property D:

T.23N., R.22E., Willamette Meridian, Douglas County, Washington
Section 13: All
Section 24: N $\frac{1}{2}$
T.23N., R.23E., Willamette Meridian, Douglas County, Washington
Section 19: Lots 1-4, E $\frac{1}{2}$ EXCEPT County Road, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$

Total: $\pm 1,602.88$ acres

Property E:

T.23N., R.23E., Willamette Meridian, Douglas County, Washington
Section 25: S $\frac{1}{2}$ (including railroad right-of-way)

Total: ± 315.88 acres

Property F:

T.22N., R.23E., Willamette Meridian, Douglas County, Washington
Section 1: E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$

Total: ± 80 acres

Property G:

T.22N., R.24E., Willamette Meridian, Grant County, Washington
Section 8: SW $\frac{1}{4}$
Section 17: All

Total: ±800 acres

Property H:

The Southeast quarter of the Northwest quarter and the North half of the Southwest quarter of Section 28, Township 16 North, Range 19 East, W.M., in the County of Kittitas, State of Washington, EXCEPT:

1. The South 25 feet of the North half of the Southwest quarter heretofore conveyed to H.S. Colvin by deed dated June 16, 1938 and recorded in Book 59 of Deeds, page 221.
2. Right-of-way of the Northern Pacific Railway Company.
3. Right-of-way of State Highway Number 3.

Total: ±118.48 acres

Property I:

T.36N., R.27E., Willamette Meridian, Okanogan County, Washington
Section 1: S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ EXCEPT the North 190 feet thereof
Section 2: Lots 2, 3 and 4; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$; SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ EXCEPT the North 190 feet thereof; E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$
Section 11: N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$
T.37N., R.27E., Willamette Meridian, Okanogan County, Washington
Section 34: SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$
and,
T.36N., R.27E., Willamette Meridian, Okanogan County, Washington
Section 1: Lots 3, 4, and the North 190 feet of the S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$
Section 2: Lot 1, and the North 190 feet of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$

Total: ±987.04 acres

Property J:

A parcel of land situated in the County of Yakima, State of Washington, described as:

A parcel of land being a portion of Sections 1, 2, 11, and the east half (E $\frac{1}{2}$) and southwest quarter (SW $\frac{1}{4}$) of Section 10, Township 14 North, Range 19 East of the Willamette Meridian, Yakima County, Washington; said portion being all that land lying westerly and northerly of the easterly right-of-way line for the State of Washington Highway No. SR82 (Scorpion Creek to Selah Creek).

Total: ±1720.46 acres

Exhibit B (Federal Lands)

<u>Tract #</u>	<u>Legal Description</u>	
O31	T.34N., R.27E., W.M., Okanogan County, Washington Section 18: SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	40.00 acres
O32	T.36N., R.27E., W.M., Okanogan County, Washington Section 31: SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	40.00 acres

