

NOTE: YOU WILL PROBABLY BE RECEIVING PHOTOGRAPHS AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL  
STORY THROUGH YOUR PRESS WIRE SERVICE IN REGARD TO THIS PRESENTATION  
CEREMONY. IT IS SUGGESTED THE ATTACHED BE HELD UNTIL THE WIRE STORY  
IS RECEIVED.

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Lee - 343-3609

Appraised values and acreages vary, but all tracts are appraised at current market value. Among the higher appraisals are a 1½-acre light industrial tract at \$20,000, and a 10-acre residential tract at \$40,000. Lower valued lots include two 1½-acre residential sites at \$3,000 and another, slightly larger than an acre, at \$1,250.

In the same sale BLM is offering a parcel covering 120 acres near Moapa. Described as rocky, infertile, and rough, the land is appraised at \$3,600.

Director Rasmussen stressed that current market appraisals represent only the lowest acceptable bid. After sealed bids have been opened, oral bidding is expected to increase the final price on many tracts.

A prospectus on the sale is available from the Land Office Manager, Bureau of Land Management, Room 3008, Federal Building, 300 Booth Street, Reno, Nevada 89502. Copies may also be obtained from the Las Vegas District Office, 1859 North Decatur Boulevard, Las Vegas, Nevada 89107.

The public auction will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 30, in the Las Vegas High School Auditorium, Ninth and Clark, in Las Vegas.

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# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

## news release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
For Release to December 26, 1968

Mattoon 343-5717

### NATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD COUNCIL REVIEWS GRAZING FEE INCREASE

The National Advisory Board Council, which advises the Secretary of the Interior on public land matters, has voted to recommend that future increases in grazing fees on Bureau of Land Management land be limited to 43 cents per animal unit month, 10 cents higher than in 1968.

The recommendation, put forward by a special committee on grazing fees, was adopted by majority vote at the NABC's San Francisco meeting December 18. The committee's report noted that this figure is within 1 cent of the amount proposed by the Department of the Interior for the first year of a 10-year schedule to raise grazing fees to the fair market value of \$1.23 per AUM. But in contrast with the Interior proposal, the Council recommendation would set 43 cents as a ceiling. Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall and Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman announced the schedule for increased fees on Forest Service and BLM lands November 15, in accordance with the Bureau of the Budget's 1959 Circular A-25, calling for fair market value to be obtained for services and resources provided the public.

Their action was based on the result of a study by the Department of Agriculture's Statistical Reporting Service showing how grazing values could best be estimated. About 47,000 grazing permits are issued to farmers and ranchers by the two agencies.

The Council also adopted a recommendation to Secretary Udall asking that the proposed system of collecting fees be referred to the Department of Justice for an opinion as to the legality of setting fees on a basis of general fair market value rather than the "reasonable fee" basis prescribed in the Taylor Grazing Act.

All other portions of the proposed new regulations were recommended by the Council for approval. These include more efficient systems of fee payment, refunds, and range management plans.

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Breakdown of State allocations follow:

	Mineral Leases and Permits	Grazing, Land and Timber Sales Other	Total
Alaska	3,771,388.41	3,119.69	3,774,508.10
Arizona	28,401.39	55,815.48	84,216.87
Arkansas	9,459.59	12.00	9,471.59
California	1,705,921.15	85,985.61	1,791,906.76
Colorado	1,991,993.81	40,280.95	2,032,274.76
Florida	65.81	-0-	65.81
Idaho	41,961.31	58,627.09	100,588.40
Kansas	71,978.60	46.53	72,025.13
Louisiana	113,133.92	466.48	113,600.40
Michigan	1,322.05	90.00	1,412.05
Missouri	-0-	2.04	2.04
Montana	1,135,817.91	64,829.63	1,200,647.54
Nebraska	103.82	99.35	203.17
Nevada	265,348.84	108,956.58	374,305.42
New Mexico	6,422,757.02	79,875.75	6,502,632.77
North Dakota	120,781.81	1,765.57	122,547.38
Oklahoma	81,126.76	7,724.51	88,851.27
Oregon	642.94	113,433.90	114,076.84
South Dakota	14,904.88	13,952.31	28,857.19
Utah	1,739,988.39	38,735.63	1,778,724.02
Washington	-0-	8,959.72	8,959.72
Wisconsin	-0-	5.92	5.92
Wyoming	8,107,720.51	127,320.68	8,235,041.19
Totals	25,624,818.92	810,105.42	26,434,924.34



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Herndon - 343-3609

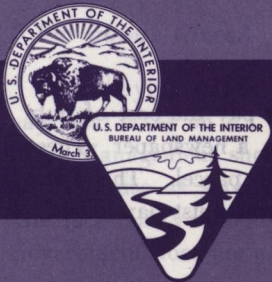
Keil said that the area, which BLM has classified for multiple-use management, is unusual in its diversity of plant and animal life. "Isolation by formidable barriers of deserts and mountains has created an unusual biological community, one that attracts naturalists as well as archaeologists," he added.

Archaeological evidence is abundant in the area, with many pictographs, petroglyphs, and Indian ruins that have been attributed to early Hohokum, Cochise, and other cultures dating back 10,000 years. BLM specialists have identified 18 key sites in the area.

The Red Rock Canyon Recreation Lands are part of an 800,000-acre area that, under the 1964 Act, was classified in June 1967 for multiple-use management. The classification followed numerous public hearings, and was endorsed by local government officials in the Las Vegas area as well as leaders of wildlife, historical, and archaeological groups.

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# How To Buy Public Lands

Bureau of Land Management • U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

*This leaflet is designed to answer most of the questions asked by individuals interested in buying public land from the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior.*

## **What is public land?**

While there are all kinds of "public" land—Federal, State, county, municipal—this leaflet pertains to land owned by the Federal Government and administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management. For the most part, this is original public domain land which has never left Federal ownership. "Public land" as described in this leaflet does not mean National Forests or National Parks.

## **In what states is most public land for sale located?**

Almost all of it is in the public land states of the West—Arizona, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Oregon, Nevada, Idaho, Utah, California, Washington. For information about public land in Alaska, write Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240 and ask for Information Bulletin No. 2.

## **What about public lands in the East and elsewhere?**

Small amounts of public land still remain in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi and Wisconsin, but land sales in these States are very rare. *There are no public lands in Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia and West Virginia.*

## **How is public land sold?**

By public auction sale through sealed or oral bidding.

## **Where are the sales held?**

In Land Offices of the Bureau of Land Management as listed in this leaflet. No sales are held in Washington, D. C.

## **Is any of this land free or cheap?**

Every parcel is appraised by the Government at fair market value. You cannot buy it for less than the appraised price. Don't be deceived by promoters who advertise "free" or "cheap" public land.

## **If I want to buy some public land what is the first thing I should do?**

Get the very best information available. "Our Public Lands," a quarterly magazine published by the Bureau of Land Management, carries a listing of public lands to be sold in the near future. The magazine's "Public Sale Bulletin Board" gives a thumbnail description of these lands, including their general location, appraised price, and other information. If you live in the West, you may visit the nearest BLM Land Office and ask for information.

## **How do I subscribe to this magazine?**

Send 60 cents to Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402 and ask for a year's subscription to "Our Public Lands." Be sure that your name and address, including zip code, are typed or printed clearly.

## **If a parcel listed in the magazine interests me, what is my next move?**

When you have looked over the "Public Sale Bulletin Board" and found listed a parcel of public land



that interests you, you should get additional information about the parcel. To do this, write the BLM Land Office for the State in which the parcel is located.

***What do I ask the Land Office?***

Ask for a prospectus describing in detail the tract you saw listed in "Our Public Lands." The prospectus will include date of sale, facts about preference rights for adjoining landowners, a more complete description of the parcel than given in the magazine, and other things you should know before buying. You can also ask for a bid form on which to make your bid.

***If I decide I want to buy the parcel, what is the next thing I should do?***

From the prospectus you obtain from the Land Office, you will be able to decide if you really want to bid. If you still aren't sure, you can write for additional details. If at all possible, inspect the property yourself or engage someone to do so for you.

***Can land listed in "Our Public Lands" be taken off the market before sale?***

Yes. For unexpected technical and legal reasons some tracts listed for sale must be taken off the market. Such action is unfortunate, but it happens from time to time. If this happens in your case, the BLM Land Office can tell you why it was necessary.

***Can I actually buy a parcel of public land by mail?***

Yes, you can actually purchase Government land by mail. But, there is distinct advantage in being present for the sale or sending a representative. Bids sent in by mail cannot be raised unless the bidder, or his representative, is present at this sale.

***Are transactions cash, or may I buy this land on a time plan?***

All public land sold by the Bureau of Land Management must be paid for in full at the time of the sale. Mailed bids must be accompanied by certified check, Post Office money order, bank draft or cashier's check made payable to the Bureau of Land Management. Personal checks or cash are accepted from bidders present at the auction. All bids must be for not less than the advertised appraised value.

***Are there any other fees required of the purchaser?***

Yes, the land buyer must also pay the cost of publishing legal notice of the sale in a newspaper. These costs vary depending upon the parcel. The Land Office will tell you the amount you must pay.

***Are there any preference rights for veterans?***

No.

***Are there any preference rights that I should know about?***

The law under which most parcels are sold specifies that an adjoining landowner may acquire a parcel offered for sale by (1) matching the highest bid, or (2) by paying three times the appraised price, whichever is less. The right of preference must be asserted within 30 days after sale is held. If more than one adjoining landowner wants the same parcel, a division of the tract becomes necessary. The Land Office has complete information. However, under some of the land sales laws, no preferential rights are provided.

***Can I buy only part of a tract that is advertised for sale?***

No. You must bid on the entire tract as offered for sale.

***What about size of the tracts?***

Most of them range from 40 to 120 acres. But they may be as small as a fraction of an acre or as large as 5,000 acres.

***Will it be possible for me to farm a tract of this land?***

Farming opportunities are very slim. Some parcels are suitable for grazing. Occasionally, a parcel is advertised as having "some agricultural potential."

***Are some parcels inaccessible?***

Some are completely surrounded by private holdings. This means, if you buy such a tract, you would probably need an access agreement with your neighbors, else you may be unable to reach your land. Many of the parcels are far from public roads, utilities and water. The Government does not guarantee access.

***What about taxes?***

After buying public land, you will be required to pay local taxes on it. Your deed from the Bureau of Land Management should be recorded at the County Court House as soon as possible after the purchase. The fact that you bought the land from the Federal Government does not exempt it from local taxation.

***Are there any age limits involved in buying public lands from BLM?***

This depends upon the law under which the particular parcel is offered. Under the Public Land Sale Act of 1964, a purchaser must be at least 21 years old. Under other laws, a bidder of any age capable of entering into a binding contract is eligible.

***How do I buy "tax land" or land sold for tax delinquency?***

The Federal Government has no jurisdiction over lands on which local taxes have become delinquent and does not sell such lands. Just how to purchase "tax lands" would depend upon the laws of a particular State. Full information should be sought from the Tax Assessor in the county in which such land is located.

***What about leasing, instead of buying, public land?***

The Bureau of Land Management leases rights for grazing and mineral development but does not normally lease land for homesites. It leases none for agricultural purposes.

***Does BLM ever have land for sale in Texas or Hawaii?***

No. There are no public domain lands in either State. For information about State-owned lands in Texas, write Commissioner, General Land Office, Austin, Texas; for Hawaii, write Department of Land and Natural Resources, Box 621, Honolulu, Hawaii.

***Does the sale of public land have anything to do with homesteading?***

Nothing at all, if you are referring to the Homesteading Act of 1862. Homesteading is an entirely different matter. It is almost a thing of the past, even in Alaska.

***Are islands offered for sale?***

Your chance of buying an island from the BLM is almost nil. Islands usually have public recreational value and are sold to State or local public agencies for use as public recreation areas.

***What about "surplus land?"***

Sale of so-called "surplus lands," or "surplus property," is handled by the General Services Administration, Washington, D. C. 20407. BLM has no "surplus land."

***If I buy public land, do I get the minerals, too?***

Ordinarily, public lands valuable for minerals are not sold. However, in some instances such lands are sold and certain minerals are reserved to the Government. The notice of sale from the Land Office will clearly state whether minerals relating to a particular parcel are to be reserved.

***Does the Government require me to make any special use of land I buy?***

No. When you buy land from the Bureau of Land Management, the Federal Government does not tell you what use you can make of it. However, in some areas local zoning regulations and building codes apply.

***Can I buy more than one parcel of public land?***

Yes, except under the Small Tract Act which allows only one tract per person under ordinary circumstances.

***What about "Public Land for Sale" ads by private promoters?***

The Bureau of Land Management is the only official and authentic source of information about lands it sells. In the past, innocent citizens have paid thousands of dollars for questionable services and information about public land. Official information is readily available without charge from BLM addresses listed elsewhere in this leaflet. Before answering advertisements promoting the sale of public land at bargain prices, it would be wise to contact the Bureau of Land Management.



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## Bureau of Land Management Land Offices

### ALASKA:

555 Cordova St.  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
516 Second Ave.  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

### ARIZONA:

Federal Bldg., Room 3022  
Phoenix, Ariz. 85025

### CALIFORNIA:

Federal Bldg., Room 4017  
Sacramento, Calif. 95814  
1414 University Ave.  
Riverside, Calif. 92502

### COLORADO:

14023 Federal Bldg.  
Denver, Colo. 80202

### IDAHO:

323 Federal Bldg.  
Boise, Idaho 83701

### MONTANA (N. Dak., S. Dak.):

Federal Bldg.  
316 North 26th St.  
Billings, Mont. 59101

### NEVADA:

Federal Bldg., 300 Booth St.  
Reno, Nev. 89502

### NEW MEXICO (Okla.):

Federal Bldg.  
Santa Fe, N. Mex. 87501

### OREGON:

729 Northeast Oregon St.  
Portland, Oreg. 97208

### UTAH:

8217 Federal Bldg.  
125 South State St.  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

### WASHINGTON:

729 Northeast Oregon St.  
Portland, Oreg. 97208

### WYOMING (Neb., Kans.):

2120 Capitol Ave.  
Cheyenne, Wyo. 82001

### ALL OTHER STATES:

Robin Bldg.  
7981 Eastern Ave.  
Silver Spring, Md. 20910

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior works to assure that nonrenewable resources are conserved for the future, and that renewable resources make their full contribution to the progress, prosperity, and security of the United States—now and in the future.

## U. S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1967 O-265-484

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office  
Washington, D.C. 20402 - Price 5 cents



# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

## news release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Herndon - 343-5717

For Release May 28, 1968

### INTERIOR ACCEPTS 109 BIDS IN TEXAS OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE

The Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management has accepted bids on 109 of 169 tracts off the coast of Texas which were offered in an oil and gas lease sale May 21. Bonus bids thus far accepted total \$582,270,355, a record for Gulf of Mexico lease sales.

No bids were submitted for 28 of the tracts offered in the sale, and bids offered for 31 tracts (involving a total of \$8,586,670) were rejected. The bids submitted on one tract, No. 228, is still under Departmental examination.

The previous record high sale for Gulf of Mexico offshore leases was on June 13, 1967, when bonus bids totaling \$510,079,178 were accepted for tracts off the Louisiana coast. On Feb. 6, 1968, a lease sale of tracts in the Santa Barbara Channel off the California coast brought in \$602,719,262 in accepted bids, the record high since the first Outer Continental Shelf sale was held in 1954.

The May 21 Texas sale attracted a total \$602,485,717 in high bids, and the total of all bids received was \$1,607,193,714. Highest bid for a single tract was offered by Texaco, Inc., which bid \$43,787,520 for Tract No. 238, covering 5,760 acres--an average of \$7,602 per acre.

Successful bidders will also pay annual rentals, and, when commercial production begins, a royalty fixed at one-sixth of production value.

Four previous oil and gas lease sales have been held for that part of the Outer Continental Shelf that lies off Texas. The first sale, in 1954, brought the Federal Treasury more than \$23 million in bonus bids. That sale, and three subsequent ones in the area, yielded \$68,104,240 in bonus bids. A sale of sulphur leases in the same general region, in 1965, attracted \$33,740,308 in bonus bids accepted.

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