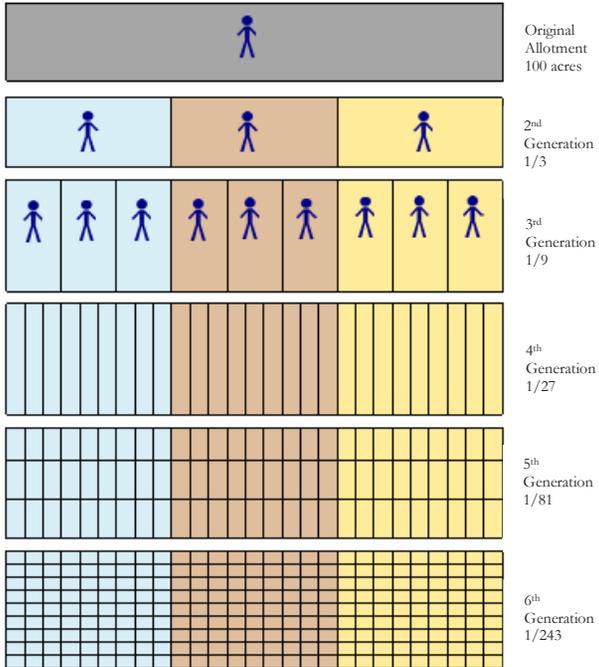


FRACTIONATION

A serious problem facing tribal communities

As tracts (or “allotments”) of tribal lands are passed down through generations, they gain more and more individual owners.



The example above is an illustration of the fractionation of a possible allotment of land over six generations. It assumes only three heirs per generation and shows the fractional share for each generation.

Many allotments now have hundreds and even thousands of individual owners. Because it is difficult for owners to agree on how to use the land, these allotments often lie idle and cannot be used for any economically beneficial purpose.

Currently, there are approximately 150 locations with fractionated tracts of land, with approximately 243,000 unique owners.

What can we do TOGETHER?

LAND CONSOLIDATION PROGRAMS HAVE MADE A DIFFERENCE IN TRIBAL COMMUNITIES:

Rosebud developed 10 housing units that injected **\$1.9 million** into the local economy and housed families who had previously been homeless.

Quapaw developed a tribal business that created **hundreds of jobs** and boosted the local economy.

Bad River built new homes and businesses that are projected to increase revenue by **\$1.1 million** (one development in progress shown below).



Questions?

Call the Trust Beneficiary Call Center: **888.678.6836**

Visit our website for updates and more information:
www.doi.gov/buybackprogram

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LAND Buy - Back Program for TRIBAL NATIONS

A LANDOWNER'S GUIDE



*For You, Your Land,
Your Community.*

THE LAND BUY-BACK PROGRAM FOR TRIBAL NATIONS

A Brief History

The Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations works to unify fractionated tribal land bases that resulted from the failed historical policy of allotment. Fractionation affects approximately 150 locations and results in tracts of land with potentially hundreds of owners. Over the next decade, the Program and tribes will partner to help communities consolidate these lands across Indian Country.



Cobell Settlement Agreement

The Cobell Settlement Agreement provides for a \$1.9 billion Trust Land Consolidation Fund to be used over a ten-year period to purchase fractional interests.

The Secretary of the Interior established the Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations to utilize this fund. This Program, in cooperation with tribes, seeks to combat the historic fractionation problem and unify tribal lands for you, your land, and your community.

Working for...

YOU

When and how can I sell my land?

The Program will work with tribes to visit many locations over the course of a decade to appraise land and make offers to landowners. If your tribe chooses to participate in the Program, you may receive an offer packet describing your land's appraised value as well as instruction on how to sell your land.

How will I be paid for my land and how much?

You will receive fair market value for any land interests you decide to sell, based on your share in the whole tract, plus \$75 per offer packet. Funds will be deposited into your Individual Indian Money (IIM) account.

Do I have to sell my land?

No. Participation in the Program is strictly voluntary.

What are my next steps?

The first step is to contact the Trust Beneficiary Call Center (888-678-6836) to register your desire to sell your interests, provide your current contact information, and ask any questions you may have.

YOUR LAND

What happens to my land if I choose to sell?

By selling your interests through the Program, you may create opportunities to make Indian lands more productive for tribes and the communities they serve.

Any land interests you sell will remain in trust, but ownership will be transferred to the tribe with jurisdiction over the land.

YOUR COMMUNITY

Tribal development

Selling your land for tribal consolidation will allow your tribe to develop previously unusable land for economic and tribal growth. Tribes could use the land to build homes, community centers or businesses, or for other uses, such as tribal preservation.

Scholarships for Indian students

For each land sale, the Department of the Interior will contribute a percentage of the proceeds (up to **\$60 million**) to the Indian Education Scholarship Fund for American Indian and Alaska Native students.

Visit our website for updates and more information: www.doi.gov/buybackprogram