

Lower Duchesne Wetlands Project

Questions & Answers

LAND ACQUISITION

Q: What is the Lower Duchesne Wetlands Project and where is it?

A: The Lower Duchesne River Wetlands Mitigation Project (LDWP) is a Federally mandated project to restore and enhance wetland, riparian and supporting upland along the Duchesne River in the Uinta Basin in Northeastern Utah. (Refer to the map on the reverse side of this page for location and area details.)

Q: How much of the project area consists of private land?

- A:**
- Under the Proposed Action, the project area consists of 4,807 acres, of which 3,215 acres are Tribal Trust or Allotted land and 1,592 acres are private land.
 - The Proposed Action was revised to reduce the amount of acreage in the project area, specifically to reduce the amount of private land needed from 2,154 acres to 1,592 acres.
 - This was done primarily by eliminating the site with the most private land and by revising other site boundaries to avoid established cropland where possible.
 - Project goals were revised to emphasize habitat connectivity, equal emphases on wetland and riparian habitat, and ecosystem management.

Q: How will you acquire private lands needed for the Project?

- A:** Private lands will be acquired on a willing-seller basis;
- However, it is necessary to preserve the right of eminent domain only as a last resort in the event that every reasonable effort to complete an acquisition on a willing-seller basis fails.
 - Acquiring lands through eminent domain is controlled by federal regulation and policy and is designed to protect both private landowner and taxpayer.

Q: How can I find out if my property is in the Project Area?

- A:**
- To see if your property is in the project area, refer to maps in the Final Environmental Impact Statement that show project boundaries overlaid on an aerial photo. These maps are also located on the internet at www.mitigationcommission.gov
 - If you still have questions after reviewing available maps, please contact:
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Land Ownership

Within the Proposed Action Project Area

- Allotted Land
- Tribal
- Private
- Project Boundaries

