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Continued:

• **To date, the equivalent of 153,965 acres of land has been returned to Indian reservations through the Indian Lands Consolidation Office (ILCO) purchase programs to stem fractionation.** These programs use appropriated funds to purchase highly fractionated interests and return the land to the tribe, therefore helping to restoring economic viability to the region. So far, ILCO has purchased 162,589 fractionated interests, and is managing acquisition programs for 18 reservations within seven BIA regions.

• **Tribal and individual trust beneficiaries now have OST Regional Trust Administrators and Fiduciary Trust Officers, experienced in fiduciary trust matters, available to them for all their trust needs.** The new staff members are working at BIA and other offices throughout the country. This is the first time beneficiaries have had staff available to them that are specifically focused on trust asset assistance.

• **Land survey issues in Indian Country are being managed by new BLM Indian Lands Surveyors, hired specifically to support Indian Country needs.** In partnership, OST, BIA and BLM have hired the first six of twelve cadastral surveyors to work directly with tribes and individuals. This is the first time that surveyors will be stationed in BIA regional offices to work with Indian Trust beneficiaries.

• **A new “lockbox” process has been implemented for the collection of trust payments.** The new process (used by major financial institutions) has been introduced to the Concho and Anadarko pilot reform agencies in Oklahoma, and will greatly improve the efficiency of trust payment collections.

• **Account holders with trust assets in the pilot agency locations will begin receiving comprehensive statements.** The improved account statements will include detailed information on land ownership, including location, encumbrances, and income.

The Department of the Interior continues to implement these and other reforms for the management of trust assets developed by tribal leadership, Interior staff, and Congress. These examples are only a few of the changes underway. For information on reform efforts, and Interior’s other Indian Trust efforts such as historical accounting, see the Fiduciary Trust Model and the 21st Quarterly Report to the Court at www.doi.gov/ost.