

Consultations on Cobell Trust Land Consolidation

The Cobell settlement was approved by Congress on November 30, 2010 (Claims Resolution Act of 2010) and signed by President Obama on December 8, 2010. The \$3.4 billion Cobell Settlement will address the Federal Government's responsibility for trust accounts and trust assets maintained by the United States on behalf of more than 300,000 individual Indians. A fund of \$1.5 billion will be used to compensate class members for their historical accounting, trust fund and asset mismanagement claims.

In addition, to address the continued proliferation of thousands of new trust accounts caused by the "fractionation" of land interests through succeeding generations, the Settlement establishes a \$1.9 billion fund for the voluntary buy-back and consolidation of fractionated land interests. The land consolidation program will provide individual American Indians with an opportunity to obtain cash payments for divided land interests and free up the land for the benefit of tribal communities.

Furthermore, up to \$60 million will be set aside to provide scholarships for higher education for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Documents Related to the Cobell Trust Land Consolidation Program:

- Settlement Agreement
 - Amended Final Judgment
 - Order Staying Reporting Requirements
 - Exhibit A to order of Final Approval
 - Defendant's Motion for Permission to Communicate with Class Members
 - Attachment 1
 - Attachment 2
 - Attachment 3
 - Proposed Order
 - Order Granting Motion
- Secretarial Order
- Secretarial Commission on Indian Trust Administration and Reform
 - Draft Charter
 - Secretarial announcement of the establishment of the Commission

Regional Consultations for the Cobell Trust Land Consolidation Program:

Materials to Review Prior to a Consultation:

- Land Consolidation Fact Sheet
- Cobell Trust Land Consolidation Program - Executive Summary
- Federal Registrar Notice of Consultations
 - FR Notice for Billings, Montana
 - FR Notice for 5 Additional Regional Consultation

Press Releases and Media Advisories Related to Consultations:

- First Regional Tribal Consultation on Cobell Trust Land Consolidation Program Announced
- Billings, Montana Advisory

Friday, July 15, 2011 Consultation in Billings, Montana

- First Regional Tribal Consultation on Cobell Trust Land Consolidation Program Announced
- Federal Registrar's Notice for Billings, Montana Consultation
- Tribal Leader Letter

Thursday, August 18, 2011 Consultation in Minneapolis, Minnesota

- **Where:** Mystic Lake Casino Hotel
2400 Mystic Lake Boulevard
Prior Lake, MN 55372
- **When:** Registration begins at 7am; meeting will start at 8:30 am sharp
- **Please RSVP for this consultation** by email: RSVP_Cobell_Consultation@doi.gov with the subject line: **Minneapolis** or by phone: (505) 563-3805

Friday, September 16, 2011 Consultation in Seattle, Washington

Tuesday, September 27, 2011 Consultation in Albuquerque, New Mexico

Thursday, September 29, 2011 Consultation in Phoenix, Arizona