



Real Estate

Landownership Adjustments

8101. Classify lands or interest in lands for acquisition where lands are valuable for National Forest System purposes based on the following:

- a. In designated wilderness areas and other Congressionally classified areas;
- b. Where lands or rights-of-way are needed to meet resource management goals and objectives;
- c. Lands that provide habitat for threatened, endangered or sensitive species of animals and plants;
- d. Lands that include floodplains, wetlands or riparian areas;
- e. Place high priority on acquiring lands with riparian areas that will protect or improve water quality, channel stability, and aquatic habitat;
- f. On lands having historical or significant heritage resources, outstanding scenic values or critical ecosystems, when these resources are threatened by change of use or when management may be enhanced by public ownership; and
- g. Lands that will improve administration and reduce trespass.

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8102. The following characteristics further define the acquisition priorities:

- a. Lands with water frontage, such as lakes, streams, floodplains, wetlands and associated riparian ecosystems;
- b. Key wildlife and fishery management areas;
- c. Lands primarily of value for outdoor recreation purposes and lands needed for aesthetic protection;
- d. Lands needed to protect resource values by eliminating or reducing fire risks, soil erosion and potential future trespass occupancies;
- e. Lands needed to reduce the potential for future administrative costs of special uses, road and trail right-of-way grants and easements;
- f. Lands needed to block or consolidate existing National Forest System lands and reduce the miles of boundaries and number of corners;
- g. Lands that maintain or stabilize the economics of local government;
- h. Lands that will add significantly to available National Forest goods and services;
- i. Lands where conflicting uses would impact National Forest land or land management;
- j. Lands in a municipal supply watershed, where,
 - (1) The community does not have the capability to acquire the essential tract,
 - (2) The National Forest program will provide the best insurance against existing or potential uses that are incompatible with effective watershed management, and
 - (3) The lands are suitable and will be used for other National Forest programs in addition to watershed protection;
- k. Lands essential to public management of recreation and other resources, and contiguous to a proposed impoundment to be constructed by a public agency; (These lands will be acquired at the earliest possible stage of project planning.)
- l. Lands with improvements suitable for National Forest purposes;
- m. Acquire only those Non-National Forest System lands in mineralized areas that have low potential for future mineralized patents and where the minerals will be donated to the United States; and
- n. Identify as desirable for acquisition those private lands that have traditional cultural properties and are contiguous to National Forest System land.

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8103. Classify lands for conveyance based on the following:

- a. To states, counties, cities or other federal agencies when conveyance will serve a greater public interest;
- b. In small parcels intermingled with mineral or homestead patents;
- c. Those lands suitable for development by the private sector, if development (residential, agricultural, industrial, recreational, etc.) is in the public interest; and
- d. When critical or unique resources exist (wetlands, floodplains, essential big-game winter range, threatened endangered or sensitive species habitat, historical or heritage resources, critical ecosystems, etc.) but only when effects are mitigated by reserving interests to protect the resource, or by exchange where other critical resources to be acquired are considered to be of equal or greater value on a Forest-wide basis.

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8104. The following characteristics further define the conveyance priorities:

- a. Parcels isolated from other National Forest System lands;
- b. Lands encumbered by special-use permits and occupied by substantial structural improvements for which there is no greater need;
- c. Lands encumbered with occupancy trespass cases and encroachments involving substantial structural improvements;
- d. Lands within and immediately adjacent to expanding communities to assist public and private projects that have the mutual concurrence of federal, state, and local governments;
- e. Lands encumbered with summer home groups or cabins that are no longer desirable for semi-exclusive use;
- f. Lands in developed areas that have lost or are losing their National Forest character; and
- g. Reserved or acquired road right-of-way parcels that are substantially surrounded by lands not owned by the United States and that are no longer needed for right-of-way purposes.

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