

LANDOWNERSHIP ADJUSTMENT STRATEGY

The Forest Landownership Adjustment Strategy provides the direction for adjusting Forest land ownership to meet resource and administrative needs. The historic ownership pattern of the Forest was the result of the disposal laws enacted by Congress before and after the National Forest was established in 1905. The resulting ownership pattern has created some problems of access and resource control. Through the use of land exchanges, purchases, and donations, these land patterns can be changed for the betterment of resource management and use of the Forest by the general public.

The landownership adjustment strategy provides overall direction. The strategy will be implemented through individual exchange, purchase, and donation projects. Each project requires public scoping and an environmental analysis to review the local resource (wildlife, botanical, fisheries, heritage resources, and minerals) and social issues associated with the lands involved. The public will be alerted to each project through the Forest's quarterly Schedule of Proposed Actions as well as by legal notices in local newspapers; federal, state and local elected officials representing the area will be notified individually. This will afford the public an opportunity for input into each proposed landownership adjustment case. Values for lands to be exchanged or purchased will be determined by a qualified appraiser. The federal and private exchange parcels must be essentially equal in value.

Land adjustments require extensive processing and moderate budget commitments. They are discretionary actions, initiated only when there is benefit to be gained by the Forest Service and time, budget and case processing personnel are available.

FOREST PLAN DIRECTION

Direction for landownership adjustments is found throughout the EIS and the Forest Plan. This section briefly summarizes the direction and provides accompanying maps to show the land adjustment goals.

Forest goals and policies: The following are the general goals of the Forest Landownership Adjustment Strategy. These goals are not in any particular priority order. All adjustment projects are based on willing buyers and sellers.

1. Acquire private parcels within or partially within wilderness areas.
2. Acquire high priority recreational lands, especially for recreational access to wild and scenic river corridors.
3. Acquire lands that support the FSEIS-ROD by enhancing biodiversity, including habitat for T&E and sensitive wildlife, fish, and plant species.
4. Acquire lands that consolidate National Forest System ownership and provide for management efficiency.
5. Acquire land for the Lower Trinity and Mad River Ranger District administrative offices by exchanging unneeded administrative sites or lands that have lost their National Forest character.
6. Convey out of isolated federal parcels with limited or no legal access if, following project level environmental analysis, it is acceptable to do so.

7. Convey out of lands that are improved and have lost National Forest character. Some improved lands that might become candidates for exchange following more site-specific analysis include:
 - Horse Mountain and Red Mountain communication sites
 - Trinity County Road maintenance yard near Salyer
 - Caltrans maintenance yards at Orleans and Idlewild
 - Trinity Valley Grange at Salyer
 - Trinity County airport at Ruth
 - Camp Kimtu
 - Candystick baseball field
 - Salyer Wayside Chapel
 - Salyer Volunteer Fire Department service facility
 - Hawkins Bar Volunteer Fire Department service facility
8. Convey out of federal land suitable for essential community expansion using appropriate exchange authorities or the Townsite Act (P.L. 85-569).

STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES:

Standards and guidelines are enumerated in Chapter IV under the Lands section of the Resource Goals, Directions and Forest-wide Standards and Guidelines.

**FOREST LANDOWNERSHIP
ADJUSTMENT MAPS:**

The Forest Landownership Adjustment Maps included in this appendix show individual ranger districts. The maps designate those lands for possible acquisition and lands to be considered for conveyance out of federal ownership. The maps also indicate areas not to be considered for adjustment because of known resource values.

The maps show theme areas where general land adjustment goals are considered and acted upon when particular conditions would be achieved, including a willing buyer/seller, analysis of environmental concerns, administrative funding, Forest priorities, and general public benefit.

Larger scale maps, which provide further detail on individual parcels considered in the landownership adjustment strategy, are on file at the Forest Supervisor's Office.

STRATEGY REVISION:

This Landownership Adjustment Strategy will be reviewed periodically to ensure consistency with policy and direction in Forest Service Manual 5407 and will be revised as necessary to reflect changes in policy, direction, and program emphasis through Forest Plan amendment.