

United States Department of the Interior



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Mid-Pacific Region  
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U.S. Bureau of Land Management  
California State Office  
2135 Butano Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95825-0451

December 12, 1996

Dear Interested Party:

Attached are the Interim Land Retirement Program Guidelines which were developed in accordance with Subsection 3408(h) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act and Section 14900 of the California Water Code. These guidelines were developed by the Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management and the California Department of Water Resources in cooperation with stakeholder's groups, other Federal and state agencies and water users.

The objective of these Interim Guidelines is to establish the process and selection criteria for the acquisition, from willing sellers, of land and associated water rights as authorized by law.

Proposals for this fiscal year are being accepted through March 31, 1997. For every year thereafter, proposals will be accepted from September 1 through November 1. Priority will be given to retiring drainage-impaired lands as identified in the San Joaquin Valley Drainage Report, September 1990.

A series of public information meetings will be held in January 1997 to more fully explain the guidelines and application procedures. Locations and dates will be announced as meetings are confirmed.

All comments received during the development of these guidelines were greatly appreciated. If you have any questions about the guidelines of the land retirement program, please contact Bob May, Land Retirement Program Manager, at (209) 487-5137.

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