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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Idaho Legislature Federal Lands Interim Committee
FROM: Seth Grigg, Policy Analyst
DATE: November 27 2013
SUBJECT: Survey of County Commissioner Opinion Regarding Federal Land Management Issues

At the request of the Federal Lands Interim Committee co-chairs, the Idaho Association of Counties (IAC) conducted a survey to assess county commissioner opinion on a variety of federal land management issues including perceived threats, multiple-use access, and federal land payments to counties. The survey was originally developed by the Montana Environmental Quality Council and submitted to county commissioners in Montana as required by the passage of Montana Senate Joint Resolution No. 15. The Federal Lands Interim Committee co-chairs requested that IAC send the Montana survey out to county commissioners in Idaho without modification.

The survey was sent electronically via email to all 132 county commissioners in Idaho on September 18, 2013. Multiple reminders were sent out thereafter. A total of 66 county commissioners from 34 counties responded to the survey, a response rate of 50% (respondents represented 77% of Idaho counties). The ten counties in Idaho that did not have at least one commissioner respond are: Adams, Bear Lake, Camas, Caribou, Custer, Gooding, Jefferson, Minidoka, Payette, and Power.

Two items that stand out in the results are:

- 89.39% of county commissioners responding believe fire hazard on federally managed lands should be reduced, and
- 95.45% of county commissioners surveyed believe that it is important for county residents to have motorized access to public lands.

The results of the survey are included as an attachment to this memorandum. Additionally, an appendix is included in the survey results containing two tables, one listing a breakdown of county revenues for CFY2012 to assist the committee in assessing the impact of federal land payments on county budgets and one table listing federal land payments by payment type to counties for CFY2012.

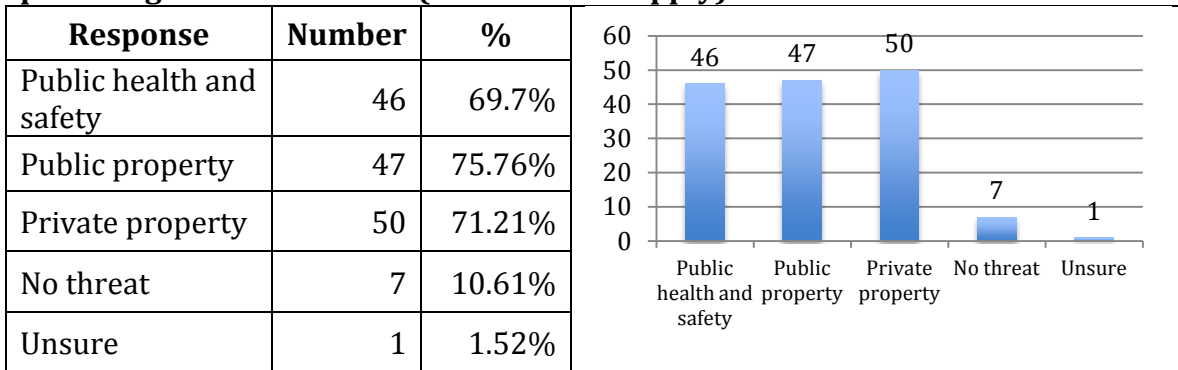
Please contact me with any questions regarding the survey, the impacts of a federal lands transfer on Idaho counties, or IAC's official position regarding the work of the Interim Committee. I can be reached at (208) 345-9126 or via email at sgrigg@idcounties.org.

RESULTS OF SURVEY OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FROM IDAHO REGARDING OPIONION OF FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES IN IDAHO

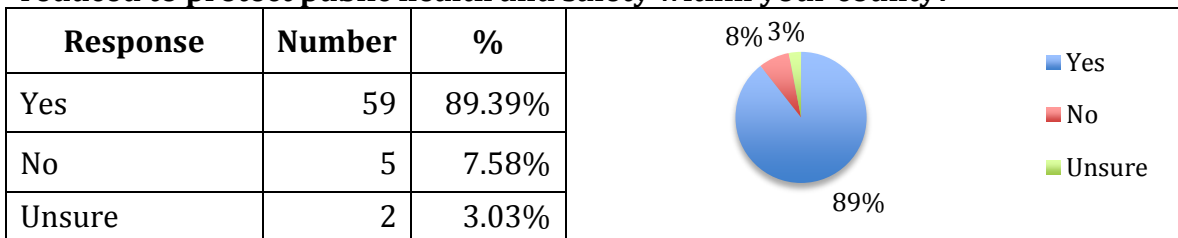
Basic Summary Statistics

Total Number of County Commissioners: 132
 Number of County Commissioner Responses: 66
 County Commissioner Response Rate: 50%
 Number of Counties: 44
 Number of Counties with Responses: 34
 County Response Rate: 77.3%
 Average Year Elected as Commissioner: 2008

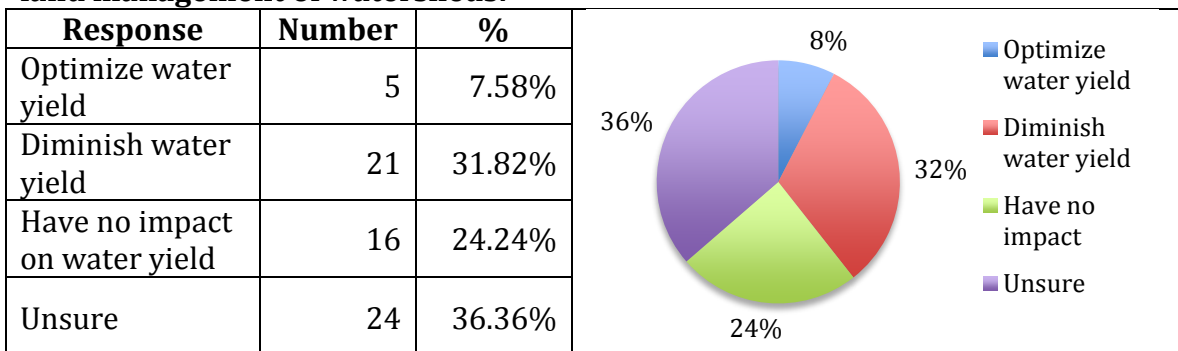
Question 1: Do current wildfire conditions on federal lands within your county pose a significant threat to (select all that apply):



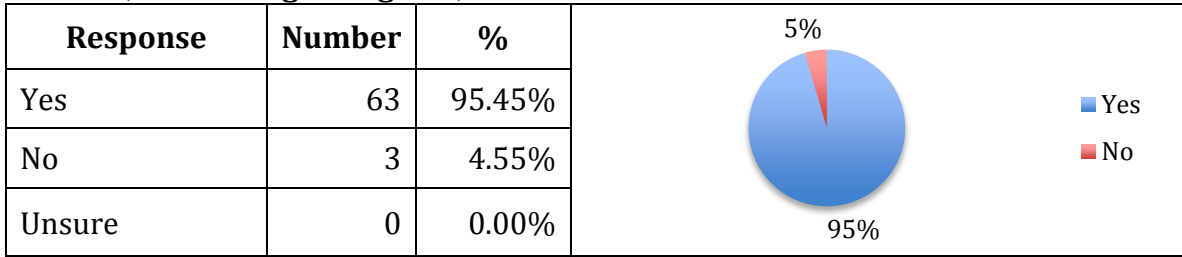
Question 2: Do you believe fire hazard on federally managed lands should be reduced to protect public health and safety within your county?



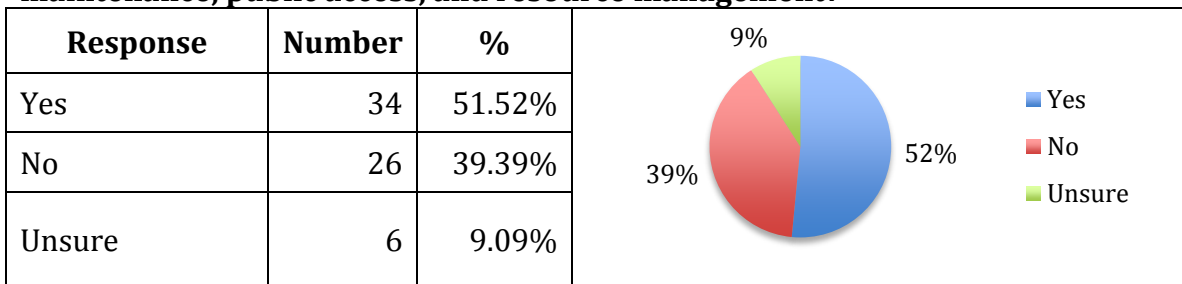
Question 3: Regarding the water supply your citizens use, does current federal land management of watersheds:



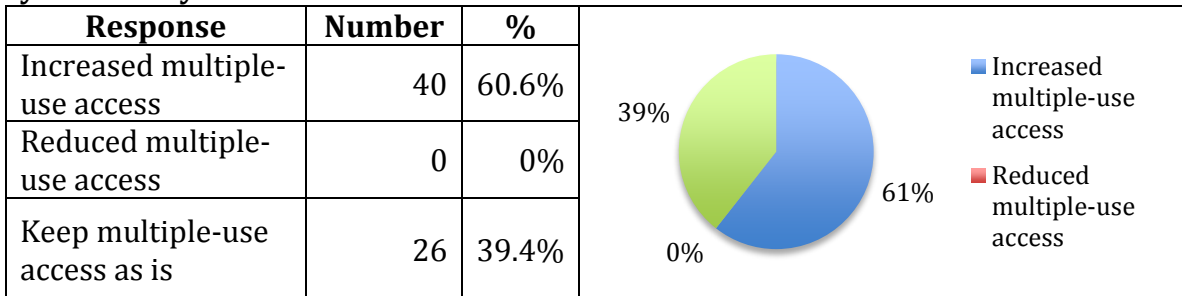
Question 4: Is it important for people of your county to have motorized access to public lands for sustenance activities such as gathering wood, picking berries, harvesting wild game, etc.?



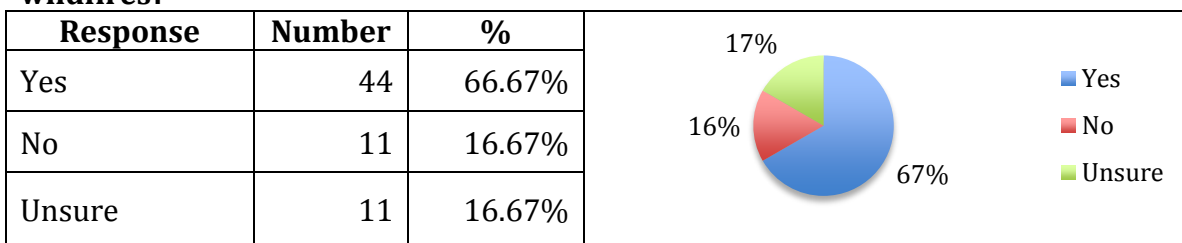
Questions 5: Is there an adequate supply of motorized roads on federal lands in your county to accommodate emergency ingress/egress, facility maintenance, public access, and resource management?



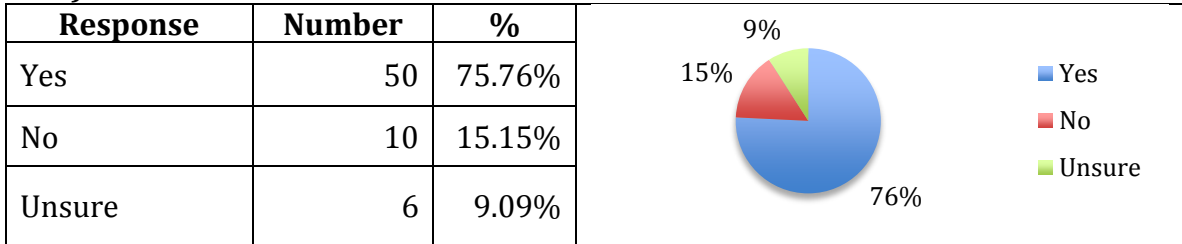
Question 6: Regarding multiple-use recreation routes on federal lands, does your county desire:



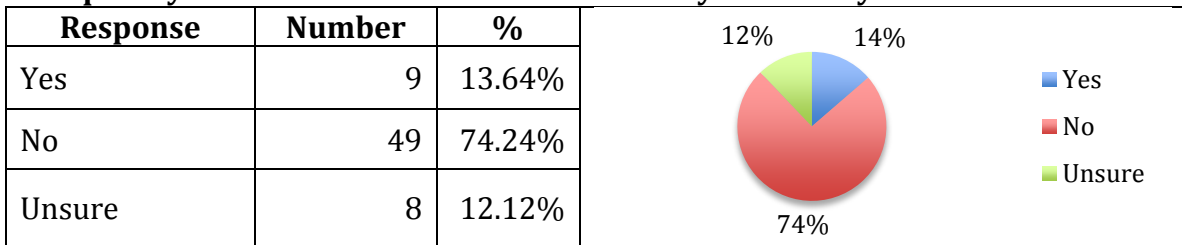
Question 7: Do you believe current fuel loads on any of the federal lands within your county could result in severe, uncontrollable, or catastrophic wildfires?



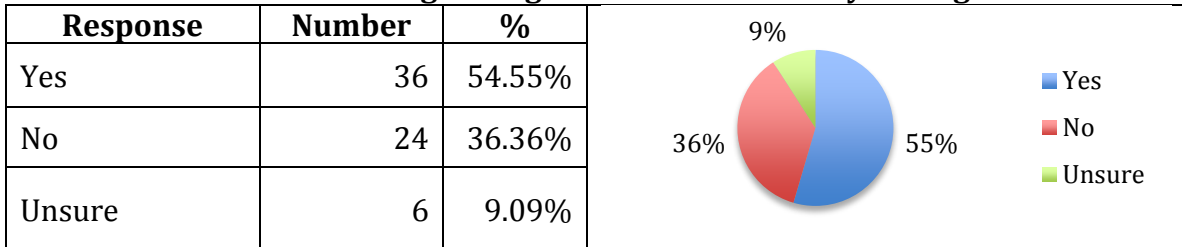
Question 8: Is a high intensity wildfire on federal lands likely to cause a loss of important fish and wildlife habitat or harm threatened species in your county (e.g. grizzly bear, sage grouse, wolverine, bull trout, slickspot peppergrass, etc.)?



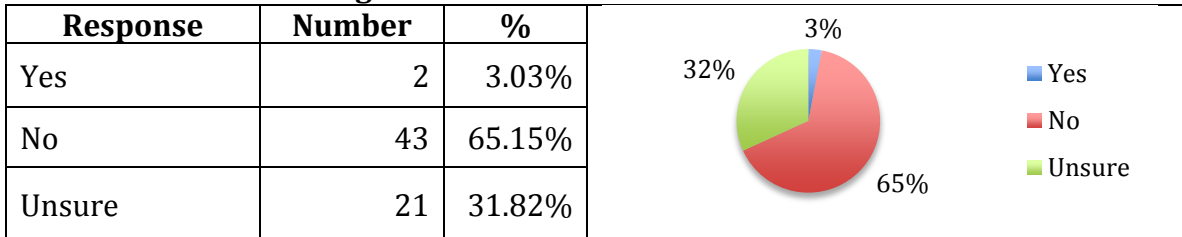
Question 9: Are environmental threats such as noxious weeds and bark beetle adequately controlled on federal lands within your county?



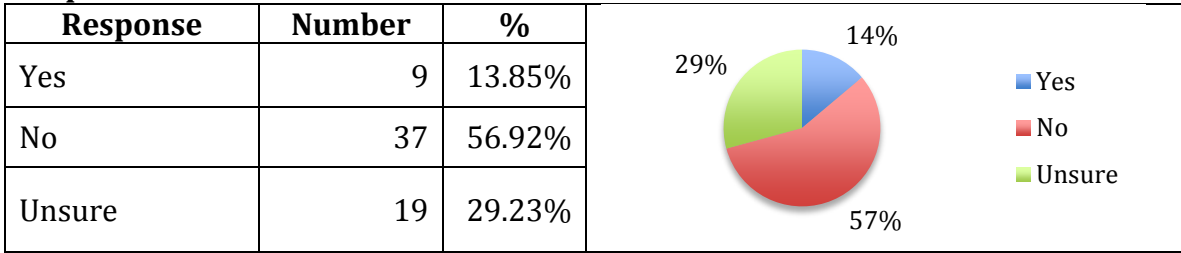
Question 10: Does the air quality in you county fall below acceptable health standards due to smoke originating from fire on federally managed lands?



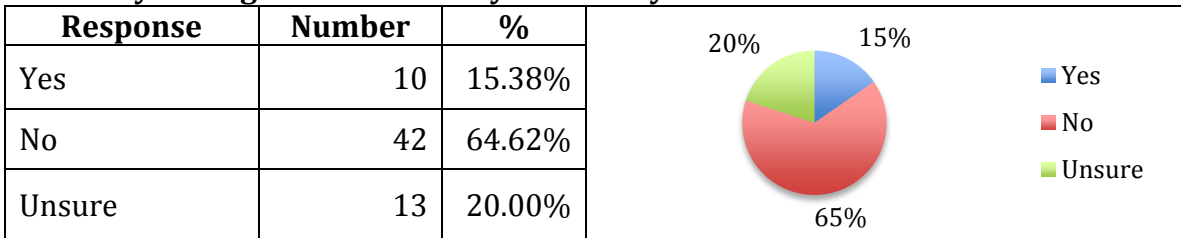
Question 11: Is the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) your county receives from federally managed lands equivalent to the amount that actual land taxation of these lands would bring?



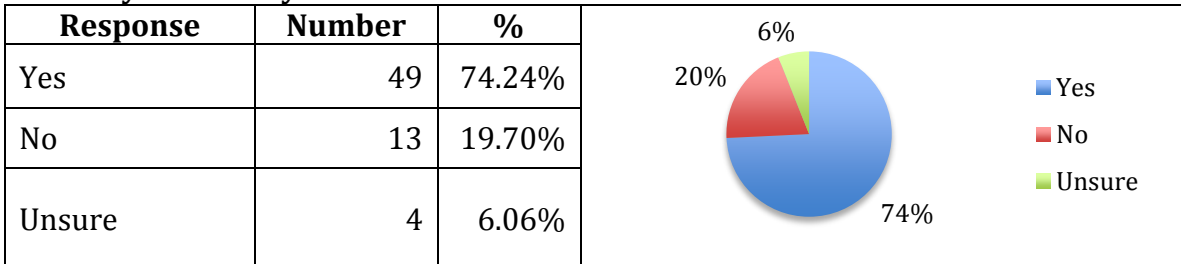
Question 12: Is the amount your county derives from the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) program equivalent to the amount that your county could derive from responsible harvest on natural resources?



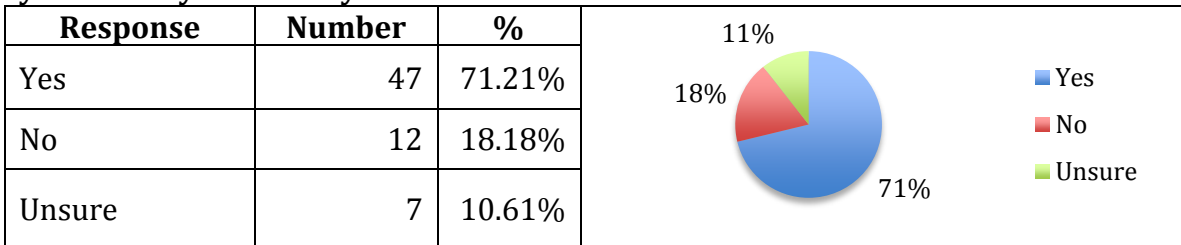
Question 13: Is the economic productivity and number of related private sector jobs commensurate with the resource production capacity of the federally managed lands within your county?



Question 14: Are federal policies for threatened or endangered species adversely impacting private landowners, businesses, industries, or citizens within your county?



Question 15: Has federal land management resulted in adverse impacts to your county's economy?



Appendix A: County Revenues by Source, 2012

County	Property Tax	% of Total	State Revenue Sharing	% of Total	Federal Land Payments	% of Total	Total
Ada	\$82,617,096	81.7%	\$17,817,656	17.6%	\$719,876	0.7%	\$101,154,628
Adams	\$2,685,627	55.6%	\$1,434,613	29.7%	\$705,831	14.6%	\$4,826,071
Bannock	\$17,931,428	69.9%	\$7,208,576	28.1%	\$506,122	2.0%	\$25,646,126
Bear Lake	\$2,178,832	47.8%	\$1,763,271	38.7%	\$613,249	13.5%	\$4,555,352
Benewah	\$2,903,607	50.6%	\$2,743,760	47.8%	\$87,038	1.5%	\$5,734,405
Bingham	\$8,699,054	55.9%	\$6,173,421	39.7%	\$685,143	4.4%	\$15,557,618
Blaine	\$9,467,489	66.0%	\$2,954,743	20.6%	\$1,928,941	13.4%	\$14,351,173
Boise	\$3,801,597	55.1%	\$2,017,862	29.3%	\$1,075,208	15.6%	\$6,894,667
Bonner	\$18,140,902	71.6%	\$6,137,707	24.2%	\$1,044,981	4.1%	\$25,323,590
Bonneville	\$22,150,824	66.5%	\$9,743,237	29.3%	\$1,391,326	4.2%	\$33,285,387
Boundary	\$4,415,295	58.4%	\$1,988,667	26.3%	\$1,159,083	15.3%	\$7,563,045
Butte	\$955,450	37.9%	\$1,128,512	44.8%	\$434,054	17.2%	\$2,518,016
Camas	\$1,483,673	28.4%	\$3,435,044	65.9%	\$297,607	5.7%	\$5,216,324
Canyon	\$37,835,497	79.8%	\$9,527,444	20.1%	\$45,303	0.1%	\$47,408,244
Caribou	\$4,238,120	51.3%	\$3,030,391	36.7%	\$992,289	12.0%	\$8,260,800
Cassia	\$4,258,500	51.4%	\$2,112,843	25.5%	\$1,917,007	23.1%	\$8,288,350
Clark	\$565,805	21.4%	\$1,765,169	66.9%	\$308,665	11.7%	\$2,639,639
Clearwater	\$2,623,843	47.1%	\$2,025,677	36.4%	\$915,832	16.5%	\$5,565,352
Custer	\$1,362,867	36.6%	\$1,161,168	31.2%	\$1,200,559	32.2%	\$3,724,594
Elmore	\$5,900,900	58.7%	\$1,784,025	17.8%	\$2,362,128	23.5%	\$10,047,053
Franklin	\$2,819,150	51.4%	\$2,335,330	42.6%	\$330,253	6.0%	\$5,484,733
Fremont	\$4,586,665	52.4%	\$2,981,917	34.0%	\$1,191,801	13.6%	\$8,760,383
Gem	\$4,178,694	57.3%	\$2,803,907	38.4%	\$310,256	4.3%	\$7,292,857
Gooding	\$2,894,348	61.5%	\$1,205,533	25.6%	\$607,865	12.9%	\$4,707,746
Idaho	\$2,867,566	30.0%	\$2,794,946	29.2%	\$3,908,718	40.8%	\$9,571,230
Jefferson	\$4,485,804	52.0%	\$3,678,100	42.7%	\$457,267	5.3%	\$8,621,171
Jerome	\$5,591,349	66.1%	\$2,637,732	31.2%	\$233,411	2.8%	\$8,462,492
Kootenai	\$38,955,671	82.3%	\$7,814,282	16.5%	\$558,905	1.2%	\$47,328,858
Latah	\$8,276,633	74.5%	\$2,607,190	23.5%	\$231,720	2.1%	\$11,115,543
Lemhi	\$2,339,657	34.4%	\$2,018,367	29.7%	\$2,449,157	36.0%	\$6,807,181
Lewis	\$1,439,471	68.9%	\$643,513	30.8%	\$7,450	0.4%	\$2,090,434
Lincoln	\$995,376	44.6%	\$473,496	21.2%	\$761,959	34.2%	\$2,230,831
Madison	\$6,570,350	62.3%	\$3,839,235	36.4%	\$141,313	1.3%	\$10,550,897
Minidoka	\$4,654,607	60.2%	\$2,649,209	34.2%	\$433,551	5.6%	\$7,737,367
Nez Perce	\$10,995,200	68.3%	\$5,023,196	31.2%	\$76,131	0.5%	\$16,094,527
Oneida	\$1,356,491	34.0%	\$1,981,105	49.6%	\$652,811	16.4%	\$3,990,407
Owyhee	\$1,970,358	34.9%	\$2,446,749	43.4%	\$1,221,357	21.7%	\$5,638,464
Payette	\$5,125,151	67.7%	\$2,295,189	30.3%	\$154,831	2.0%	\$7,575,171
Power	\$3,274,102	63.1%	\$1,208,252	23.3%	\$709,695	13.7%	\$5,192,049
Shoshone	\$3,039,125	40.1%	\$2,297,605	30.3%	\$2,241,642	29.6%	\$7,578,372
Teton	\$3,626,693	54.2%	\$2,818,516	42.1%	\$244,520	3.7%	\$6,689,729
Twin Falls	\$18,941,686	75.4%	\$4,628,371	18.4%	\$1,542,898	6.1%	\$25,112,955
Valley	\$5,751,123	54.0%	\$2,750,104	25.8%	\$2,144,194	20.1%	\$10,645,421
Washington	\$2,822,801	49.9%	\$2,042,821	36.1%	\$791,644	14.0%	\$5,657,266
Total	\$381,774,477	66.6%	\$151,928,452	26.5%	\$39,793,590	6.9%	\$573,496,519

Appendix B: County Federal Land Payments, 2012

County	PILT	SRS Title I	SRS Title III	Mineral Leasing Act
Ada	\$719,229	\$0	\$0	\$647
Adams	\$178,516	\$486,443	\$40,872	\$0
Bannock	\$443,294	\$62,744	\$0	\$84
Bear Lake	\$424,514	\$188,377	\$0	\$358
Benewah	\$41,800	\$45,238	\$0	\$0
Bingham	\$684,740	\$0	\$0	\$403
Blaine	\$1,838,967	\$89,822	\$0	\$152
Boise	\$292,010	\$730,303	\$52,891	\$4
Bonner	\$477,771	\$567,210	\$0	\$0
Bonneville	\$1,103,654	\$273,645	\$13,622	\$405
Boundary	\$156,791	\$1,002,292	\$0	\$0
Butte	\$294,748	\$139,306	\$0	\$0
Camas	\$146,786	\$150,821	\$0	\$0
Canyon	\$45,136	\$0	\$0	\$167
Caribou	\$300,800	\$252,116	\$0	\$439,373
Cassia	\$1,897,395	\$19,313	\$0	\$299
Clark	\$161,345	\$147,194	\$0	\$126
Clearwater	\$401,096	\$500,761	\$13,888	\$87
Custer	\$687,385	\$513,174	\$0	\$0
Elmore	\$2,360,753	\$0	\$0	\$1,375
Franklin	\$204,077	\$126,176	\$0	\$0
Fremont	\$622,761	\$569,040	\$0	\$0
Gem	\$233,133	\$77,029	\$0	\$94
Gooding	\$607,776	\$0	\$0	\$89
Idaho	\$1,512,520	\$1,812,504	\$583,594	\$100
Jefferson	\$457,267	\$0	\$0	\$0
Jerome	\$233,411	\$0	\$0	\$0
Kootenai	\$558,905	\$0	\$0	\$0
Latah	\$231,720	\$0	\$0	\$0
Lemhi	\$873,450	\$1,475,536	\$100,171	\$0
Lewis	\$7,450	\$0	\$0	\$0
Lincoln	\$761,788	\$0	\$0	\$171
Madison	\$39,567	\$92,450	\$9,296	\$0
Minidoka	\$433,551	\$0	\$0	\$0
Nez Perce	\$74,018	\$2,113	\$0	\$0
Oneida	\$561,583	\$91,081	\$0	\$147
Owyhee	\$1,221,211	\$0	\$0	\$146
Payette	\$154,658	\$0	\$0	\$173
Power	\$709,691	\$0	\$0	\$4
Shoshone	\$404,517	\$1,658,374	\$178,697	\$54
Teton	\$159,347	\$85,173	\$0	\$0
Twin Falls	\$1,542,675	\$0	\$0	\$223
Valley	\$675,177	\$1,292,783	\$176,230	\$4
Washington	\$655,258	\$136,386	\$0	\$0
Total	\$25,592,241	\$12,587,404	\$1,169,260	\$444,685