

Committee on Natural Resources
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations
Oversight Hearing
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Tuesday, April 30th, 2019

Oversight Hearing on
*No Road Map, No Destination, No Justification: The Implementation and Impacts of the
Reorganization of the Department of the Interior*

Questions from Rep. Gosar for The Honorable Scott Cameron and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget

1. What is the Interior Department doing to reorganize its geospatial activities, in light of the recent GAO reports, and enactment of the Geospatial Data Act? Specifically, are you familiar with the Battenberg Report and do you see any value in consolidating the disparate surveying, mapping and geospatial activities across the Department?

2. In 2005, Interior Secretary Gale Norton testified before the House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee, "The Department currently uses 26 different financial management systems and over 100 different property systems. Employees must enter procurement transactions multiple times in different systems so that the data are captured in real property inventories, financial systems, and acquisition systems. This fractured approach is both costly and burdensome to manage." What has changed in the last 14 years? What improvements have been implemented? Are there still over 100 different property systems? How has the Department reorganized, or how does it plan to reorganize, to eliminate this duplication? Today, with computer mapping and geographic information systems, or GIS, there is the ability to "map it once, use it many times". To what extent has that goal been reached with regard to property systems and a current, accurate, multipurpose land inventory or what are your plans to eliminate such duplication and lack of coordination?

3. President Bush issued Executive Order 13327: Federal Real Property Asset Management on February 4, 2004. While that Executive Order exempted "national forest, national park, or national wildlife refuge purposes except for improvements on those lands", it did include Section 7, which stated: "Public Lands. In order to ensure that Federally-owned lands, other than the real property covered by this order, are managed in the most effective and economic manner, the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior shall take such steps as are appropriate to improve their management of public lands and National Forest System lands and shall develop appropriate legislative proposals necessary to facilitate that result." What steps has the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior taken pursuant to Executive Order 13327, particularly with regard to an inventory of land owned by the federal government?
4. Are public lands of BLM and National Forest System lands included in the Federal Real Property Profile, the database required by the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act (FASTA) of 2016, (P.L. 114-287) and the "Federal Property Management Reform Act" (P.L. 114-318)?
5. Why is the Reorganization good for taxpayers and how will it improve efficiencies within the Department?
6. What proposals have been developed by the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior, pursuant to Executive Order 13327, under the Bush, Obama or Trump Administrations with regard to real property asset management on public lands and National Forest systems lands generally, and with regard to an inventory of those lands in particular?
7. Section 201 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) requires the BLM to maintain on a continuing basis an inventory of all public lands and their resources and other values. Section 202 of FLPMA requires BLM to rely on resource inventories in the development and revision of land use plans. Does BLM have a

current, accurate inventory of all public lands? Is it one, consolidated inventory, or is a dispersed series of files and records? Is the inventory digital? Is it on the web? Does the public have access to this inventory? Is it searchable?