

# State Trust Lands:

*Fiduciary Duty in the Changing West*

## Building Trust

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**LINCOLN INSTITUTE**  
OF LAND POLICY

Starting in 2008, the [State Trust Lands Project](#) e-news alert, **Building Trust**, will become a quarterly publication designed to provide land-use information and tools, share research and policy analyses, highlight innovative approaches to trust-land management, and discuss state-trust-land laws and regulations to assist trust-land managers and engaged stakeholders in meeting their fiduciary duty in the changing West.

### State Trust Lands and Education Funding Reports

The Children's Land Alliance Supporting Schools (CLASS) and the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy/Sonoran Institute Joint Venture on State Trust Lands (LILP/SI Joint Venture) have collaborated to produce this series of reports detailing the sources of funding for state trust lands and the mechanisms by which revenues derived from these sources are distributed to educational institutions in the Western United States. This research is organized into state specific information, with the goal of clarifying the role of how state trust land revenues assist in meeting educational needs in various states.



Despite informational efforts regarding state trust land education funding, the issue remains unclear or poorly understood by beneficiaries.

### Across the West

**Colorado:** Many school buildings in Colorado are deteriorating, and Democratic leaders in the legislature and state Treasurer Cary Kennedy have proposed a plan to repair or rebuild them. The money would come from the [School Land Trust](#), which generates nearly \$90 million a year in mineral lease royalties, rent and interest from 3 million acres of Colorado land.

**Arizona:** Gov. Janet Napolitano said that she expects [a state trust land reform measure on the ballot](#) as early as 2008. "Napolitano said she had waited to see how a 2006 ballot measure did at the polls before gathering a small but potent group of legislators to resolve the issue, once and for all."

### News from the Field

At its monthly meeting Jan. 8, the Washington Board of Natural Resources [approved](#)



Photo: Pat Sheldon

Joint Venture reports also feature information about the revenue streams from the state trust lands to the schools, including the flow of funding, the identified missions of the trust man-

### 91st Arizona Town Hall: Use: Challenges and Choices for the 21st Century

In October 2007, civic leaders from Arizona gathered for the 91st Arizona Town Hall to discuss land use planning and the challenges that rapid growth is bringing to the state. Experts from within the land use arena were asked to prepare material to guide the discussions at the Grand Canyon gathering. The LILP/SI Joint Venture had the opportunity to provide information on state trust lands in Arizona, written by Peter W. Culp and Susan Culp. A copy of the chapter on state trust lands, entitled "State Trust Lands: The Future of Urban Growth in Arizona," is available [here](#).

Arizona Town Hall is a private, nonprofit civic organization created in 1962 to establish, through research and discussion, an ever-increasing body of Arizona citizens accustomed to the processes of searching analysis and well-informed on the many facets of the state's economic, cultural and social life.

**SHARE YOUR NEWS:** If your office has trust land management information and tools in asset management, collaborative planning, real estate development, and/or conservation use that you'd like the Project to consider sharing through this e-news alert, send the Project an [email](#).

stakeholders, and the public at large. CLASS and the LILP/SI

[the exchange of 3,875 acres](#) of state trust land for 2,880 acres of privately owned land in several eastern Washington counties. The action was the first phase of the South Stevens Exchange that proposes trading up to 16,000 acres of state trust land for properties of similar value but greater capacity to produce revenue for trust beneficiaries.



Washington DNR manages more than three million acres of trust lands statewide to provide revenue that helps fund the construction of public schools, universities, other state educational institutions and prisons, as well as services in many counties.

See the "Proposed Trust Land Exchanges" page on [www.dnr.wa.gov](http://www.dnr.wa.gov).

To sign up for this alert or to remove your name from our email list, please [click here](#)

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