

Mt. Emmons Land Exchange
April 27 & 28, 2022 “Information Sessions”
Summary

Overview

On April 27 and 28, Mt. Emmons Mining Company (MEMC) and Western Land Group (WLG) hosted three “Information Sessions,” the second set of public meetings for the Mt. Emmons Land Exchange. The first two meetings were from 1-3 p.m. and 4-6 p.m. on April 27 at The Depot in Crested Butte; the third meeting was from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on April 28 at Western University’s University Center in Gunnison.

A total of 19 people attended the sessions: 9 at the first, 6 at the second, and 4 at the third. Of these, approximately 7-8 were people who had not attended the first open house. Several people were staff or board members of the Town of Crested Butte, High Country Conservation Advocates (HCCA) or Coal Creek Watershed Coalition (CCWC) who had attended previously. In addition to MEMC and WLG, there were representatives from the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and Crested Butte Land Trust at the meetings as well.

Much of the information presented at the sessions was similar to the first open house: overview of the land exchange proposal, maps of the federal and non-federal parcels, and objectives of the exchange. New information included a map that displayed the proposal lands and conceptual boundary for the conservation easement and mineral restrictions, as well as the current CORE Act boundary. Other boards featured questions and feedback that MEMC, WLG and the USFS has received thus far, and a “Response to Comments” handout that addressed those questions. Comment cards and a meeting board for feedback were provided as well; no cards were returned and a handful of comments were written on the meeting board (see picture below).

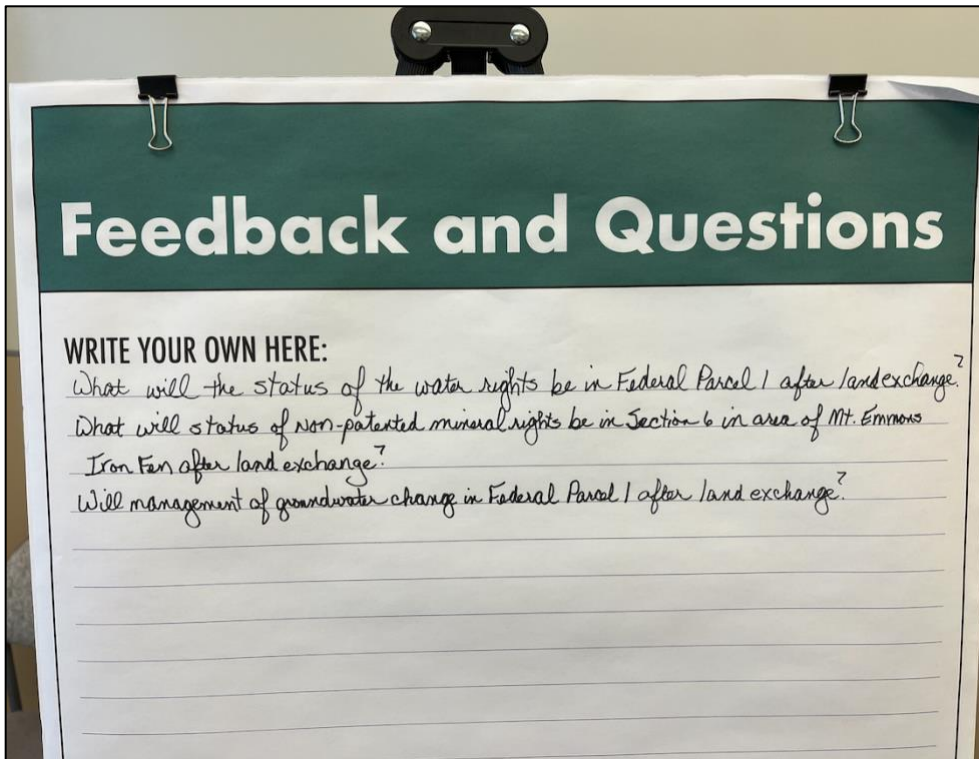
Comments and Questions

Few new comments or questions were received. The following were collected by the MEMC/WLG team:

- Questions regarding water rights on the Slate River and water rights held by MEMC.
- How has the team conducted outreach to stakeholder groups, including those in Crested Butte and Gunnison County, as well as statewide or national interest groups?
- Interest in partnering with Western University to utilize the 3 Peaks Ranch land, once it is owned by the federal government, for ecology and scientific research.
- General questions about the reasons for and benefits of the exchange.
- Questions regarding the purpose and enforceability of the conservation easement.
- Questions about the process and how to stay involved.



WLG talking with participants at the April 27 Information Session in Crested Butte.



Feedback received between the 3 information sessions.



A USFS representative and meeting participant review the proposal map.