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Republican candidate, secretary of state
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1. Outgoing state superintendent Tom Luna has pushed the state Land Board to maintain smaller balances in reserves, in order to boost payments to K-12. Do you support such an idea? Why or why not?

I support maintaining robust reserves. It is these reserves that protected education during the recent economic downturn. I favor boosting payments to K-12 through higher returns on investment created by better land management.

2. In February, the Land Board voted to suspend the purchase of commercial properties. Do you support this move, and keeping this moratorium intact? Are there any circumstances under which you support adding commercial properties to the state's endowment portfolio?

I support the Land Board's decision to suspend the purchase of commercial properties. I support the acquisition of traditional investment properties such as timber and agricultural lands.

3. A recent Congressional Research Service report says federal agencies spent \$392 million managing federal lands in Idaho in 2011-12 — and the state would incur much of these costs if federal lands are transferred to the state. Could the transfer of federal lands prove to be a net loss to the state, and to the endowments supporting K-12 and other beneficiaries?

I believe the transfer of management of certain federal lands to the state will result in a net gain to the state. This conclusion is supported by information and analysis contained in the Director of Idaho Lands Department letter to legislative resource committee chairmen dated Feb. 13, 2013. Additionally, Congressman Labrador's Self-Sufficient Communities Lands Act, which would allow Idaho to manage 200,000 acres of national forest system land, if enacted, holds great promise and would help answer this question.

4. The state is beginning the process of auctioning off lakeside cabin parcels. How do you think the state should balance the interests of leaseholders against the short- and long-term interests of endowment beneficiaries?

The sale of cabin parcels should be fair to endowment beneficiaries and leaseholders alike.