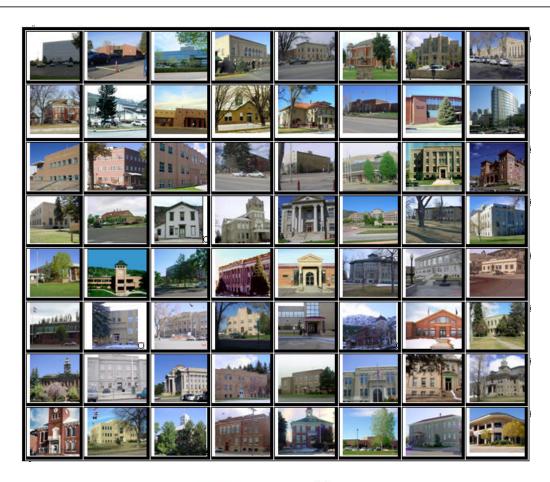


# 2013 LOGAN COUNTY PROPERTY ASSESSMENT STUDY







September 15, 2013

Mr. Mike Mauer Director of Research Colorado Legislative Council Room 029, State Capitol Building Denver, Colorado 80203

RE: Final Report for the 2013 Colorado Property Assessment Study

Dear Mr. Mauer:

Wildrose Appraisal Inc.-Audit Division is pleased to submit the Final Reports for the 2013 Colorado Property Assessment Study.

These reports are the result of two analyses: A procedural audit and a statistical audit.

The procedural audit examines all classes of property. It specifically looks at how the assessor develops economic areas, confirms and qualifies sales, develops time adjustments and performs periodic physical property inspections. The audit reviews the procedures for determining subdivision absorption and subdivision discounting. Valuation methodology is examined for residential properties and commercial properties. Procedures are reviewed for producing mines, oil and gas leaseholds and lands producing, producing coal mines, producing earth and stone products, severed mineral interests, and non-producing patented mining claims.

Statistical audits are performed on vacant land, residential properties, commercial/industrial properties and agricultural land. A statistical analysis is performed for personal property compliance on the eleven largest counties: Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Denver, Douglas, El Paso, Jefferson, Larimer, Mesa, Pueblo and Weld. The remaining counties receive a personal property procedural study.

Wildrose Appraisal Inc. – Audit Division appreciates the opportunity to be of service to the State of Colorado. Please contact us with any questions or concerns.

Harry J. Fuller Project Manager

Harry J. Zulla

Wildrose Appraisal Inc. – Audit Division



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Regional/Historical Sketch of Logan County	
Ratio Analysis	6
Time Trending Verification	8
Sold/Unsold Analysis	
Agricultural Land Study	
Agricultural Land	
Agricultural Outbuildings	13
Agricultural Land Under Improvements	13
Sales Verification	14
Economic Area Review and Evaluation	16
Natural Resources	17
Earth and Stone Products	17
Producing Oil and Gas	17
Vacant Land	18
Possessory Interest Properties	19
Personal Property Audit	20
Wildrose Auditor Staff	22
Appendices	23



# INTRODUCTION



The State Board of Equalization (SBOE) reviews assessments for conformance to the Constitution. The SBOE will order revaluations for counties whose valuations do not reflect the proper valuation period level of value.

The statutory basis for the audit is found in C.R.S. 39-1-104 (16)(a)(b) and (c).

The legislative council sets forth two criteria that are the focus of the audit group:

To determine whether each county assessor is applying correctly the constitutional and statutory provisions, compliance requirements of the State Board of Equalization, and the manuals published by the State Property Tax Administrator to arrive at the actual value of each class of property.

To determine if each assessor is applying correctly the provisions of law to the actual values when arriving at valuations for assessment of all locally valued properties subject to the property tax.

The property assessment audit conducts a twopart analysis: A procedural analysis and a statistical analysis. The procedural analysis includes all classes of property and specifically looks at how the assessor develops economic areas, confirms and qualifies sales, and develops time adjustments. The audit also examines the procedures for adequately discovering, classifying and valuing agricultural outbuildings, discovering subdivision build-out subdivision and discounting procedures. Valuation methodology for vacant land, improved properties commercial residential and properties is examined. Procedures for producing mines, oil and gas leaseholds and lands producing, producing coal mines, producing earth and stone products, severed mineral interests and non-producing patented mining claims are also reviewed.

Statistical analysis is performed on vacant land, residential properties, commercial industrial properties, agricultural land, and personal property. The statistical study results are compared with State Board of Equalization compliance requirements and the manuals published by the State Property Tax Administrator.

Wildrose Audit has completed the Property Assessment Study for 2013 and is pleased to report its findings for Logan County in the following report.



# REGIONAL/HISTORICAL SKETCH OF LOGAN COUNTY

#### **Regional Information**

Logan County is located in the Eastern Plains region of Colorado. The Eastern Plains of Colorado refer to the region on the east side of the Rocky Mountain. It is east of the population centers of the Front Range,

including Baca, Bent, Cheyenne, Crowley, Elbert, Kiowa, Kit Carson, Lincoln, Logan, Morgan, Otero, Phillips, Prowers, Sedgwick, Washington, and Yuma counties.





#### **Historical Information**

Logan County has a population of approximately 22,709 people with 12.35 people per square mile, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2010 census data. This represents a 10.75 percent change from the 2000 Census.

Logan County, located in the northeast corner of Colorado, is a rapidly growing agriculture and industry-based community. The County, created from the eastern portion of Weld County, was established in 1887 and is 1,822 square miles in area. Sterling is the hub city of the county, the largest city in the Northeastern Colorado region and the county seat. It was named for Sterling, Illinois, the hometown of railroad surveyor David Leavitt who established the first post office on his ranch in 1872..

Sterling was named the Best Small Community of the year by the Economic Development Council of Colorado in 2006.

Just a few miles northeast of Sterling is located the North Sterling State Park, situated on the North Sterling Reservoir, a man-made lake fed by waters from the South Platte River. This new state park has three state of the art boat ramps, and three modern camping areas with over 150 camping sites, as well as multiple picnicking sites. The park is famous for its superb swimming, boating, waterskiing, camping, and fishing.

Pheasant, duck, and deer hunting are excellent in the high plains and South Platte River Valley surrounding Sterling.

Sterling is the home of two beautiful golf courses, Riverview Golf Course and the Northeastern Eighteen (the former Sterling Country Club - now owned by Northeastern Junior College), each offering excellent 18-hole courses.

The Overland Trail Museum, located east of Sterling near Interstate 76, houses an eclectic mix of historical items in the main building, which resembles an early fort, as well as a restored local one-room schoolhouse and other restored historical buildings. Museum admission is free, and picnic grounds are adjacent.

The Overland Trail Recreation Area features a 5-acre fishing pond open to all ages as well as biking trails, fishing, picnic tables, BBQ grills, walking path, off road parking, and fishing pier.

Each summer, Sterling hosts the annual Logan County Fair, a typical old-time county fair complete with 4-H animal shows, baked goods competitions, a carnival, music shows, demolition derby, and a rodeo as well as the annual Sugar Beet Days harvest festival in the fall. (www.logancountyco.gov, www.wikipedia.org.)



# RATIO ANALYSIS

#### Methodology

All significant classes of properties were Sales were collected for each analyzed. property class over the appropriate sale period, which was typically defined as the 18-month period between January 2011 and June 2012. Counties with less than 30 sales typically extended the sale period back up to 5 years prior to June 30, 2012 in 6-month increments. If there were still fewer than 30 sales, supplemental appraisals were performed and treated as proxy sales. Residential sales for all counties using this method totaled at least 30 per county. For commercial sales, the total number analyzed was allowed, in some cases, to fall below 30. There were no sale quantity issues for counties requiring vacant land analysis or condominium analysis. Although it was required that we examine the median and coefficient of dispersion for all counties, we also calculated the weighted mean and pricerelated differential for each class of property. Counties were not passed or failed by these

latter measures, but were counseled if there were anomalies noted during our analysis. Qualified sales were based on the qualification code used by each county, which were typically coded as either "Q" or "C." The ratio analysis included all sales. The data was trimmed for counties with obvious outliers using IAAO standards for data analysis. In every case, we examined the loss in data from trimming to ensure that only true outliers were excluded. Any county with a significant portion of sales excluded by this trimming method was examined further. No county was allowed to pass the audit if more than 5% of the sales were "lost" because of trimming. For the largest 11 counties, the residential ratio statistics were broken down by economic area as well.

#### **Conclusions**

For this final analysis report, the minimum acceptable statistical standards allowed by the State Board of Equalization are:

ALLOWABL	ALLOWABLE STANDARDS RATIO GRID						
Property Class	Unweighted Median Ratio	Coefficient of Dispersion					
Commercial/Industrial	Between .95-1.05	Less than 20.99					
Condominium	Between .95-1.05	Less than 15.99					
Single Family	Between .95-1.05	Less than 15.99					
Vacant Land	Between .95-1.05	Less than 20.99					



#### The results for Logan County are:

	Logan County Ratio Grid						
Number of Unweighted Price Coefficient Qualified Median Related of Time Tro Property Class Sales Ratio Differential Dispersion Anal							
Commercial/Industrial	57	0.983	1.015	12.16	Compliant		
Condominium	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Single Family	247	1.008	1.031	13.2	Compliant		
Vacant Land	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		

After applying the above described methodologies, it is concluded from the sales ratios that Logan County is in compliance with

SBOE, DPT, and Colorado State Statute valuation guidelines.

Recommendations



# TIME TRENDING VERIFICATION

#### Methodology

While we recommend that counties use the inverted ratio regression analysis method to account for market (time) trending, some counties have used other IAAO-approved methods, such as the weighted monthly median approach. We are not auditing the methods used, but rather the results of the methods used. Given this range of methodologies used to account for market trending, we concluded that the best validation method was to examine the sale ratios for each class across the appropriate sale period. To be specific, if a county has considered and adjusted correctly for market trending, then the sale ratios should remain stable (i.e. flat) across the sale period. If a residual market trend is detected, then the county may or may not have addressed market

trending adequately, and a further examination is warranted. This validation methodology also considers the number of sales and the length of the sale period. Counties with few sales across the sale period were carefully examined to determine if the statistical results were valid.

#### Conclusions

After verification and analysis, it has been determined that Logan County has complied with the statutory requirements to analyze the effects of time on value in their county. Logan County has also satisfactorily applied the results of their time trending analysis to arrive at the time adjusted sales price (TASP).

#### Recommendations



# SOLD/UNSOLD ANALYSIS

#### Methodology

Logan County was tested for the equal treatment of sold and unsold properties to ensure that "sales chasing" has not occurred. The auditors employed a multi-step process to determine if sold and unsold properties were valued in a consistent manner.

All qualified residential and commercial class properties were examined using the unit value method, where the actual value per square foot was compared between sold and unsold properties. A class was considered qualified if it met the criteria for the ratio analysis. The median value per square foot for both groups was compared from an appraisal and statistical perspective. If no significant difference was indicated, then we concluded that no further testing was warranted and that the county was in compliance in terms of sold/unsold consistency.

If either residential or commercial differences were significant using the unit value method, or if data limitations made the comparison invalid, then the next step was to perform a ratio analysis comparing the 2012 and 2013 actual values for each qualified class of property. All qualified vacant land classes were tested using this method. The sale property ratios were arrayed using a range of 0.8 to 1.5, which theoretically excluded changes between years that were due to other unrelated changes in the property. These ratios were also stratified at the appropriate level of analysis. percent change was determined for each appropriate class and sub-class, the next step was to select the unsold sample. This sample

was at least 1% of the total population of unsold properties and excluded any sale properties. The unsold sample was filtered based on the attributes of the sold dataset to closely correlate both groups. The ratio analysis was then performed on the unsold properties and stratified. The median and mean ratio distribution was then compared between the sold and unsold group. A nonparametric test such as the Mann-Whitney test for differences between independent samples was undertaken to determine whether any observed differential was significant. If this test determined that the unsold properties were treated in a manner similar to the sold properties, it was concluded that no further testing was warranted and that the county was in compliance.

If a class or sub-class of property was determined to be significantly different by this method, the final step was to perform a multivariate mass appraisal model that developed ratio statistics from the sold properties that were then applied to the unsold sample. This test compared the measures of central tendency and confidence intervals for the sold properties with the unsold property sample. If this comparison was also determined to be significantly different, then the conclusion was that the county had treated the unsold properties in a different manner than sold properties.

These tests were supported by both tabular and chart presentations, along with saved sold and unsold sample files.



Sold/Unsold R	esults
Property Class	Results
Commercial/Industrial	Compliant
Condominium	N/A
Single Family	Compliant
Vacant Land	N/A

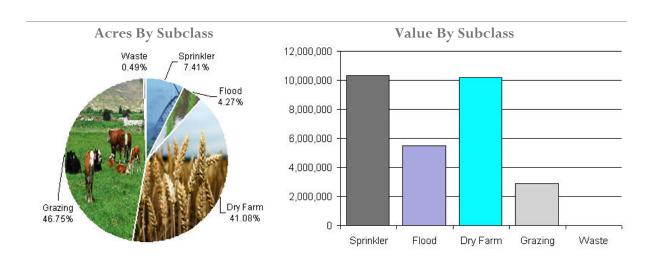
#### Conclusions

After applying the above described methodologies, it is concluded that Logan County is reasonably treating its sold and unsold properties in the same manner.

#### Recommendations



# AGRICULTURAL LAND STUDY



## **Agricultural Land**

County records were reviewed to determine major land categories such as irrigated farm, dry farm, meadow hay, grazing and other lands. In addition, county records were reviewed in order to determine if: photographs are available and are being used; soil conservation guidelines have been used to classify lands based on productivity; crop rotations have been documented; typical commodities and yields have been determined; orchard lands have been properly classified and valued; expenses reflect a ten year average and are typical landlord expenses; grazing lands have been properly classified and valued; the number of acres in each class and subclass have been determined; the capitalization rate was properly applied. Also, documentation was required for the valuation methods used and locally developed yields, carrying capacities, and expenses. Records were also checked to ensure that the commodity prices and expenses, furnished by the Property Tax Administrator (PTA), were applied properly.

(See Assessor Reference Library Volume 3 Chapter 5.)

#### Conclusions

An analysis of the agricultural land data indicates an acceptable appraisal of this property type. Directives, commodity prices and expenses provided by the PTA were properly applied. Expenses used by the county were allowable expenses and were in an acceptable range. Grazing lands carrying capacities were in an acceptable range. The data analyzed resulted in the following ratios:



	Logan County Agricultural Land Ratio Grid						
Abstract Code	Land Class	Number Of Acres	County Value Per Acre	County Assessed Total Value	WRA Total Value	Ratio	
4107	Sprinkler	73,446	141.00	10,339,577	10,913,504	0.95	
4117	Flood	42,379	130.00	5,494,510	5,824,259	0.94	
4127	Dry Farm	407,313	25.00	10,186,804	10,692,591	0.95	
4147	Grazing	463,545	6.00	2,878,803	2,878,803	1.00	
4167	Waste	4,817	2.00	8,408	8,408	1.00	
Total/Avg		991,500	29.00	28,908,103	30,317,566	0.95	

#### Recommendations



# **Agricultural Outbuildings**

#### Methodology

Data was collected and reviewed to determine if the guidelines found in the Assessor's Reference Library (ARL) Volume 3, pages 5.74 through 5.77 were being followed.

#### Conclusions

Logan County has substantially complied with the procedures provided by the Division of Property Taxation for the valuation of agricultural outbuildings.

#### Recommendations

None

# **Agricultural Land Under Improvements**

#### Methodology

Data was collected and reviewed to determine if the guidelines found in the Assessor's Reference Library (ARL) Volume 3, pages 5.19 and 5.20 were being followed.

Logan County utilized the following discovery method(s):

- Questionnaires
- Phone Interviews
- In-Person Interviews

 Personal Knowledge of Owners and Tenants

#### Conclusions

Logan County has substantially complied with the procedures provided by the Division of Property Taxation for the valuation of land under residential improvements that may or may not be integral to an agricultural operation.

#### Recommendations



# SALES VERIFICATION

#### According to Colorado Revised Statutes:

A representative body of sales is required when considering the market approach to appraisal.

(8) In any case in which sales prices of comparable properties within any class or subclass are utilized when considering the market approach to appraisal in the determination of actual value of any taxable property, the following limitations and conditions shall apply:

(a)(I) Use of the market approach shall require a representative body of sales, including sales by a lender or government, sufficient to set a pattern, and appraisals shall reflect due consideration of the degree of comparability of sales, including the extent of similarities and dissimilarities among properties that are compared for assessment purposes. In order to obtain a reasonable sample and to reduce sudden price changes or fluctuations, all sales shall be included in the sample that reasonably reflect a true or typical sales price during the period specified in section 39-1-104 (10.2). Sales of personal property exempt pursuant to the provisions of sections 39-3-102, 39-3-103, and 39-3-119 to 39-3-122 shall not be included in any such sample.

(b) Each such sale included in the sample shall be coded to indicate a typical, negotiated sale, as screened and verified by the assessor. (39-1-103, C.R.S.)

The assessor is required to use sales of real property only in the valuation process.

(8)(f) Such true and typical sales shall include only those sales which have been determined on an individual basis to reflect the selling price of the real property only or which have been adjusted on an individual basis to reflect the selling price of the real property only. (39-1-103, C.R.S.)

Part of the Property Assessment Study is the sales verification analysis. WRA has used the above-cited statutes as a guide in our study of the county's procedures and practices for verifying sales.

WRA reviewed the sales verification procedures in 2013 for Logan County. This study was conducted by checking selected sales from the master sales list for the current valuation period. Specifically WRA selected 35 sales listed as unqualified.

All of the sales in the unqualified sales sample had reasons that were clear and supportable.

For residential, commercial, and vacant land sales with considerations over \$500, the contractor has examined and reported the ratio of qualified sales to total sales by class and performed the following analyses of unqualified sales:

The contractor has examined the manner in which sales have been classified as qualified or unqualified, including a listing of each step in the sales verification process, any adjustment procedures, and the county official responsible for making the final decision on qualification.

When less than 50 percent of sales are qualified in any of the three property classes (residential, commercial, and vacant land), the contractor analyzed the reasons for disqualifying sales in any subclass that constitutes at least 20 percent of the class, either by number of properties or by value, from the prior year. The contractor has



reviewed with the assessor any analysis indicating that sales data inadequate, fail to reflect typical properties, or have been disqualified for insufficient cause. In addition, the contractor has reviewed disqualified sales by assigned code. If there appears to be any inconsistency in the coding, the contractor has conducted further analysis determine if the sales included in that code have been assigned appropriately.

If 50 percent or more of the sales are qualified, the contractor has reviewed a statistically significant sample of unqualified sales, excluding sales that were disqualified for obvious reasons.

Logan County did not qualify for indepth subclass analysis.

#### **Conclusions**

Logan County appears to be doing an excellent job of verifying their sales. WRA agreed with the county's reason for disqualifying each of the sales selected in the sample. There are no recommendations or suggestions.

#### Recommendations



# EVALUATION EVALUATION

#### Methodology

Logan County has submitted a written narrative describing the economic areas that make up the county's market areas. Logan County has also submitted a map illustrating these areas. Each of these narratives have been read and analyzed for logic and appraisal sensibility. The maps were also compared to the narrative for consistency between the written description and the map.

#### Conclusions

After review and analysis, it has been determined that Logan County has adequately

identified homogeneous economic areas comprised of smaller neighborhoods. Each economic area defined is equally subject to a set of economic forces that impact the value of the properties within that geographic area and this has been adequately addressed. Each economic area defined adequately delineates an area that will give "similar values for similar properties in similar areas."

#### Recommendations



# NATURAL RESOURCES

#### **Earth and Stone Products**

#### Methodology

Under the guidelines of the Assessor's Reference Library (ARL), Volume 3, Natural Resource Valuation Procedures, the income approach was applied to determine value for production of earth and stone products. The number of tons was multiplied by an economic royalty rate determined by the Division of Property Taxation to determine income. The income was multiplied by a recommended Hoskold factor to determine the actual value. The Hoskold factor is determined by the life of the reserves or the lease. Value is based on two variables: life and tonnage. The operator determines these since there is no other means to obtain production data through any state or private agency.

#### **Conclusions**

The County has applied the correct formulas and state guidelines to earth and stone production.

#### Recommendations

None

# **Producing Oil and Gas**

# Methodology

Assessors Reference Library (ARL) Volume 3, Chapter 6: Valuation of Natural Resources

#### STATUTORY REFERENCES

Section § 39-1-103, C.R.S., specifies that producing oil or gas leaseholds and lands are valued according to article 7 of title 39, C.R.S.

#### Actual value determined - when.

(2) The valuation for assessment of leaseholds and lands producing oil or gas shall be determined as provided in article 7 of this title. § 39-1-103, C.R.S.

Article 7 covers the listing, valuation, and assessment of producing oil and gas leaseholds and lands.

#### Valuation:

#### Valuation for assessment.

- (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, on the basis of the information contained in such statement, the assessor shall value such oil and gas leaseholds and lands for assessment, as real property, at an amount equal to eighty-seven and one-half percent of:
- (a) The selling price of the oil or gas sold there from during the preceding calendar year, after excluding the selling price of all oil or gas delivered to the United States government or any agency thereof, the state of Colorado or any agency thereof, or any political subdivision of the state as royalty during the preceding calendar year;
- (b) The selling price of oil or gas sold in the same field area for oil or gas transported from the premises which is not sold during the preceding calendar year, after excluding the selling price of all oil or gas delivered to the United States government or any agency thereof, the state of Colorado or any agency thereof, or any political subdivision of the state as royalty during the preceding calendar year.

#### § 39-7-102, C.R.S.

#### Conclusions

The county applied approved appraisal procedures in the valuation of oil and gas.

#### Recommendations



# VACANT LAND

#### **Subdivision Discounting**

Subdivisions were reviewed in 2013 in Logan County. The review showed that subdivisions were discounted pursuant to the Colorado Revised Statutes in Article 39-1-103 (14). Discounting procedures were applied to all subdivisions where less than 80 percent of all sites were sold using the present worth method. The market approach was applied where 80 percent or more of the subdivision sites were sold. An absorption period was estimated for each subdivision that was discounted. An appropriate discount rate was

developed using the summation method. Subdivision land with structures was appraised at full market value.

#### Conclusions

Logan County has implemented proper procedures to adequately estimate absorption periods, discount rates, and lot values for qualifying subdivisions.

#### Recommendations



# POSSESSORY INTEREST PROPERTIES

#### **Possessory Interest**

Possessory interest property discovery and valuation is described in the Assessor's Reference Library (ARL) Volume 3 section 7 in accordance with the requirements of C.R.S. Chapter 39-1-103 (17)(a)(II)Possessory Interest is defined by the Property Tax Administrator's Publication ARL Volume 3, Chapter 7: A private property interest in government-owned property or the right to the occupancy and use of any benefit in government-owned property that has been granted under lease, permit, concession, contract, or other agreement.

Logan County has been reviewed for their procedures and adherence to guidelines when assessing and valuing agricultural and

commercial possessory interest properties. The county has also been queried as to their confidence that the possessory interest properties have been discovered and placed on the tax rolls.

#### Conclusions

Logan County has implemented a discovery process to place possessory interest properties on the roll. They have also correctly and consistently applied the correct procedures and valuation methods in the valuation of possessory interest properties.

#### Recommendations



# PERSONAL PROPERTY AUDIT

Logan County was studied for its procedural compliance with the personal property assessment outlined in the Assessor's Reference Library (ARL) Volume 5, and in the State Board of Equalization (SBOE) requirements for the assessment of personal property. The SBOE requires that counties use ARL Volume 5, including current discovery, classification, documentation procedures, current economic lives table, cost factor tables, depreciation table, and level of value adjustment factor table.

The personal property audit standards narrative must be in place and current. A listing of businesses that have been audited by the assessor within the twelve-month period reflected in the plan is given to the auditor. The audited businesses must be in conformity with those described in the plan.

Aggregate ratio will be determined solely from the personal property accounts that have been physically inspected. The minimum assessment sample is one percent or ten schedules, whichever is greater, and the maximum assessment audit sample is 100 schedules.

For the counties having over 100,000 population, WRA selected a sample of all personal property schedules to determine whether the assessor is correctly applying the provisions of law and manuals of the Property Tax Administrator in arriving at the assessment levels of such property. This sample was selected from the personal property schedules audited by the assessor. In no event was the sample selected by the contractor less than 30 schedules. The counties to be included in this study are Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Denver, Douglas, El Paso, Jefferson, Larimer, Mesa, Pueblo, and Weld. All other counties received a procedural study.

Logan County is compliant with the guidelines set forth in ARL Volume 5 regarding discovery procedures, using the following methods to discover personal property accounts in the county:

- Public Record Documents
- MLS Listing and/or Sold Books
- Chamber of Commerce/Economic Development Contacts
- Local Telephone Directories, Newspapers or Other Local Publications
- Personal Observation, Physical Canvassing or Word of Mouth
- Questionnaires, Letters and/or Phone Calls to Buyer, Seller and/or Realtor

The county uses the Division of Property Taxation (DPT) recommended classification and documentation procedures. The DPT's recommended cost factor tables, depreciation tables and level of value adjustment factor tables are also used.

Logan County submitted their personal property written audit plan and was current for the 2013 valuation period. The number and listing of businesses audited was also submitted and was in conformance with the written audit plan. The following audit triggers were used by the county to select accounts to be audited:

- Businesses in a selected area
- Accounts with obvious discrepancies
- New businesses filing for the first time
- Accounts with greater than 10% change
- Incomplete or inconsistent declarations
- Accounts with omitted property
- Same business type or use



- Businesses with no deletions or additions for 2 or more years
- Non-filing Accounts Best Information Available
- Accounts close to the \$7,000 actual value exemption status
- Lowest or highest quartile of value per square foot
- Accounts protested with substantial disagreement

#### **Conclusions**

Logan County has employed adequate discovery, classification, documentation, valuation, and auditing procedures for their personal property assessment and is in compliance with SBOE requirements.

#### Recommendations



# WILDROSE AUDITOR STAFF

Harry J. Fuller, Audit Project Manager

Suzanne Howard, Audit Administrative Manager

Steve Kane, Audit Statistician

Carl W. Ross, Agricultural/Natural Resource Analyst

J. Andrew Rodriguez, Field Analyst



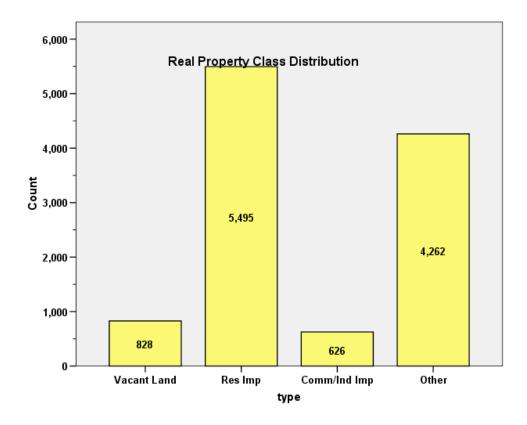
# APPENDICES



#### STATISTICAL COMPLIANCE REPORT FOR LOGAN COUNTY 2013

#### I. OVERVIEW

Logan County is an agricultural county located in northeastern Colorado. The county has a total of 11,211 real property parcels, according to data submitted by the county assessor's office in 2013. The following provides a breakdown of property classes for this county:



The vacant land class of properties was dominated by residential land. Residential lots (coded 100 or 1112) accounted for 46.9% of all vacant land parcels, while mobile home land accounted for 32.5%. Based on the number of vacant land parcels in Logan County, we were not required to analyze this class of property for audit compliance.

For residential improved properties, single family properties accounted for 93.2% of all residential properties.

Commercial and industrial properties represented a much smaller proportion of property classes in comparison. Commercial/industrial sales accounted for 5.6% of all such properties in this county.



#### II. DATA FILES

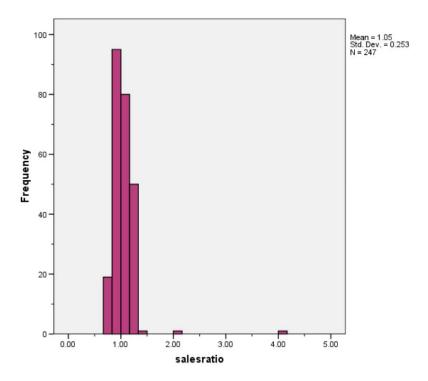
The following sales analyses were based on the requirements of the 2013 Colorado Property Assessment Study. Information was provided by the Logan Assessor's Office in April 2013. The data included all 5 property record files as specified by the Auditor.

#### III. RESIDENTIAL SALES RESULTS

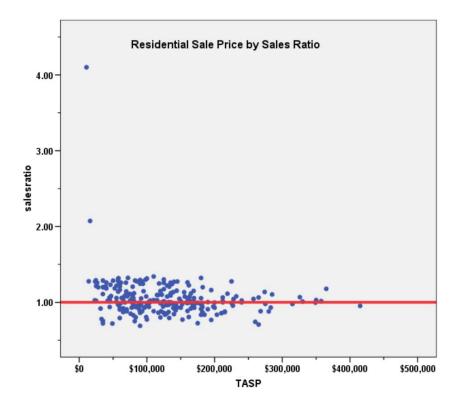
There were 247 qualified sales that sold for the 18 months prior to June 30, 2012. The sales ratio analysis was analyzed as follows:

Median	1.008
Price Related Differential	1.031
Coefficient of Dispersion	.132

The above ratio statistics were in compliance with the standards set forth by the Colorado State Board of Equalization (SBOE) for the overall residential sales. The following graphs describe further the sales ratio distribution for all of these properties:







The above graphs indicate that the distribution of the sale ratios was within state mandated limits, and that there were no significant price-related differential issues. No sales were trimmed.

#### **Residential Market Trend Analysis**

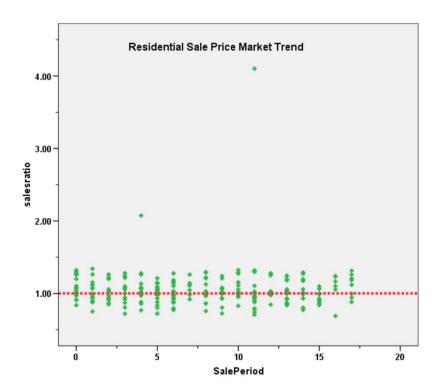
We next analyzed the residential dataset using the 18-month sale period, with the following results:

Coefficients<sup>a</sup>

Mod	lel	Unstandardize	d Coefficients	Standardized Coefficients		
		В	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.
1	(Constant)	1.049	.030		35.171	.000
	SalePeriod	.000	.003	006	086	.931

a. Dependent Variable: salesratio





The above analysis indicated that no significant market trend was present in the sale ratio data. We concur with the assessor that no market trend adjustments were warranted.

#### **Sold/Unsold Analysis**

In terms of the valuation consistency between sold and unsold residential properties, we compared the median actual value per square foot between sold and unsold residential properties, as follows;

Group	No. Props	Median Act Val/SF	Mean Act Val/SF
Unsold	5,245	\$75	\$88
Sold	247	\$83	\$88

The above results indicate that sold and unsold residential properties were valued in a consistent manner.

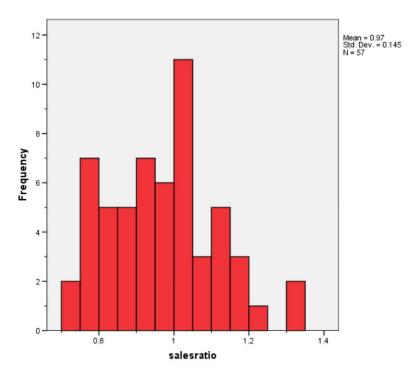
#### IV. COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SALE RESULTS

There were 58 qualified sales that sold for the 54 months prior to June 30, 2012. We trimmed one extreme sale, which resulted in a final qualified sale count of 57 sales. The sales ratio analysis was analyzed as follows:

Median	0.983
Price Related Differential	1.015
Coefficient of Dispersion	0.1216



The above tables indicate that the Logan County commercial/industrial sale ratios were in compliance with the SBOE standards. The following histogram and scatter plot describe the sales ratio distribution further:







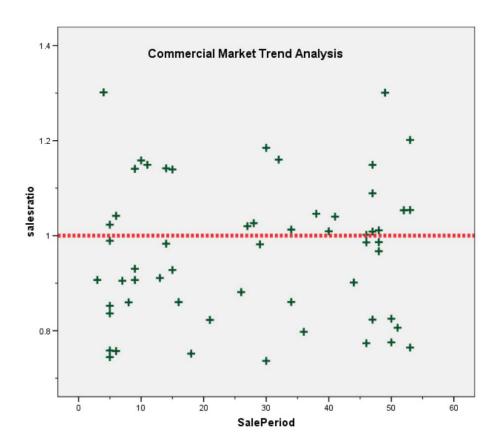
#### **Commercial Market Trend Analysis**

The assessor did not apply any market trend adjustment to the commercial dataset. The 57 commercial sales were analyzed, examining the sale ratios across a 4.5-year sale period with the following results:

Coefficients<sup>a</sup>

Mode	el	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		
		В	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.
1	(Constant)	.949	.036		26.310	.000
	SalePeriod	.001	.001	.072	.537	.594

a. Dependent Variable: salesratio



The above results indicate that there was no significant market trend residual in the commercial sale ratios.



#### **Sold/Unsold Analysis**

We compared the median actual value per square foot between sold and unsold commercial properties to determine if the assessor was valuing each group consistently. While this is a challenge to prove in this county, given the small number of sales and the overall small number and diversity of commercial/industrial properties in general, the following results indicate that based on the median actual value, both groups were valued in a consistent manner:

Group	No. Props	Median	Mean
Unsold	571	\$37	\$89
Sold	57	\$46	\$63

The above results indicated that sold and unsold commercial properties were valued consistently.

#### V. AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENTS ANALYSIS

The final statistical verification concerned the assigned actual values for agricultural residential improvements. We compared the actual value per square foot rate for this group and compared it to rates assigned to residential single family improvements in Logan County.

The following indicates that agricultural residential improvements were valued in a manner similar to the single family residential improvements in this county:



Descriptives

	ABSTE	RIMP		Statistic	Std. Error
ImpValSF	SFR	Mean		\$70.97	\$6.848
		95% Confidence Interval for	Lower Bound	\$57.54	
		Mean	Upper Bound	\$84.39	
		5% Trimmed Mean		\$63.36	
		Median		\$61.04	
		Variance		240086.805	
		Std. Deviation		\$489.987	
		Minimum		\$1	
		Maximum		\$35,070	
		Range		\$35,069	
		Interquartile Range		\$35	
		Skewness		71.220	.034
		Kurtosis		5088.096	.068
	Ag	Mean		\$67.05	\$2.287
	Res	95% Confidence Interval for	Lower Bound	\$62.56	
		Mean	Upper Bound	\$71.54	
		5% Trimmed Mean		\$59.74	
		Median		\$55.80	
		Variance		5799.409	
		Std. Deviation		\$76.154	
		Minimum		\$1	
		Maximum		\$1,352	
		Range		\$1,351	
		Interquartile Range		\$41	
		Skewness		10.881	.073
		Kurtosis		162.065	.147

## VI. CONCLUSIONS

Based on this statistical analysis, there were no significant compliance issues concluded for Logan County as of the date of this report.



#### **STATISTICAL ABSTRACT**

#### Residential

#### Ratio Statistics for CURRTOT / TASP

		nce Interval for ean		95% Con	fidence interval fo	or Median		95% Confiden Weighte	ce Interval for d Mean			Coefficient of Variation
Mear	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Median	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Actual Coverage	Weighted Mean	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion	Mean Centered
1.0	7 1.016	1.079	1.008	.997	1.029	95.8%	1.016	.998	1.035	1.031	.132	24.2%

The confidence interval for the median is constructed without any distribution assumptions. The actual coverage level may be greater than the specified level. Other confidence intervals are constructed by assuming a Normal distribution for the ratios.

#### Commercial/Industrial

#### Ratio Statistics for CURRTOT / TASP

	95% Confider Me	nce Interval for an		95% Con	fidence Interval fo	or Median		95% Confiden Weighte				Coefficient of Variation
Mean	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Median	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Actual Coverage	Weighted Mean	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion	Mean Centered
.965	.927	1.004	.983	.905	1.013	96.7%	.951	.901	1.001	1.015	.121	15.1%

The confidence interval for the median is constructed without any distribution assumptions. The actual coverage level may be greater than the specified level. Other confidence intervals are constructed by assuming a Normal distribution for the ratios.



#### **Residential Median Ratio Stratification**

#### Sale Price

#### **Case Processing Summary**

		Count	Percent
SPRec	LT \$25K	8	3.2%
	\$25K to \$50K	23	9.3%
	\$50K to \$100K	78	31.6%
	\$100K to \$150K	60	24.3%
	\$150K to \$200K	45	18.2%
	\$200K to \$300K	25	10.1%
	\$300K to \$500K	8	3.2%
Overall		247	100.0%
Excluded	i	0	
Total		247	

Group				Coefficient of Variation
	Median	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion	Median Centered
LT \$25K	1.276	1.137	.412	87.6%
\$25K to \$50K	1.083	1.001	.136	17.1%
\$50K to \$100K	1.008	1.005	.131	16.3%
\$100K to \$150K	1.000	1.000	.107	14.0%
\$150K to \$200K	.990	1.001	.093	12.8%
\$200K to \$300K	1.000	1.001	.098	13.0%
\$300K to \$500K	1.013	1.001	.044	7.1%
Overall	1.008	1.031	.132	25.5%



#### **Subclass**

#### **Case Processing Summary**

		Count	Percent
ABSTRIMP	1212	239	96.8%
	1215	4	1.6%
	1220	3	1.2%
	1225	1	.4%
Overall		247	100.0%
Excluded		0	
Total		247	

Group				Coefficient of Variation
	Median	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion	Median Centered
1212	1.006	1.015	.116	14.9%
1215	1.121	1.051	.120	14.4%
1220	2.074	2.031	.532	81.8%
1225	1.134	1.000	.000	.%
Overall	1.008	1.031	.132	25.5%



# Age

#### **Case Processing Summary**

		Count	Percent
AgeRec	Over 100	20	8.1%
	75 to 100	56	22.7%
	50 to 75	70	28.3%
	25 to 50	63	25.5%
	5 to 25	37	15.0%
	5 or Newer	1	.4%
Overall		247	100.0%
Excluded		0	
Total		247	

Group				Coefficient of Variation
	Median	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion	Median Centered
Over 100	.968	1.039	.163	20.6%
75 to 100	1.024	1.070	.180	43.5%
50 to 75	1.018	1.022	.127	19.0%
25 to 50	.992	1.009	.102	13.9%
5 to 25	1.044	1.014	.085	10.9%
5 or Newer	.837	1.000	.000	.%
Overall	1.008	1.031	.132	25.5%



# Improved Area

#### **Case Processing Summary**

		Count	Percent
ImpSFRec	LE 500 sf	1	.4%
	500 to 1,000 sf	49	19.8%
	1,000 to 1,500 sf	118	47.8%
	1,500 to 2,000 sf	45	18.2%
	2,000 to 3,000 sf	28	11.3%
	3,000 sf or Higher	6	2.4%
Overall		247	100.0%
Excluded		0	
Total		247	

Group				Coefficient of Variation
	Median	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion	Median Centered
LE 500 sf	1.274	1.000	.000	.%
500 to 1,000 sf	1.000	1.036	.148	17.8%
1,000 to 1,500 sf	1.002	1.017	.100	13.1%
1,500 to 2,000 sf	1.003	1.052	.139	22.7%
2,000 to 3,000 sf	1.038	1.024	.114	14.5%
3,000 sf or Higher	1.124	1.396	.504	119.2%
Overall	1.008	1.031	.132	25.5%



# Improvement Quality

#### **Case Processing Summary**

	Count	Percent
QUALITY 1	2	.8%
2	42	17.3%
3	163	67.1%
4	35	14.4%
6	1	.4%
Overall	243	100.0%
Excluded	4	
Total	247	

Group				Coefficient of Variation
	Median	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion	Median Centered
1	.894	.969	.126	17.9%
2	1.021	1.050	.149	17.6%
3	1.002	1.020	.112	14.7%
4	1.024	1.015	.089	12.7%
6	1.104	1.000	.000	.%
Overall	1.007	1.016	.116	14.9%



# **Improvement Condition**

#### **Case Processing Summary**

		Count	Percent
CONDITION	1	10	4.1%
	2	25	10.3%
	3	190	78.2%
	4	18	7.4%
Overall		243	100.0%
Excluded		4	
Total		247	

Group				Coefficient of Variation
	Median	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion	Median Centered
1	1.122	.988	.159	19.7%
2	1.260	1.014	.082	11.3%
3	1.002	1.011	.099	13.1%
4	.862	.997	.069	9.5%
Overall	1.007	1.016	.116	14.9%



#### **Commercial Median Ratio Stratification**

#### Sale Price

#### **Case Processing Summary**

		Count	Percent
SPRec	LT \$25K	5	8.8%
	\$25K to \$50K	6	10.5%
	\$50K to \$100K	19	33.3%
	\$100K to \$150K	8	14.0%
	\$150K to \$200K	4	7.0%
	\$200K to \$300K	7	12.3%
	\$300K to \$500K	3	5.3%
	\$500K to \$750K	2	3.5%
	\$750K to \$1,000K	3	5.3%
Overall		57	100.0%
Excluded	I	0	
Total		57	

Group				Coefficient of Variation
	Median	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion	Median Centered
LT \$25K	1.054	1.012	.068	8.6%
\$25K to \$50K	.962	.999	.140	17.2%
\$50K to \$100K	.989	1.004	.118	15.9%
\$100K to \$150K	.884	1.003	.103	13.0%
\$150K to \$200K	.871	1.006	.129	19.6%
\$200K to \$300K	.930	1.000	.144	17.7%
\$300K to \$500K	.982	1.003	.133	23.6%
\$500K to \$750K	1.044	1.000	.002	.3%
\$750K to \$1,000K	.881	1.002	.031	4.9%
Overall	.983	1.015	.121	14.9%



#### Subclass

#### **Case Processing Summary**

		Count	Percent
ABSTRIMP	1716	1	1.8%
	1721	1	1.8%
	2212	13	22.8%
	2220	10	17.5%
	2230	17	29.8%
	2231	1	1.8%
	2235	11	19.3%
	2427	1	1.8%
	3215	1	1.8%
	3220	1	1.8%
Overall		57	100.0%
Excluded		0	
Total		57	

Group					fficient of riation
	Median	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion		edian entered
1716	.860	1.000	.000	.%	
1721	1.301	1.000	.000	.%	
2212	.983	.980	.125		16.7%
2220	1.011	1.024	.123		16.4%
2230	.907	.995	.119		14.7%
2231	1.142	1.000	.000	.%	
2235	.989	1.057	.103		12.5%
2427	.930	1.000	.000	.%	
3215	1.040	1.000	.000	.%	
3220	1.002	1.000	.000	.%	
Overall	.983	1.015	.121		14.9%



# Age

#### **Case Processing Summary**

		Count	Percent
AgeRec	Over 100	6	10.5%
	75 to 100	9	15.8%
	50 to 75	10	17.5%
	25 to 50	19	33.3%
	5 to 25	13	22.8%
Overall		57	100.0%
Excluded		0	
Total		57	

Group				Coefficient of Variation
	Median	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion	Median Centered
Over 100	.958	1.038	.116	15.0%
75 to 100	.860	1.003	.121	18.0%
50 to 75	1.007	1.024	.103	15.5%
25 to 50	.930	1.028	.128	14.8%
5 to 25	1.040	1.006	.118	15.5%
Overall	.983	1.015	.121	14.9%



# Improved Area

## **Case Processing Summary**

		Count	Percent
ImpSFRec	500 to 1,000 sf	8	14.0%
	1,000 to 1,500 sf	12	21.1%
	1,500 to 2,000 sf	5	8.8%
	2,000 to 3,000 sf	10	17.5%
	3,000 sf or Higher	22	38.6%
Overall		57	100.0%
Excluded		0	
Total		57	

Group				Coefficient of Variation
	Median	Price Related Differential	Coefficient of Dispersion	Median Centered
500 to 1,000 sf	1.022	1.013	.048	8.1%
1,000 to 1,500 sf	.862	1.004	.152	18.9%
1,500 to 2,000 sf	.967	1.041	.133	21.2%
2,000 to 3,000 sf	1.026	.989	.073	9.7%
3,000 sf or Higher	.906	1.005	.123	17.0%
Overall	.983	1.015	.121	14.9%