

Elouise Cobell

1945-2011

USA

Elouise Cobell, also known as Yellow Bird Woman, was a Blackfoot tribal elder and activist, banker, rancher, and lead plaintiff in the groundbreaking class-action suit, *Cobell v. Salazar* (2009), that challenged the United States' mismanagement of trust funds belonging to more than 500,000 individual Native Americans. She pursued the suit from 1996, challenging the government to account for fees from resource leases. In 2010, the government approved a \$3.4 billion settlement for the trust case, the largest ever in a class action against the federal government.

