



National Conservation Lands are among the most essential and spectacular natural, cultural, and archaeological places in the country. They protect:

- The cultural continuity of Native Nations
- Rural economies
- Access to hunting and fishing and other recreational activities
- Essential wildlife migration corridors
- Nature to mitigate the effects of the climate and biodiversity crises



Owyhee Canyonlands, Oregon

NATIONAL CONSERVATION LANDS At-a-Glance

National Conservation Lands are the critical connective tissue between more familiar public lands like National Parks and are managed by the Bureau of Land Management, which oversees more public land than any other agency in the U.S.



38 MILLION ACRES



31 NATIONAL MONUMENTS



25 NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREAS
and similar designations



21 MILLION ACRES
of Wilderness & Wilderness Study Areas



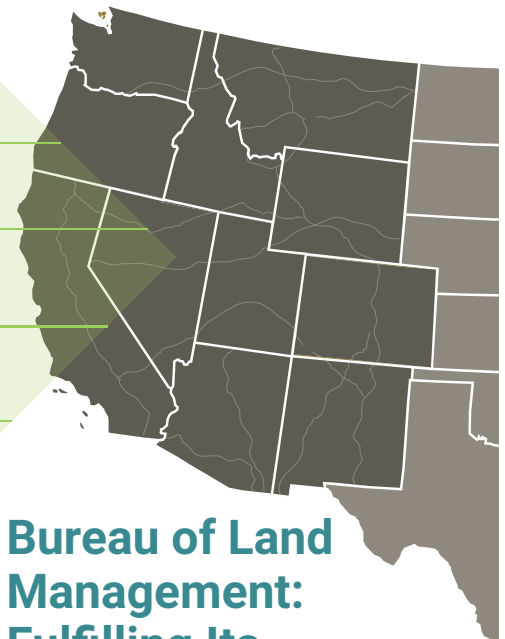
2,700 MILES
of Wild & Scenic Rivers



6,000 MILES
of National Scenic & Historic Trails



906+ LOCATIONS



CONSERVATION LANDS FOUNDATION At-a-Glance

Conservation Lands Foundation is the only organization whose mission is focused solely on the greatest opportunity to stop the decline of nature and wildlife in the U.S. We work to conserve the largest acreage of unprotected public lands in the country by powering a national network of community-led nonprofits across the West.

For 18 years, the Conservation Lands Foundation has successfully built and harnessed the power of our national movement of community-led advocates—known as the Friends Grassroots Network—to expand, protect, and restore landscapes under the National Conservation Lands designation.



**FRIENDS
GRASSROOTS
NETWORK**

The Conservation Lands Foundation and its Friends Grassroots Network play outsized roles in ensuring the country's valuable and vulnerable public landscapes are protected for future generations.

All photos courtesy of BLM unless otherwise noted

Bureau of Land Management: Fulfilling Its Multiple-Use Mandate

The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for overseeing the largest acreage of federal public lands in the country— 245 million acres—and it is required by law to balance multiple uses for the benefit of the public. This includes conserving nature and ensuring public access and recreation, allowing energy production where appropriate, and stewarding the health of the lands and waters for future generations.



Browns Canyon NM, Colorado



Sloan Canyon NCA, Nevada



Sonoran Desert NM, Arizona



Fort Ord NM, California



Jurassic NM, Utah

More National Conservation Lands Are Needed

Only 15% of the 245 million acres of public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management are protected as National Conservation Lands and more is needed to support healthy plant and wildlife populations, rural economies that depend on them for recreation and tourism, our climate system, livelihoods, food, and freshwater supplies.

Westerners Who Prefer Public Land Conservation Over Energy Development Is At All-Time High

72 percent of Westerners across the political spectrum want elected officials to protect more clean water sources, air quality, and wildlife habitat while providing opportunities to visit and recreate on public lands.

89 percent of voters oppose reducing or removing national monument protections.

Source: Conservation In the West Poll, 2025

Outdoor Recreation

The National Conservation Lands welcome:



CAMPING



HIKING



BIKING



FISHING



HUNTING



RAFTING



ROCK CLIMBING



DOGS...AND MORE!

Economic Benefits

The National Conservation Lands and protected public lands support local economies by attracting new businesses and boosting fast-growing economic sectors like recreation and tourism.

OUTDOOR
RECREATION
ECONOMY

\$1.2 trillion in economic output
5 million American jobs

Our Priorities

Our policy priorities are in service of the public's right to have access to their public lands and to protect their sources of healthy air and water, wildlife, and ways of life.

1 Stop extremist attacks on the Antiquities Act.

The Ending Presidential Overreach on Public Lands Act (H.R. 521) introduced by Representatives Mark Amodei (R-NV) and Celeste Maloy (R-UT) and by Senator Mike Lee (R-UT) (S. 220) would eliminate the power of presidents to designate national monuments to protect our natural and cultural heritage.

- These extremist bills could eliminate existing national monuments and threaten the creation of any new monuments.
- Nearly half of our national parks and some of our nation's crown jewels, such as Grand Canyon, Olympic, Zion, and Bryce Canyon National Parks, first began as national monuments through the Antiquities Act.
- Without the Antiquities Act, these magnificent places and 160 national monuments would not be the protected, world class parks they are today that are loved and visited by millions of people from around the world every year and serve as the bedrock of America's \$1.2 trillion dollar outdoor recreation economy.

2 Stop the sell-off or privatization of public lands as part of a budget reconciliation package.

Roughly 85% of public lands managed by BLM are already available for energy production and roughly half of existing oil and gas leases are not being used. Any Congressional budget or other financial schemes to sell off America's public lands, national treasures, and outdoor access for energy production are false excuses and attacks on regular Americans and the recreation economy that supports millions of jobs and hundreds of rural communities.

3 Stop efforts to undermine or undo protections of the National Conservation Lands.

If federal protections can be overridden in one National Conservation Area, the entire system becomes vulnerable. The proposed four-lane highway through Red Cliffs National Conservation Area (NCA) in Utah would:

- Set a dangerous national precedent that undermines protection for all 38 million acres of National Conservation Lands and opens the door for developers to target protected public lands in your state.
- Violate five bedrock environmental laws: the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Endangered Species Act, and the National Historic Preservation Act.
- Undermine congressional and executive authority to establish meaningful conservation designations that safeguard recreation opportunities, habitat for sensitive and vulnerable wildlife, and cultural resources.

4 Safeguard conservation protections gained through executive and administrative actions.

Representative Jeff Hurd (R-CO) introduced the "*Productive Public Lands Act*" (H.R. 1997), legislation that locks the public out of tens of thousands of acres of public lands as a quick and cheap giveaway to the oil and gas industry. It requires the Bureau of Land Management to reissue nine finalized resource management plans for landscapes in Colorado, Montana, Oregon, and Wyoming. These management plans play a key role in stewarding public lands, ensuring responsible management for the benefit of all Americans.

- These plans fulfill a critical component of the federal land management process and are legally required by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA). They represent comprehensive environmental review and public participation from Tribes, outdoor recreation users, scientists, conservation groups, local communities, and industry stakeholders.
- Revising these plans will waste tens of millions of taxpayer dollars and is disconnected from voter priorities.

5 Hold the line on appropriations allocations to the Bureau of Land Management.

BLM manages 245 million acres of public land—more than any other federal land management agency in the country—and has been underfunded and understaffed for decades despite increasingly record-high visitation.

Adequate funding is crucial for ensuring that BLM can carry out its multiple-use responsibilities effectively and manage these landscapes to maintain safe public access as well as their cultural, natural, and recreational values.



CONSERVATION
LANDS
FOUNDATION

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