

WELCOME TO PUBLIC LAND STATISTICS 2008

Welcome to the 2008 edition of *Public Land Statistics* (PLS), published by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM). As in past PLS publications, this year's cover is designed to convey the scope of the BLM's complex and multifaceted mission using visual imagery. The 80-plus tables inside tell the story of the BLM's mission, programs, and accomplishments using numerical data and detailed footnotes.

Many of the minor acreage changes from one year to the next occur because:

1. Inholdings have been acquired or some other land exchange has taken place during the year.
2. Better GIS mapping of land boundaries has enabled us to recalculate the total BLM acres within the unit.

Note that data presented in the 2008 *Public Land Statistics* tables may not exactly match data in other BLM publications covering Fiscal Year 2008 operations and accomplishments. This occurs because the databases that provide table data are not static; they are constantly being updated to provide the latest information, sometimes many months after the end of the fiscal year. We have presented the most current data available in this edition of *Public Land Statistics*.

We remain committed to publishing a *Public Land Statistics* report each year that is timely, complete, and as helpful as possible to our readers.

Public Land Statistics is available on the Internet. Please visit our national homepage at:
http://www.blm.gov/public_land_statistics/index.htm.

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