



BLM NEWS RELEASE

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**Bureau of Land Management
For immediate release**

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BLM Director Bob Abbey Announces Selection of Jim Kenna as New California State Director

Bureau of Land Management Director Bob Abbey announced today that James G. Kenna has been selected as the BLM's new California State Director. Kenna, who is currently the State Director for BLM in Arizona, will report to his new position in September. Kenna succeeds acting California State Director Jim Abbott.

"I am pleased to announce the selection of Jim Kenna," said Abbey. "Jim has the experience, knowledge, and a proven track record to lead BLM-California at this challenging time in the BLM's history." Among other things, Abbey noted, Kenna coordinated development of a sagebrush habitat conservation strategy with the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and the Western Governors Association.

"I also want to thank Jim Abbott for his extended role as acting State Director," Abbey said. "With Abbott remaining as Associate State Director, BLM-California will be in good hands with two highly skilled and qualified people leading it."

Kenna served as the BLM's Arizona State Director from January 2009 to September 2011. He previously served in numerous key agency positions, including Associate State Director in Oregon, Deputy Assistant Director for Resources and Planning in Washington, D.C., Budget Analyst for the Department of Interior in Washington, D.C., and Field Manager of the BLM's Palm Springs Field Office in California.

Kenna, a native of Denver, Colorado, holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics from Prescott College in Arizona.

Kenna and his wife Renee have two sons, Sean and Liam. Kenna's outside interests include hiking, rafting, reading, sports, and music.

The BLM manages more land – over 245 million acres – than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.