The BLM: A Sound Investment for America 2017

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages 1 in every 10 acres of land in the United States, working with partners to promote multiple uses of those lands through shared stewardship. The BLM also manages a large portion of the nation's mineral reserves, facilitating access to the public lands for the energy development that create jobs, help support local communities, and increase America’s energy independence. Every state has public land and mineral covering a variety of landscapes, including forests, mountains, rangelands, deserts, and beaches. The BLM is committed to keeping public lands healthy and productive and to effectively managing border landscapes to keep America safe.

The public lands managed by the BLM generate significant and quantifiable benefits for the nation and serve American families by providing energy and mineral resources, grazing and timber resources, and access to recreational opportunities, including hunting and fishing. They provide valuable goods and materials that we rely on every day to heat our homes, build our roads, and feed our families. Through balanced management, the BLM develops these resources while maintaining healthy ecosystems and preserving cultural resources and iconic landscapes.

In fiscal year 2015, the diverse activities authorized on BLM-managed lands generated $75 billion in economic output throughout the country—more than any other agency within the Department of the Interior. This economic activity supported 372,000 jobs and also contributed substantial revenue to the U.S. Treasury and state governments, mostly through royalties on minerals.

Benefits of Public Lands

The public lands not only provide economic contributions in terms of jobs and output supported by various activities, but they also provide other benefits that families and communities across the United States derive from having access to our nation's natural, scenic, recreational, and cultural resources.

Economic Stability

Employment and output supported by the public lands provide economic opportunity and stability in diverse ways.

Nonmarket Benefits

Benefits related to recreation opportunities, cultural resources, visual beauty, strategically significant resources, environmental health, and supporting local communities are often more challenging to quantify in economic terms.

Economic Contributions from BLM-Managed Lands

The BLM manages the National Conservation Lands, a system of 50 BLM- and U.S. Forest Service-managed units comprising nearly 36 million acres. These units include 27 national monuments; 21 national conservation areas; 34 state and federal designated wilderness areas; and 1,742 significant water source areas and similarly designated areas; and congressionally designated areas managed by the National Park Service and other agency within the Department of the Interior.

The BLM also manages a large portion of the nation’s mineral resources, facilitating access to the public lands for the energy development that create jobs, help support local communities, and increase America’s energy independence. Every state has public land and mineral covering a variety of landscapes, including forests, mountains, rangelands, deserts, and beaches. The BLM is committed to keeping public lands healthy and productive and to effectively managing border landscapes to keep America safe.

The public lands managed by the BLM generate significant and quantifiable benefits for the nation and serve American families by providing energy and mineral resources, grazing and timber resources, and access to recreational opportunities, including hunting and fishing. They provide valuable goods and materials that we rely on every day to heat our homes, build our roads, and feed our families. Through balanced management, the BLM develops these resources while maintaining healthy ecosystems and preserving cultural resources and iconic landscapes.

In fiscal year 2015, the diverse activities authorized on BLM-managed lands generated $75 billion in economic output throughout the country—more than any other agency within the Department of the Interior. This economic activity supported 372,000 jobs and also contributed substantial revenue to the U.S. Treasury and state governments, mostly through royalties on minerals.
Benefits of Public Lands

The public lands not only provide economic contributions in terms of jobs and output supported by various activities, but they also provide other benefits that families and communities across the United States derive from having access to our nation’s natural, scenic, recreational, and cultural resources.

Economic Stability

Employment and output supported by the public lands provide economic opportunity and stability in diverse ways.

Recreational grazing permits on Seward Peninsula, AK, and similar programs in other states provide economic contributions of $460 million in economic output.

Other nonmarket benefits include contributions of $412 million in economic output.

Cultural Resources

BLM’s administration land

BLM’s administrative boundaries

Royalties and Tax Revenue

Royalties, taxes, and other fees associated with extractive industries on public lands can generate significant revenue for state and local governments, which in turn provide benefits related to public safety, education, and health.

The BLM-managed land contributes $500 million in economic output.

5,000 jobs supported by the public lands.

Nonmarket Benefits

Benefits related to recreation opportunities, cultural resources, visual beauty, strategically significant resources, environmental health, and supporting local communities are often more challenging to quantify in economic terms. However, some examples include:

- Free fee recreation use on 15% of BLM-managed lands
- 6,700 vehicles days hunting in Wyoming
- 22,000 vehicles days fishing in Alaska

Economic Contributions from National Conservation Lands

The BLM manages the National Conservation Lands, a system of 50 federal lands managed for conservation, recreation, and energy development. These lands are managed using a variety of strategies, including multiple-use management and partnerships with states, local governments, and private entities.

Nonenergy Minerals

The BLM also manages a large portion of the nation’s minerals, including coal, oil, and gas. These minerals provide substantial revenue to the U.S. Treasury and are vital for the nation’s energy independence. Every state has prime land and minerals covering a variety of landscapes, including forests, mountains, rangelands, arctic tundra, and deserts.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages 26 miles of it as a wild and scenic river.

The BLM manages 2 million acres of public lands that create jobs, help support local communities, and increase America’s economic energy independence.

The BLM manages 372,000 jobs supported.

In fiscal year 2016, the diverse activities authorized on BLM-managed lands generated $201,000 in economic output throughout the country—more than any other agency within the Department of the Interior. This economic activity supported 372,000 jobs and also contributed substantial revenue to the U.S. Treasury and state governments, mostly through royalties on minerals.
Oil and gas: The BLM leases more than 27.2 million acres of land, from the eastern United States to the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska, for onshore oil and gas production. Sales of federal onshore oil production decreased to 168.5 million barrels during 2016, compared to 182.5 million barrels in 2015, due at least in part to continued low prices for oil.

Coal: The BLM administers coal leases encompassing approximately 467,000 acres in 12 states. Coal continues to be a large source of energy in the United States, but the continuing low cost of natural gas has spurred a shift away from coal for energy production. A decrease in U.S. coal production from 1,095.64 million short tons in 2011 to 728.24 million short tons in 2016 reflects this.

Nonenergy minerals: The BLM issues leases for minerals that are not used for energy production, such as potash, phosphate, sodium, and gravel, which are used in fertilizers, glass, and paper. Federal lands also contain salable mineral materials, including sand, gravel, dirt, and rock, and locatable hard rock minerals, such as copper and gold. In 2016, nonenergy minerals produced from federal lands were valued at $11.4 billion.

Geothermal, solar, wind: The BLM has approved 126 renewable energy projects, including 36 solar projects, 40 wind projects, and 50 geothermal projects. Combined, they represent a total of 17,963 megawatts of capacity that could provide power to about 7 million homes.

Recreation: The public lands managed by the BLM offer more recreational opportunities than lands managed by any other federal agency, with more than 99 percent available for recreation with no fee. Lands used for recreational activities also contribute significantly to local economies. In 2016, BLM lands received more than 64.6 million recreation-related visits, an increase over the previous year.

Grazing: In 2016, the BLM permitted 12 million animal unit months (AUMs) for ranchers who graze their livestock, mostly cattle and sheep, on public lands. An AUM is the amount of forage needed to feed a cow and calf or the equivalent for 1 month. In 2016, the grazing fee was $2.11 per AUM. While the number of AUMs sold each year remains relatively steady, annual variations in use occur due to factors such as drought, wildlife, market conditions, and restoration projects.

Timber: One-fourth of the 245 million acres of lands managed by the BLM are forest ecosystems, spread across 13 western states, including Alaska. Through responsible management of these lands, the BLM ensures the health and resilience of the nation's public forest lands as well as the availability of traditional forest products, such as timber. In 2016, the BLM offered 233.2 million board feet of timber for sale. This number has remained relatively steady over the past decade.

Total Economic Output and Jobs for Fiscal Year 2016

- **Coal**
  - Alaska
  - Arizona
  - California
  - Colorado
  - Idaho
  - Montana (North and South Dakota)
  - Nevada
  - New Mexico (New Mexico and Texas)
  - Oregon
  - Utah
  - Wyoming

- **Nonenergy Minerals**
  - Alaska
  - Arizona
  - California
  - Colorado
  - Montana (North and South Dakota)
  - Nevada
  - New Mexico (New Mexico and Texas)
  - Oregon
  - Utah
  - Wyoming

- **Geothermal, Wind, and Solar**
  - Alaska
  - Arizona
  - California
  - Colorado
  - Idaho
  - Montana (North and South Dakota)
  - Nevada
  - New Mexico (New Mexico and Texas)
  - Oregon
  - Utah
  - Wyoming

- **Recreation**
  - Alaska
  - Arizona
  - California
  - Colorado
  - Idaho
  - Montana (North and South Dakota)
  - Nevada
  - New Mexico (New Mexico and Texas)
  - Oregon
  - Utah
  - Wyoming

- **Grazing**
  - Alaska
  - Arizona
  - California
  - Colorado
  - Idaho
  - Montana (North and South Dakota)
  - Nevada
  - New Mexico (New Mexico and Texas)
  - Oregon
  - Utah
  - Wyoming

- **Timber**
  - Alaska
  - Arizona
  - California
  - Colorado
  - Idaho
  - Montana (North and South Dakota)
  - Nevada
  - New Mexico (New Mexico and Texas)
  - Oregon
  - Utah
  - Wyoming
Economic Sectors

Oil and gas: The BLM leases more than 27.2 million acres of land, from the eastern United States to the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska, for onshore oil and gas production. Sales of federal onshore oil production decreased to 168.5 million barrels during 2016, compared to 182.5 million barrels in 2015, due at least in part to continued low prices for oil.

Coal: The BLM administers coal leases encompassing approximately 467,000 acres in 12 states. Coal continues to be a large source of energy in the United States, but the continuing low cost of natural gas has spurred a shift away from coal for energy production. A decrease in U.S. coal production from 1,095.64 million short tons in 2011 to 728.24 million short tons in 2016 reflects this shift.

Nonenergy minerals: The BLM issues leases for minerals that are not used for energy production, such as potash, phosphate, sodium, and gravel, which are used in fertilizers, glass, and paper. Federal lands also contain salable mineral materials, including sand, gravel, dirt, and rock, and locatable hard rock minerals, such as copper and gold. In 2016, nonenergy minerals produced from federal lands were valued at $11.4 billion.

Geothermal, wind, and solar: The BLM has approved 126 renewable energy projects, including 36 solar projects, 40 wind projects, and 50 geothermal projects. Combined, they represent a total of 17,963 megawatts of capacity that could provide power to about 7 million homes.

Recreation: The public lands managed by the BLM offer more recreational opportunities than lands managed by any other federal agency, with more than 99 percent available for recreation with no fee. Lands used for recreational activities also contribute significantly to local economies. In 2016, BLM lands received more than 64.6 million recreation-related visits, an increase over the previous year.

Grazing: In 2016, the BLM permitted 12 million animal unit months (AUMs) for ranchers who graze their livestock, mostly cattle and sheep, on public lands. An AUM is the amount of forage needed to feed a cow and calf or the equivalent for 1 month. In 2016, the grazing fee was $2.11 per AUM. While the number of AUMs sold each year remains relatively steady, annual variations in use occur due to factors such as drought, wildfire, market conditions, and restoration projects.

Timber: One-fourth of the 245 million acres of lands managed by the BLM are forest ecosystems, spread across 13 western states, including Alaska. Through responsible management of these lands, the BLM ensures the health and resilience of the nation’s public forest lands as well as the availability of traditional forest products, such as timber. In 2016, the BLM offered 233.2 million board feet of timber for sale. This number has remained relatively steady over the past decade.

Total Economic Output and Jobs for Fiscal Year 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Totals</th>
<th>Oil and Gas</th>
<th>Coal</th>
<th>Nonenergy Minerals</th>
<th>Geothermal, Wind, and Solar</th>
<th>Recreation</th>
<th>Grazing</th>
<th>Timber</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$42.0 billion</td>
<td>$10.7 billion</td>
<td>$11.4 billion</td>
<td>$1.0 billion</td>
<td>$6.7 billion</td>
<td>$2.4 billion</td>
<td>$0.7 billion</td>
<td>$0.3 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$4.4 billion</td>
<td>$2.2 billion</td>
<td>$2.9 billion</td>
<td>$0.5 billion</td>
<td>$2.9 billion</td>
<td>$0.5 billion</td>
<td>$0.7 billion</td>
<td>$0.2 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1.1 billion</td>
<td>$0.2 billion</td>
<td>$1.0 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
<td>$1.0 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$4.9 billion</td>
<td>$0.3 billion</td>
<td>$1.0 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
<td>$1.0 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$6.7 billion</td>
<td>$0.3 billion</td>
<td>$1.0 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
<td>$1.0 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10.9 billion</td>
<td>$0.3 billion</td>
<td>$1.0 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
<td>$1.0 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1.3 billion</td>
<td>$0.2 billion</td>
<td>$0.3 billion</td>
<td>$0.0 billion</td>
<td>$0.0 billion</td>
<td>$0.0 billion</td>
<td>$0.0 billion</td>
<td>$0.0 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$3.2 billion</td>
<td>$0.2 billion</td>
<td>$0.3 billion</td>
<td>$0.0 billion</td>
<td>$0.0 billion</td>
<td>$0.0 billion</td>
<td>$0.0 billion</td>
<td>$0.0 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$13.9 billion</td>
<td>$0.3 billion</td>
<td>$1.0 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
<td>$1.0 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
<td>$0.1 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$227.6 million</td>
<td>$939.0 million</td>
<td>$2.9 billion</td>
<td>$742.5 million</td>
<td>$361.2 million</td>
<td>$203,000</td>
<td>$205,000</td>
<td>$23.2 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2.4 billion</td>
<td>$0.5 billion</td>
<td>$2.9 billion</td>
<td>$31.0 million</td>
<td>$3.8 billion</td>
<td>$9.7 billion</td>
<td>$4.5 billion</td>
<td>$1.2 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$3.9 billion</td>
<td>$0.5 billion</td>
<td>$2.9 billion</td>
<td>$3.7 million</td>
<td>$9.4 billion</td>
<td>$3.7 billion</td>
<td>$9.4 billion</td>
<td>$1.2 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$5.4 billion</td>
<td>$0.5 billion</td>
<td>$2.9 billion</td>
<td>$9.4 billion</td>
<td>$9.4 billion</td>
<td>$3.7 billion</td>
<td>$9.4 billion</td>
<td>$1.2 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1.7 million</td>
<td>$40.1 million</td>
<td>$472.4 million</td>
<td>$3.7 million</td>
<td>$9.4 billion</td>
<td>$3.7 billion</td>
<td>$9.4 billion</td>
<td>$1.2 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$5.5 billion</td>
<td>$377.8 million</td>
<td>$744.5 million</td>
<td>$590.8 million</td>
<td>$14.9 million</td>
<td>$410.4 million</td>
<td>$507.9 million</td>
<td>$312.9 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$7.4 billion</td>
<td>$93.3 million</td>
<td>$147.2 million</td>
<td>$11.8 million</td>
<td>$4.9 million</td>
<td>$8.2 million</td>
<td>$5.8 million</td>
<td>$603.0 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1.8 billion</td>
<td>$7.2 million</td>
<td>$7.2 million</td>
<td>$3.7 million</td>
<td>$4.9 million</td>
<td>$8.2 million</td>
<td>$5.8 million</td>
<td>$603.0 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*National totals may differ from the sum of individual state numbers because they take into account activity across state borders and average industry productivity across states.
Oil and gas: The BLM leases more than 27.2 million acres of land, from the eastern United States to the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska, for onshore oil and gas production. Sales of federal onshore oil production decreased to 168.5 million barrels during 2016, compared to 182.5 million barrels in 2015, due at least in part to continued low prices for oil.

Coal: The BLM administers coal leases encompassing approximately 467,000 acres in 12 states. Coal continues to be a large source of energy in the United States, but the continuing low cost of natural gas has spurred a shift away from coal for energy production. A decrease in U.S. coal production from 1,095.64 million short tons in 2011 to 728.24 million short tons in 2016 reflects this shift.

Nonenergy minerals: The BLM issues leases for minerals that are not used for energy production, such as potash, phosphate, sodium, and gravel, which are used in fertilizers, glass, and paper. Federal lands also contain saleable mineral materials, including sand, gravel, dirt, and rock, and locatable hard rock minerals, such as copper and gold. In 2016, nonenergy minerals produced from federal lands were valued at $11.4 billion.

Geothermal, wind, and solar: The BLM has approved 126 renewable energy projects, including 36 solar projects, 40 wind projects, and 50 geothermal projects. Combined, they represent a total of 17,963 megawatts of capacity that could provide power to about 7 million homes.

Recreation: The public lands managed by the BLM offer more recreational opportunities than lands managed by any other federal agency, with more than 99 percent available for recreation with no fee. Lands used for recreational activities also contribute significantly to local economies. In 2016, BLM lands received more than 64.6 million recreation-related visits, an increase over the previous year.

Grazing: In 2016, the BLM permitted 12 million animal unit months (AUMs) for ranchers who graze their livestock, mostly cattle and sheep, on public lands. An AUM is the amount of forage needed to feed a cow and calf or the equivalent for 1 month. In 2016, the grazing fee was $2.11 per AUM. While the number of AUMs sold each year remains relatively steady, annual variations in use occur due to factors such as drought, wildfire, market conditions, and restoration projects.

Timber: One-fourth of the 245 million acres of lands managed by the BLM are forest ecosystems, spread across 13 western states, including Alaska. Through responsible management of these lands, the BLM ensures the health and resilience of the nation’s public forest lands as well as the availability of traditional forest products, such as timber. In 2016, the BLM offered 233.2 million board feet of timber for sale. This number has remained relatively steady over the past decade.
Benefits of Public Lands

The public lands not only provide economic contributions in terms of jobs and output supported by various activities, but they also provide other benefits that families and communities across the United States derive from having access to our nation’s natural, scenic, recreational, and cultural resources.

Economic Stability

Employment and output supported by the public lands provide economic opportunity and stability in diverse ways.

Reindeer grazing permits on Seward Peninsula, AK

Economic Contributions from BLM-Managed Lands

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages 1 in every 10 acres of land in the United States, working with partners to promote multiple uses of those lands through shared conservation stewardship. The BLM also manages a large portion of the nation’s minerals, facilitating access to some of the energy development that create jobs, help support local communities, and increase America’s energy independence. Every state has public land and mineral covering a variety of landscapes, including forests, mountains, deserts, and arctic tundra, and deserts. The BLM is committed to keeping public lands washable, learnable, and productive and to effectively managing border landscapes to keep America safe.

The public lands managed by the BLM generate significant and quantifiable benefits for the nation and serve American families by providing energy and mineral resources, grazing and timber resources, and access to recreational opportunities, including hunting and fishing. They provide valuable goods and materials that we rely on every day to heat our homes, build our roads, and feed our turkeys. Through balanced management, the BLM develops these resources while maintaining healthy ecosystems and preserving cultural resources and iconic landscapes.

In fiscal year 2016, the diverse activities authorized on BLM-managed lands generated $75 billion in economic output throughout the country—more than any other agency within the Department of the Interior. The economic activity supported 372,000 jobs and also contributed substantial revenue to the U.S. Treasury and state governments, mostly through royalties on minerals.

Economic Contributions from BLM-Managed Lands

- $372,000 jobs supported
- $75 billion in economic output

The BLM: A Sound Investment for America 2017

Economic Stability

Employment and output supported by the public lands provide economic opportunity and stability in diverse ways.

Reindeer grazing permits on Seward Peninsula, AK

Economic Contributions from BLM-Managed Lands

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages 1 in every 10 acres of land in the United States, working with partners to promote multiple uses of those lands through shared conservation stewardship. The BLM also manages a large portion of the nation’s minerals, facilitating access to some of the energy development that create jobs, help support local communities, and increase America’s energy independence. Every state has public land and mineral covering a variety of landscapes, including forests, mountains, deserts, and arctic tundra, and deserts. The BLM is committed to keeping public lands washable, learnable, and productive and to effectively managing border landscapes to keep America safe.

The public lands managed by the BLM generate significant and quantifiable benefits for the nation and serve American families by providing energy and mineral resources, grazing and timber resources, and access to recreational opportunities, including hunting and fishing. They provide valuable goods and materials that we rely on every day to heat our homes, build our roads, and feed our turkeys. Through balanced management, the BLM develops these resources while maintaining healthy ecosystems and preserving cultural resources and iconic landscapes.

In fiscal year 2016, the diverse activities authorized on BLM-managed lands generated $75 billion in economic output throughout the country—more than any other agency within the Department of the Interior. The economic activity supported 372,000 jobs and also contributed substantial revenue to the U.S. Treasury and state governments, mostly through royalties on minerals.