Some benefits provided by public lands can be challenging to quantify in economic terms. Other Nonmarket Benefits include contributions of services that are difficult to express in monetary terms or are not traded in markets. Participating in new and traditional activities, such as hunting, gathering, and fishing, can provide substantial benefits to both local residents and visitors, who may derive health and social benefits of recreation access. Public lands also support the conservation of endangered species, the protection of wild horses and burros, and the management of some of the largest remaining stands of sagebrush in the nation. The BLM collaborates with ranchers, conservationists, historians, and others to manage public lands; the agency’s partnerships enhance natural resources and iconic landscapes.

Benefits of Public Lands

Recreation Access

Recreation activities provide an important contribution to the economy of the United States. Public lands offered 347 total fire personnel a place to prepare or respond to incidents in 2018. On average, the BLM managed 4,609 total aircraft or helicopters and 124 total fire vehicles, supporting 5,926,000 fishing participants and 130,000 vehicle areas. Public lands generated $71.5 billion in economic output in 2018.

Prevention and Protection Against Wildfire

Prevention and protection against wildfires enable the 18 Berger Allotment permittees to respond rapidly to environmental concerns. In 2018, the BLM worked with more than 2,600 volunteer hours for trail maintenance in FY 2018. The BLM’s Lander Field Office in Idaho renewed the 471,000 acre and improved energy reliability for the Soda Fuels Break Zone in Idaho. In FY 2018, BLM-managed public lands in Eastern States brought in more than $972 million and supported or maintained 1,896 local jobs. BLM Alaska managed the largest land conveyance program in the nation. In FY 2018, BLM-managed public lands of oil and gas on BLM-administered land and 471,000 jobs were supported.

Grazing

BLM-managed public lands and minerals, some of which are considered critical to national security and economic growth, occur in a variety of landscapes, including forests, mountains, rangelands, arctic tundra, and deserts. The Department of the Interior and the BLM are committed to keeping public landscapes healthy and productive, to sustainable development that our nation’s energy and natural resources, and to effectively managing border landscapes to keep America safe.

In fiscal year 2018, the BLM continued to promote opportunities for coal, oil, and gas exploration and development on nearly 20 million acres of land to modernize our infrastructure, and to reduce burdensome regulations. Through balanced, and environmentally sound management, the BLM develops these resources while maintaining healthy ecosystems, ensuring access for enhanced recreational opportunities, and preserving cultural resources and iconic landscapes.

In fiscal year 2018, the diverse activities authorized on BLM-managed lands generated $105 billion in economic output across the country. This economic activity supported 471,000 jobs and contributed substantial revenue to the U.S. Treasury and state governments, mostly through royalties on minerals.
Benefits of Public Lands
Lands managed by the BLM provide a wide range of benefits to families and communities across the United States. These include the economic opportunity and mobility associated with the sale and economic output supported by activities on BLM-managed lands. Many other benefits stem from having access to our nation’s natural, scenic, recreational, and cultural resources.

Infrastructure
BLM-managed lands; certain important infrastructure that supports energy, power, telecommunications, and transportation networks across the country

Prevention and Protection Against Wildfire
The BLM’s fire and aviation program carries out a broad range of actions to protect the public, natural landscapes, wildlife habitat, recreational areas, and other values and uses of BLM-managed lands. Many other values stem from having the ability to access our nation’s natural, scenic, recreational, and cultural resources.

Recreation Access
Recreational activities provide an important contribution to local economies, but the economic benefits do not fully reflect the benefits of recreation access. Public lands support recreation opportunities for both local residents and visitors, who may derive social, health, and other benefits from participating in new and traditional activities.

Other Nonmarket Benefits
Some benefits provided by public lands are challenging to quantify in economic terms. Recreational opportunities, cultural resources, visual beauty, environmental health, and educational efforts go beyond what economic models can reveal.
Economic Sectors

Oil and gas: The BLM currently has more than 25 million acres of land, from the eastern United States to the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska, leased for onshore oil and gas production. In fiscal year 2018, the BLM offered nearly 13 million acres for leasing. Federal onshore oil production increased to 234.1 million barrels of oil during fiscal year 2018, compared to 174 million barrels in fiscal year 2017, due to the BLM’s implementation of energy priorities.

Coal: The BLM administers coal leases encompassing approximately 450,000 acres in 12 states. Coal continues to be a critical source of energy in the United States. In fiscal year 2018, coal production from federal lands decreased 9 percent to a total of 308.6 million tons, compared to the 2017 total of 333.5 million tons. This figure represents about 40 percent of the total 769.8 million tons produced in the United States from federal, Indian, and state lands during fiscal year 2018.

Nonenergy minerals: The BLM issues leases for minerals used for purposes other than energy production. Federal lands contain minerals such as potash, phosphate, uranium, and gold. These minerals are used in fertilizers, glass, and jewelry. The BLM also contains saleable mineral materials, including sand, gravel, and rock, and locatable hard rock minerals, such as copper and gold. In fiscal year 2018, nonenergy minerals produced from federal lands were valued at $88,796,497. They also contain saleable mineral materials, including sand, gravel, and rock, and locatable hard rock minerals, such as copper and gold. In fiscal year 2018, nonenergy minerals produced from federal lands were valued at $88,796,497.

Grazing: In 2018, the BLM permitted 12.3 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. The grazing fee in 2018 was $1.41 per AUM. While the number of AUMs sold each year varies relatively little, annual variations can occur due to factors such as drought, wildfire, market conditions, and restoration projects.

Timber: One-fourth of the 245 million acres of land 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 2018, the BLM offered 246.2 million board feet of timber for sale, up from 224.9 million board feet in 2017.
### Total Economic Output and Jobs for Fiscal Year 2018

#### National Totals*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Alaska</th>
<th>Arizona</th>
<th>California</th>
<th>Colorado</th>
<th>Eastern States</th>
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<td>Timber</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jobs**</td>
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</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.

**Jobs calculated as the product of total job counts and average wages in each state and divided by total output for each sector.

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### Economic Sectors

- **Economic Sectors:**
  - Products: such as timber.
  - Services: such as recreation.

- **Timber:**
  - The BLM offers 246.2 million board feet of timber from the nation's public forest lands as well as the availability of traditional forest products, such as timber. In 2018, the BLM offered 246.2 million board feet of timber for sale, up from 224.9 million board feet in 2017.

- **Recreation:**
  - Of capacity.
  - Nearly 68 million recreation-related visits, an increase of about 1 percent over the previous year.
  - Contribute significantly to local economies.
  - In fiscal year 2018, BLM lands received available for recreation with no fee. Lands used for recreational activities also offer more recreational opportunities than lands managed by any other federal agency, with over 99 percent of the nation's public forest lands as well as the availability of traditional forest products, such as timber.

- **Grazing:**
  - Grazing fee in 2018 was $1.41 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.

- **Geothermal, Wind, and Solar:**
  - Renewable energy projects, including 27 solar projects (1 in fiscal year 2018), 35 wind projects, and 14 geothermal projects.

- **Nonenergy minerals:**
  -include saleable mineral materials, including sand, gravel, dirt, and rock, and locatable hard rock minerals, such as copper and gold.

- **Oil and Gas:**
  - In 2018, the BLM permitted 12.3 million animal unit months (AUMs) for grazing.

- **Coal:**
  - The BLM administers coal leases encompassing approximately 459,000 acres for leasing. Federal onshore oil production increased to 214.1 million barrels in fiscal year 2018, compared to 174 million barrels in fiscal year 2017, due to the BLM's implementation of energy priorities.

- **Jobs:**
  - BLM approved 111 renewable energy projects, including 27 solar projects (1 in fiscal year 2018), 35 wind projects, and 14 geothermal projects.

- **Coal production:**
  - In 2018, coal production from federal lands decreased 8 percent to a total of 471,000 million tons compared to 2017.

- **Minerals:**
  - The BLM issues leases for minerals used for purposes other than energy production. Federal lands contain minerals such as potash, sodium, and gilsonite, components used in fertilizers, glass, and paper.

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Economic Sectors

246.2 million board feet of timber for sale, up from 224.9 million board feet in 2017.

$1.41 per AUM for grazing, where an AUM represents the amount of forage needed to feed a cow and calf or the equivalent for 1 month.

68 million visits to public lands, an increase of about 1 percent over the previous year.

11,568 megawatts of capacity from geothermal, solar, and wind projects, including 27 solar projects (1 in fiscal year 2018), 35 wind projects, and 50 geothermal projects.

$88.8 million value of the nonenergy minerals produced from federal lands were valued at $88,796,497.

2018 coal production from federal lands decreased 8 percent to a total of 308.8 million tons, compared to the 2017 total of 333.5 million tons. This figure represents about 40 percent of the total 766.9 million tons produced in the United States.

Oil and gas: The BLM currently has more than 25 million acres of land, from the eastern United States to the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska, leased for onshore and offshore oil and gas production. In fiscal year 2018, the BLM offered nearly 13 million acres for leasing. Federal onshore oil production increased to 214.1 million barrels in 2018, compared to 174 million barrels in fiscal year 2017, due to the BLM's implementation of energy priorities.

Coal: The BLM administers coal leases encompassing approximately 459,000 acres in 12 states. Coal continues to be a critical source of energy in the United States. In 2018, the BLM offered 6.9 million acres of lands managed by the BLM for coal leasing. Federal coal production in 2018 was 1,100.3 million short tons, down 4 percent from 1,149.1 million short tons produced in 2017. The BLM administers coal leases encompassing approximately 459,000 acres in 12 states. Federal coal production in 2018 was 1,100.3 million short tons, down 4 percent from 1,149.1 million short tons produced in 2017.

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Jobs: The economic output associated with fuelwood harvest was overestimated in previous years due to a data conversion error. The economic output reported here is based on the most recent data available and reflects the true economic impact of fuelwood harvest.

Total Economic Output: National Totals

- Recreation: $2.5 billion
- Timber: $0.6 billion
- Grazing: $0.2 billion
- Oil and gas: $0.4 billion
- Coal: $0.4 billion
- Nonenergy minerals: $0.7 billion
- Geothermal, Wind, and Solar: $1.2 billion
- Jobs: $7.4 billion
- Economic Output for States from federal, Indian, and state lands during fiscal year 2018:
  - Montana (Montana, North Dakota): $472.4 million
  - Arizona (Washington): $324.1 million
  - California (Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas): $299.7 million
  - Colorado: $357.3 million
  - Eastern States (New York, New Jersey, Delaware): $240.1 million
  - Alaska (Washington, Oregon): $168.5 million
  - Wyoming (Wyoming): $335.1 million
  - Idaho: $257.1 million
  - Montana (Montana, North Dakota): $198.7 million
  - Nevada (Oregon): $113.7 million
  - New Mexico (New York, New Jersey): $784.4 million
  - Oregon: $541.1 million
  - Utah: $245.2 million
  - Washington: $711.5 million
  - Yellowstone (Montana, Wyoming, Idaho): $644.3 million
  - **Note:** The economic output associated with fuelwood harvest was overestimated in previous years due to a data conversion error. The economic output reported here is based on the most recent data available and reflects the true economic impact of fuelwood harvest.
Recreational opportunities, cultural resources, visual beauty, environmental health, and participating in new and traditional activities derive social, health, and other benefits from economic markets do not fully reflect the contribution to local economies, but the Recreation activities provide an important fuels management, prescribed fire, community assistance and protection, and fire resources. These actions include fire suppression, preparedness, prediction, vegetative public, natural landscapes, wildlife habitat, recreational areas, and other values and networks across the country.

Infrastructure that contain important access to our nation’s natural, scenic, recreational, and cultural resources. Opportunity and stability associated with the jobs and economic output supported communities across the United States. These include the economic Benefits of Public Lands:

- In FY 2018, BLM issued 783 special recreation permits in 15 states, allowing more than 11,000 volunteers to put in more than 2,600 volunteer hours for trail maintenance in FY 2018.
- In FY 2018, the BLM leased more than 3,000 miles of oil and gas leases, generating more than $3 billion.
- In 2018, the BLM’s Lander Field Office and the U.S. Forest Service and the Pacific Crest Trail Association to manage the trail, supporting 180 miles of BLM-managed public lands along the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail passes through more than 180 miles of BLM-managed public lands in California, hosting thousands of visitors each year and supporting many rural communities. The BLM collaborates with the U.S. Forest Service and the Pacific Crest Trail Association to manage the trail, supporting more than 2,600 volunteer hours for trail maintenance in FY 2018.

New Mexico

In FY 2018, BLM New Mexico held three oil and gas lease sales, generating more than $3 billion. The September 2018 sale brought in more than $3.72 million and broke all previous records for the BLM and the state where the activity occurs, while the rest goes to the U.S. Treasury.

California

In FY 2018, the BLM issued 730 special recreation permits to businesses, organizations, and individuals to allow commercial, competition, and organized group recreational use on specific public lands and related waters.

Eastern States

The BLM leases more than 30,000 acres of mineral claims underlying the Doe Run Mining Complex in southwest Montana. This activity provided $5.8 billion in revenue to the U.S. Treasury and state government, while employing 1,209 people.

Western States

In FY 2018, BLM-New Mexico held three oil and gas lease sales, generating more than $3 billion. In 2018, the BLM’s Lander Field Office and the U.S. Forest Service and the Pacific Crest Trail Association to manage the trail, supporting more than 2,600 volunteer hours for trail maintenance in FY 2018.

Idaho

In FY 2018, BLM managed public lands in Idaho received $5.8 billion in revenue, many from people who came to see geologic points of interest and geothermal and mining activities. The BLM collaborates with the Idaho Geological Society to make geologic information easily accessible to the public and its partners in industry.

Montana

The BLM worked with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation to acquire nearly 1,800 acres of prime wildlife habitat at the Little Sheep Creek project in FY 2018. This acquisition, using the Land and Water Conservation Fund, improved access to some of the nation’s most productive public lands in southwest Montana.

Nevada

In FY 2018, BLM Nevada administered 208,000 active mining claims, which is half of the BLM’s nationwide total. 230 salmonid adult spawn before mining plans of operation, and 230 billion in recreation-related activities. The BLM collaborated with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation to acquire nearly 1,800 acres of prime wildlife habitat at the Little Sheep Creek project in FY 2018. This acquisition, using the Land and Water Conservation Fund, improved access to some of the nation’s most productive public lands in southwest Montana.

Benefits of Public Lands

- In FY 2018, the BLM New Mexico held three oil and gas lease sales, generating more than $3 billion. The September 2018 sale brought in more than $3.72 million and broke all previous records for the BLM and the state where the activity occurs, while the rest goes to the U.S. Treasury.
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