

# THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT



## Division of Wildlife Conservation, Aquatics, and Environmental Protection (HQ-230)

Directorate of Resources and Planning



### Collective Focus on Improved Species Diversity and Public Safety

The Division of Wildlife Conservation, Aquatics, and Environmental Protection (HQ-230) leads BLM efforts to conserve wildlife, manage aquatic resources, protect air quality, and remediate environmental hazards. The division guides implementation of initiatives related to habitat conservation, wildlife migration, listed species recovery, watershed health, and air and water quality. The division also works to improve public safety by supporting BLM efforts to physically close access to legacy abandoned mine lands and to address a diverse array of environmental hazards. Through all of its work, the division partners with federal, state, and nongovernmental stakeholders to collaboratively fulfill these aspects of the BLM mission. HQ-230 accomplishes its role through the following programs.

#### Wildlife Program



This program manages wildlife habitats and helps ensure populations are resilient and diverse. Long-term conservation of these wildlife resources provides for the enjoyment and use of present and future generations. The program manages more wildlife habitat than any other federal agency with more than 3,000 species dispersed over some of the nation's most ecologically diverse habitats. A major component is the sage-grouse program, which works with partners to manage and restore sagebrush habitats. The wildlife program also strives to strengthen local and national partnerships to improve wildlife habitat restoration and conservation actions and to provide hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities.



#### Aquatic Habitat Management Program

This program manages and conserves aquatic habitats and species on public lands, including management of aquatic invasive species and supporting recreational and subsistence fishing opportunities. The program also strengthens local, state, and national partnerships to restore and protect aquatic resources.



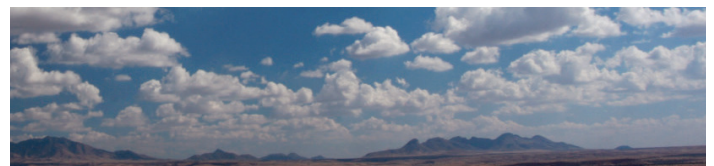
#### Threatened and Endangered Species Program

This program strives to recover federally listed species and preclude the need to list candidate species. The program protects federally listed and priority species through restoration efforts that enhance habitat connectivity and resiliency and facilitates interagency cooperation to improve the Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation process.



#### Air Program

Through collaboration with federal and state environmental protection agencies, this program helps ensure compliance with the Clean Air Act on BLM-managed public lands. The program develops and implements air resources monitoring, inventory, and analysis projects in support of BLM activities and use authorizations. The air program also works to develop air emissions toolkits including coordination with other federal agencies and state, tribal, and local governments.



## Environmental Protection Program

This program works to improve and protect public health and safety through inventory, remediation, and monitoring of physically unsafe historic abandoned mine features and contaminated sites, such as long-term recreational shooting locations and dumping areas on public lands. It also assesses real property environmental contamination conditions prior to land tenure adjustments.



## Additional Division Details and Facts

- Provides oversight on the BLM's implementation of laws, regulations, and policies associated with fish and wildlife conservation, water resources, air quality, abandoned mine lands, and hazardous materials. This is completed for the habitat of more than 3,000 species of wildlife, 132,000 miles of fish-bearing streams and rivers, more than 3 million acres of lakes and reservoirs, and a multitude and diverse range of aquatic organisms.
- Meets obligations to prevent listing and improve the status of species listed under the Endangered Species Act. This includes more than 430 listed species and more than 2,300 sensitive species occurring on BLM-managed lands.
- Manages inventory and subsequent reclamation of abandoned mine land sites on public lands. More than 61,000 abandoned mine sites (representing about 105,000 features) have been inventoried, while an estimated 200,000 sites (about 485,000 features) may occur on BLM-managed lands.
- Responds to the cleanup of hazardous materials sites to ensure public health and safety and environmental protection. On BLM-managed lands, more than 7,000 contaminated sites (representing more than 13,400 features) have been identified and inventoried. Currently, there are 196 sites on the Environmental and Disposal Liabilities list actively being managed under various phases of remedial investigation.
- Provides support to the BLM for the implementation of Executive and Secretarial orders related to climate change, scientific integrity, sagebrush conservation, wildlife movement and migration corridors, quantity and quality of big game and sport fish habitat, hunting and fishing access enhancement, and others.
- Supports BLM state, district, and field offices with their wildlife, aquatic, watershed, air, and environmental protection programs.

## Collaboration

The division works with federal agencies, states, tribes, universities, nongovernmental organizations, other BLM programs, and other stakeholders to leverage resources and maximize benefits. Key partners include, but are not limited to, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Wildlife Forever, NatureServe, natural heritage programs, professional fish and wildlife societies, hunting and fishing groups, wildlife conservation organizations, National Association of Abandoned Mine Lands Programs, and Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials.

## Contact Information

Please contact the following HQ-230 leaders to learn how the division can personally support your needs.

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