The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is responsible for administering public lands in California. These lands are crucial for various uses, including energy production, livestock grazing, and recreational activities. For instance, the BLM manages 35.8 million acres of public lands in California, accounting for 10.9% of the state's land area. This includes 9.3 million acres of rangeland where livestock is permitted to graze, and 6.8 billion cubic feet of natural gas reserves which contribute over $40.5 million in annual revenue.

The BLM's mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. To achieve these goals, we cultivate stewardship and partnership through consultation, community-based conservation, and citizen-centered engagement. This includes the development and implementation of BLM programs aimed at enhancing the quality of life for all communities.

The BLM participates in educational and career-building opportunities for Tribal Nations in California, engaging through BLM programs with 116 Tribes and 1,759 individuals in 2021. Public lands in California support 109 rivers and 6 million acres of habitat for diverse wildlife species. The BLM also manages 25,192 vehicle routes on public lands, 18,920 miles of designated trails including 696 miles of National Wild and Scenic Rivers, and 6.8 billion cubic feet of natural gas reserves.

To learn more about BLM activities and access a map of California public lands, visit the official BLM website. Contact information for various BLM offices and field managers is also available on the site.
About BLM California

California is one of the most diverse states in the nation, with public lands extending across rangelands, forests, mountains, deserts, and coast.

The abundance of natural resources on public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management throughout California supports a multiple-use mission, while providing significant economic benefits to California and the nation.

In California, the BLM has a strong history of meeting the nation's growing renewable energy needs and often sets the standard for sustainable development, while ensuring our natural, recreational, historical and cultural resources will be available for future generations.

BLM California oversees:

- 15 million acres of public land (about 15% of the Golden State’s land mass)
- 47 million acres of subsurface mineral estate
- 1.6 million acres of public land in northwestern Nevada

For more information about your public lands, subscribe to News Bytes, BLM California's weekly e-newsletter by emailing us at BLM_CA_NewsBytes@blm.gov. Or follow us on Facebook @BLMcalifornia or Twitter @BLMca!

Cover Photo: Corn Springs Campground, Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office.
7.5 Million visits by campers and hikers on public lands
25,192 miles of off-highway vehicle routes on public lands
1,759 miles of designated trails including 696 miles of nationally designated trails
1.8 Million visitors participate in educational and interpretive programming
$109.3 Million rent and royalties reinvested from energy production on public lands
6 Million acres of wild and scenic rivers
109 Tribal Nations in California engaged through BLM programs and partnerships in 2021
$40.5 Million revenue from solar, wind and geothermal sites on public lands
9,280 Wildfires fought on public lands in California
9.3 Million barrels of oil and 9.8 billion cubic feet of natural gas produced on public lands

Enhancing the quality of life for all through the balanced stewardship of America’s public lands and resources.

The BLM’s mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. To achieve these goals, we cultivate community-based conservation, citizen centered stewardship and partnership through consultation, cooperation, and communication.
Responsible Energy Development

BLM-managed public lands make significant contributions to the nation's energy goals. BLM California manages an extensive renewable energy program that supports America's Clean Energy Future, including solar, geothermal, and wind energy.

- 66 authorized solar, wind, and geothermal facilities
- 9,000 megawatts of electricity
- Enough energy to power 2.78 million homes

Wildfire & Fuels Management

The BLM fire program carries out a broad range of actions to protect communities, recreation areas, wildlife habitat and other resources. In California, the changing climate, coupled with historic drought and an abundance of hazardous fuels have led to an increased fire risk.

- 13.6 million acres directly protected by the BLM in California and northwestern Nevada
- 350 fire staff employed in various positions, including suppression, fire prevention and fuels reduction programs

The BLM fuels treatment programs are focused on restoring landscapes through collaborative, locally led, incentive-based practices that create jobs and reduce the catastrophic wildfire threat.

- 25,000 acres of fuels treatments

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National Conservation Lands

BLM's National Conservation Lands recognize and protect some of the West's most spectacular natural and historical areas. Overall, BLM California manages approximately 10 million acres of National Conservation Lands. The BLM is working to support conservation of 30 percent of lands and waters by 2030.

- 10 Wild and Scenic Rivers
- 3 National Historic Trails, 1 National Scenic Trail
- 7 National Monuments, 1 National Conservation Area, 1 National Scenic Area
- 1 Outstanding Natural Area, 1 Forest Reserve
- 92 Wilderness Areas, 63 Wilderness Study Areas

Recreation Access

Public lands in California offer a variety of recreational opportunities: hunting, fishing, hiking, OHV use, mountain biking, horseback riding, boating, and backcountry exploring.

- 735,000 acres open for OHV use, including the world-renowned Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area
- 6.3 million visitors participate in OHV recreation
- 14 million acres open to hunting
- 300 miles of river open to fishing
- 180 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail
- 617 recreation sites and areas
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