Ensuring the health and productivity of the public lands for current and future generations

Bureau of Land Management Transportation

The BLM is committed to management practices that sustain the health, diversity, and economic vitality of our public lands. Pivotal to this strategy is a strong, safe transportation system, which currently consists of 76,088 miles of roads (50% larger than the Interstate Highway System), 776 bridges, and over 18,000 miles of multiple-use trails. This system is an integral part of the western American infrastructure.

Benefits

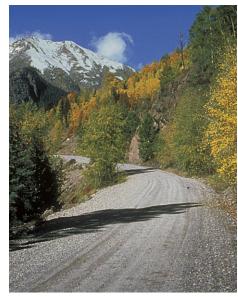
BLM lands are used for resource harvesting and produce a significant amount of America's energy. They are also used for recreation, such as hiking, scenic driving, camping, biking, hunting, and fishing. In 2006, there were 69 million visitor-days spent on BLM lands — up 7 million from 2001.

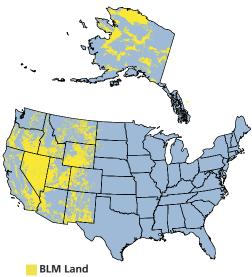
Total annual direct and indirect economic benefits from BLM lands have been estimated at nearly \$30 billion.

Challenges

- Maintaining the BLM's vast transportation system is difficult, and requires substantial investment.
- Demands on BLM lands will increase as the American population grows, especially in the West.
- There is growing interest in alternative transportation solutions, such as bus shuttles, possibly using clean-fuels technology.
- Sound planning and capital-investment decisions must be made within a joint federal/state/local framework, involving numerous funding sources.

	Roads	Bridges	Trails
Inventory	76,088 miles	776 bridges	18,412 miles
2006 BLM Expenditures	\$33.75 million	\$1.78 million	\$5.73 million





The Bureau of Land Management was established in 1946 and is part of the U.S. Department of the Interior. We manage public lands, mostly in the 12 Western states, that encompass 258 million acres — an area equivalent to the size of Texas and New England combined — and 700 million acres of subsurface mineral estate.

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