Public Lands Rule

Protecting, Restoring, Making Informed Management Decisions

The Public Lands Rule establishes a framework to ensure healthy landscapes, abundant wildlife habitat, clean water, and balanced decision-making on our nation's public lands. It will ensure public lands and the resources they provide are available for future generations.

The Three Main Components of the Public Lands Rule

Protect the most intact, healthiest landscapes

Protect Intact Landscapes

Manage landscapes for wildlife habitat and clean water.



Restore landscapes back to health

Restoration

Identify priority landscapes, develop restoration plans, and put people to work restoring America's public lands.

Ensure decision-making is based on science and data

Make management decisions informed by the health of lands and waters using science, including Indigenous Knowledge, and data.

Designate Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)

Use this existing tool to protect and manage important landscapes for natural, cultural, scientific, and other values.

Mitigation

Use a landscape-scale approach to develop and implement mitigation strategies. Avoid and minimize adverse impacts to public lands from development, and offset unavoidable impacts.

Expand land health assessments beyond the grazing program to all BLM-managed public lands.



Allow Restoration and Mitigation Leases

Formalize restoration and mitigation leases as tools to ensure healthy landscapes, where they are compatible with existing permitted uses. Partners like conservation districts, state game and fish agencies and sporting groups can lease public lands to make investments in restoration. Leases can also be used to balance the impacts of development elsewhere.

Ensure science drives decision-making, by incorporating assessment, inventory, and monitoring information.



