

United States Department of the Interior BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

National Headquarters Washington, DC 20240 https://www.blm.gov



May 8, 2025

The Honorable Mike Lee Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Lee:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) prepared the enclosed response in conformance with Section 4103(d) of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (Act), 16 USC 7913(d). The Act instructs the BLM and the U.S. Forest Service to prepare and provide annually to Congress a list, by state, of Federal lands that have been temporarily or permanently closed to hunting, fishing, or recreational shooting. In 2024, the BLM implemented the list of closures below. Additional details can be found in the enclosure to this letter.

Fiscal Year	Permanent Closures	Acres Permanently Closed	Temporary Closures	Acres Temporarily Closed
2024	9	495,898	0	0

Closure information is organized by BLM state office and is updated annually. This information, including information about individual closures implemented since passage of the Dingell Act, can be found online at https://www.blm.gov/about/laws-and-regulations/dingell-act/dingell-act-closures.

Identical letters are being sent to the Honorable Martin Heinrich, Ranking Member, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; the Honorable John Boozman, Chair, Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; the Honorable Amy Klobuchar, Ranking Member, Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; the Honorable Bruce Westerman, Chair, Committee on Natural Resources; the Honorable Jared Huffman, Ranking Member, Committee on Natural Resources; the Honorable Glenn "GT" Thompson, Chair, Committee on Agriculture; and the Honorable Angie Craig, Ranking Member, Committee on Agriculture.

Sincerety

Jon K. Raby

exercising the Authority of the Director,

Bureau of Land Management

Enclosure

Although the Act refers to any closure lasting more than 180 days as "permanent," the BLM retains the ability to modify or terminate such closures through land use or implementation-level planning, as appropriate.

Attachment

Bureau of Land Management John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act Section 4103 – Closure of BLM Lands to Hunting, Fishing, or Recreational Shooting 2024 Closure List

Table 1. List of Permanent and Temporary Closures in FY 2024

State Office	District Office	Project Name	Acres Permanently Closed	Acres Temporarily Closed	Activity Closed
AZ	Phoenix	Sonoran Desert National Monument RMP Amendment	480,496	0	Shooting
CO	Rocky Mountain	Eastern Colorado RMP	2,300	0	Shooting
NV	Southern Nevada	Las Vegas RMP Amendment for Logandale Trails	13,016	0	Shooting
UT	Color Country	West Mountain Trail Alignment & Construction	1	0	Shooting
UT	Canyon Country	House on Fire Trailhead Improvement	5	0	Shooting
UT	Green River	McCoy Flats Campground	20	0	Shooting
UT	Green River	Middle Green River Day Use Sites	31	0	Shooting
UT	Green River	Cliff Ridge Campground	28	0	Shooting
UT	Color Country	Southview Trailhead Expansion and Improvement	1	0	Shooting

ARIZONA

Sonoran Desert National Monument Resource Management Plan Amendment (Phoenix District) 480,496 acres permanently closed. In June 2024, the Sonoran Desert National Monument issued a Decision Record that amended the approved Sonoran Desert National Monument Resource Management Plan to make dispersed recreational target shooting unavailable on 480,496 acres of the monument (NEPA Number: DOI-BLM-AZ-P040-2022-0001-RMP-EA). The amendment does not impact legal hunting within the monument.

COLORADO

Eastern Colorado Resource Management Plan (Rocky Mountain District) 2,300 acres permanently closed. In January 2024, the Royal Gorge Field Office prohibited target shooting on all BLM-administered lands in Boulder County (2,300 acres) in the <u>Record of Decision</u> for the Approved Eastern Colorado Resource Management Plan (NEPA Number: <u>DOI-BLM-CO-F020-2014-0076-RMP-EIS</u>). The closure was due to safety concerns with the fractured land pattern and density of housing around BLM lands in the area. Legal hunting would continue to be allowed.

NEVADA

Las Vegas Resource Management Plan Amendment for Logandale Trails (Southern Nevada District) 13,016 acres permanently closed. In February 2024, the Las Vegas Field Office issued a <u>Decision Record</u> prohibiting the discharge of firearms for recreational target shooting in Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) 1 (13,016 acres) of the Logandale Trails planning area (NEPA Number: <u>DOI-BLM-NV-S010-2022-0005-RMP-EA</u>). Recreational target shooting would continue to be allowed in RMZ 2 (2,120 acres).

UTAH

West Mountain Trail Alignment & Construction (Color Country District) 1 acre permanently closed. In October 2023, the St. George Field Office issued a <u>Decision Record</u> authorizing the construction of a singletrack mountain bike trail with three trailheads on West Mountain (NEPA Number: <u>DOI-BLM-UT-C030-2023-0017-EA</u>). In January 2024, that decision was amended (NEPA Number: DOI-BLM-UT-C030-2024-0007-DNA), resulting in approximately 1 additional trailhead acres closed to shooting under 43 CFR 8365.2-5 as a developed recreation site.

House on Fire Trailhead Improvement (Canyon Country District) 5 acres permanently closed. In February 2024, the Monticello Field Office issued a <u>Decision Record</u> authorizing the construction of a formal parking area and trailhead for House on Fire, a popular recreation site within Bears Ears National Monument (NEPA Number: <u>DOI-BLM-UT-Y020-2020-0023-EA</u>). Pursuant to 43 CFR 8365.2-5, designation of the House on Fire Trailhead closed the 5-acre developed recreation site to recreational shooting.

McCoy Flats Campground (Green River District) 20 acres permanently closed. In March 2024, the Vernal Field Office issued a <u>Decision Record</u> approving the development of the McCoy Flats Campground (NEPA Number: <u>DOI-BLM-UT-G010-2023-0045-EA</u>). This decision closed 20 acres to shooting in accordance with 43 CFR 8365.2-5 as a developed recreation site.

Middle Green River Day Use Sites (Green River District) 31 acres permanently closed. In July 2024, the Vernal Field Office issued a <u>Decision Record</u> approving the development of three boat ramps and day use sites along the Middle Green River (NEPA Number: <u>DOI-BLM-UT-G010-2023-0010-EA</u>). This decision closed 31 acres to shooting in accordance with 43 CFR 8365.2-5 as developed recreation sites.

Cliff Ridge Campground (Green River District) 28 acres permanently closed. In September 2024, the Vernal Field Office issued a <u>Decision Record</u> approving the construction of the Cliff Ridge Campground (NEPA Number: <u>DOI-BLM-UT-G010-2021-0102-EA</u>). This decision closed 28 acres to shooting in accordance with 43 CFR 8365.2-5 as a developed recreation site.

Southview Trailhead Expansion and Improvement (Color Country District) 1 acre permanently closed. In September 2024, the Cedar City Field Office issued a <u>Decision Record</u> authorizing the expansion and improvement of the Southview Trailhead (NEPA Number: <u>DOI-BLM-UT-C010-2024-0031-EA</u>). Pursuant to 43 CFR 8365.2-5, designation of the Southview Trailhead closed the 1-acre developed recreation site to recreational shooting.

Table 2. Summary of Hunting, Fishing, or Recreational Shooting Closures1 by State Office

State Office	Total BLM Acres ²	Acres Closed Pre-Dingell Act ³	Acres Closed Post-Dingell Act	Total Acres Closed	Percent Acres Closed of Total
AK	71,120,867	3,585	11	3,596	0.01%
AZ	12,082,640	243,2835	489,804	733,087	6.07%
CA	14,983,584	818,099	0	818,099	5.46%
СО	8,344,481	263,904	2,300	266,204	3.19%
ES ⁴	29,240	925	0	925	3.16%
ID	11,768,027	65,945	5,773	71,718	0.61%
MT/DKs	8,376,894	30,202	20,250	50,452	0.60%
NM	13,503,918	69,941	0	69,941	0.52%
NV	47,220,680	363,1616	13,016	376,177	0.80%
OR/WA	16,168,970	188,355	1,021	189,376	1.17%
UT	22,759,252	92,586	10,705	103,291	0.45%
WY	18,047,470	28,909	0	28,909	0.16%
Totals	244,406,023	2,168,895	542,880	2,711,775	1.11%

¹ Refers to public lands subject to a permanent or temporary closure or restriction to either hunting, fishing, or recreational shooting.

² Total BLM acres per state as recorded in the <u>2023 Public Land Statistics</u>.

³ Acres closed prior to Dingell Act enactment (March 12, 2019).

⁴ Eastern States (ES) includes 31 states bordering on or east of the Mississippi River. Total acres are approximately 40,000 acres, but several parcels still need to be surveyed.

⁵ Acres closed pre-Dingell Act decreased by 50,592 due to the 2024 Sonoran Desert NM RMPA, which increased the total acres unavailable to dispersed recreational target shooting to 480,496 acres. These acres are now reflected in the post-Dingell Act column.

⁶ Acres closed pre-Dingell Act increased by 113,351. Document review determined that many developed recreation sites and areas were not included in the previous reporting.