

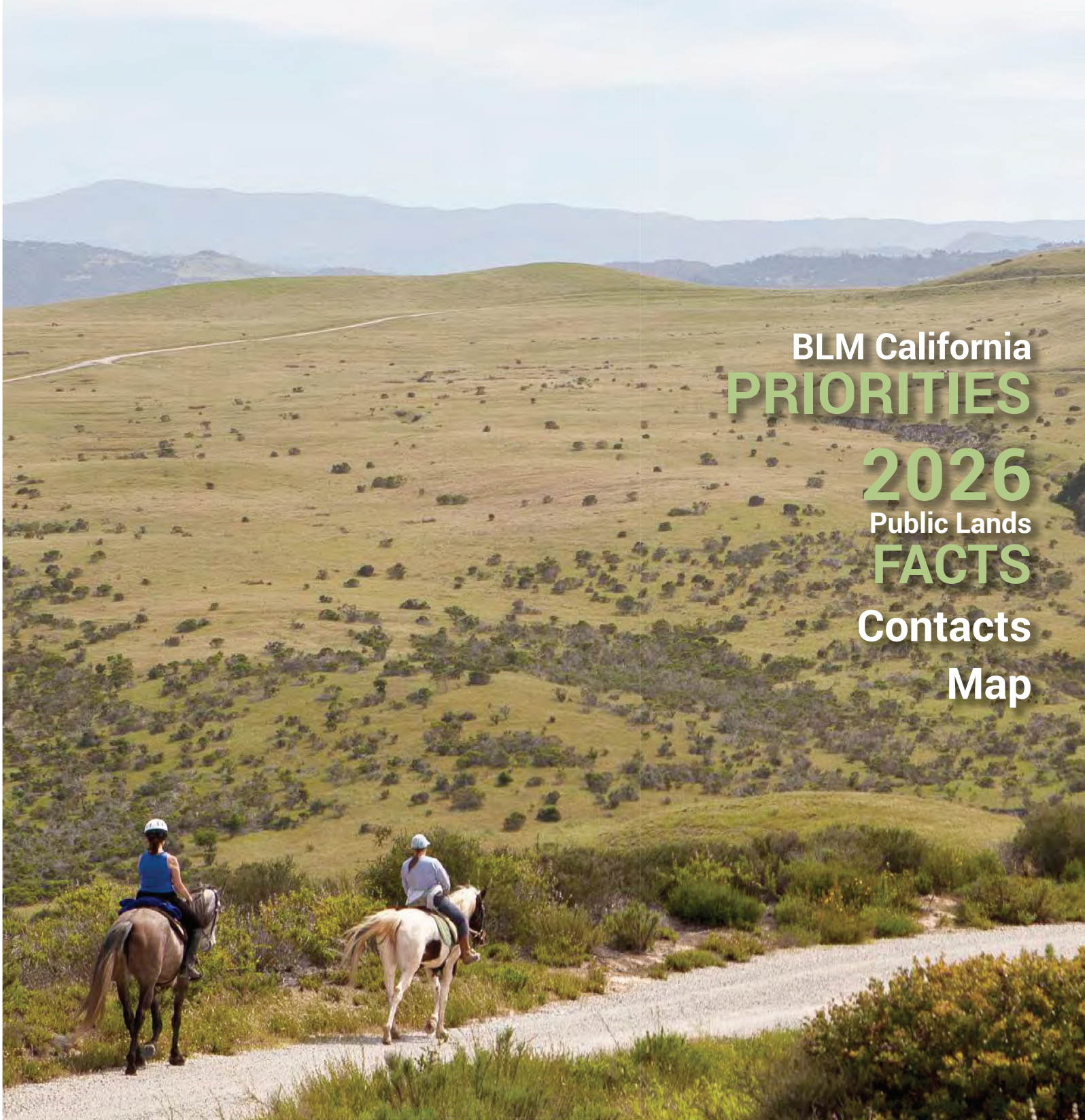


U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

California Public Lands

National System of Public Lands

BLM California
PRIORITIES
2026
Public Lands
FACTS
Contacts
Map





About BLM California

California's public lands reflect a deeply American story of stewardship and progress, making their history especially meaningful during the Freedom 250 celebration. From Indigenous caretakers to early federal surveys and the 1946 creation of the Bureau of Land Management, these landscapes show the nation's commitment to conserving resources while supporting use.

Today, California's diverse forests, deserts, mountains, rangelands, and coasts sustain the BLM's multiple-use mission and stand as reminders of our shared heritage and ongoing responsibility for future generations and the American story they continue to shape today.

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

Cover Photo: Fort Ord National Monument



Historic Milling Town of Falk, Arcata Field Office



www.blm.gov/california

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 X @BLMca!

2026

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC LANDS FACTS



6.1 Million
Acres of permitted
livestock grazing



\$78.5 Million
Rent and royalties reinvested
from energy production



\$420.9 Million
Nonenergy minerals



3.6 Million
Homes powered



1,759 Miles of trails
including 696 miles of
nationally designated trails



109 Tribal Nations
in California engaged



13.7 Million
Visitors to public lands



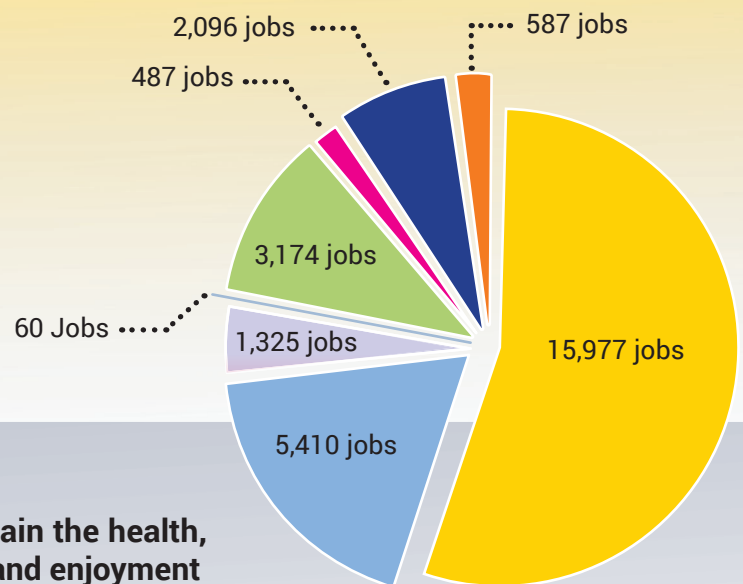
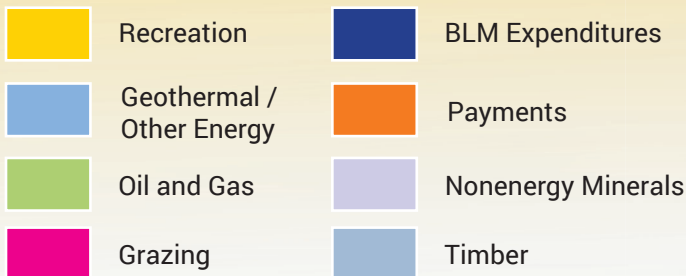
60,249
Volunteer hours
dedicated to
public lands

\$3 billion
Economic Output
from Recreation



25,192
Miles of off-highway
vehicle routes

29,116 California Jobs Supported



Our Mission

The Bureau of Land Management's mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

To do this, we manage public lands to maximize opportunities for commercial, recreational, and conservation activities. This promotes healthy and productive public lands that create jobs in local communities while supporting traditional land uses such as energy development, timber harvesting, grazing, and recreation, including hunting and fishing.

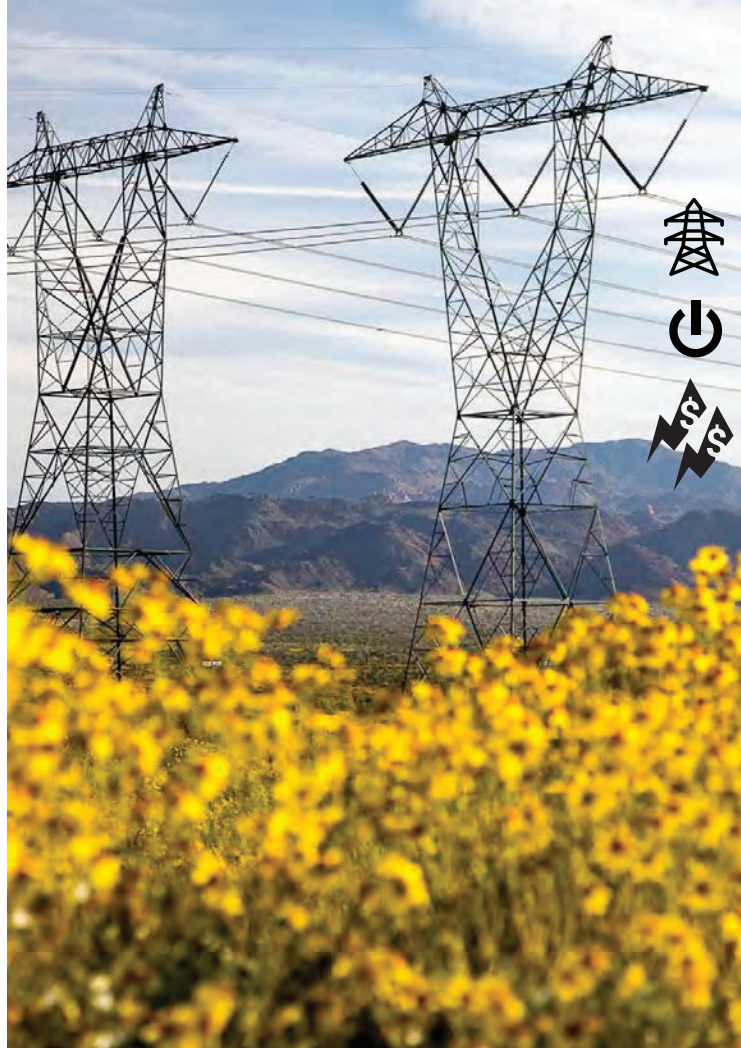


Roller Jack, Bakersfield Field Office

Energy and Mineral Development

BLM-managed public lands play a vital role in the nation's mineral and energy production efforts. The BLM California oversees extensive programs that focus on oil and gas production and rare-earth mineral mining, contributing significantly to America's energy goals and supporting a diverse energy portfolio.

- 487 oil and gas leases
- 12,320 active oil and gas wells
- 8 million barrels of oil and 7.4 million cubic feet of natural gas produced
- 10,000 megawatts of electricity
- 9,383 active mining claims



Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office

Utility and Transmission ROWs

The BLM California Lands and Realty program manages utility and transmission rights-of-way (ROWs) on public lands, ensuring electric infrastructure operates safely with the surrounding landscape. BLM works with utility operators on vegetation management and operations plans that protect grid reliability, support public safety, and reduce wildfire risks from hazard trees and overgrown fuels near transmission lines.

- Over 9000 authorized Right of Way grants in California.
- More than 20 utility companies hold ROW grants for transmission lines on BLM-CA managed public lands
- Currently seven major transmission projects are underway within BLM California.



Lily Gap, Mother Lode Field Office

Timber, Grazing and Fuels Management

The BLM California Fuels program protects communities by reducing hazardous fuels that drive the state's growing wildfire risk. Targeted fuel treatments build resilience across the landscape — safeguarding homes, recreation areas, and natural resources from severe fire conditions. BLM coordinates with agencies, Tribes, and community organizations to protect communities where development meets wildland areas. Grazing also plays a vital role, as livestock operations reduce fine fuels across millions of acres, supporting both wildfire risk reduction and rural economies.

- 43,552 acres treated for wildfire risk reduction
- 2.8 million board feet of timber harvested through active forest management
- 4.7 million acres of active, authorized livestock grazing



Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area, El Centro Field Office

Recreation and Public Access

Public lands in California offer a variety of recreational opportunities, including 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
- 5.8 million visitors participate in OHV recreation
- 99.5% of BLM lands open to hunting
- 350 miles of river open to fishing
- 189 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail
- 712 recreation sites and areas
- 4 National Historic Trails, 1 National Scenic Trail
- 8 National Monuments, 1 National Conservation Area, 1 National Scenic Area, 1 Outstanding Natural Area, 1 Forest Reserve



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Jennifer Mata, Field Manager

- Bureau of Land Management Office
- Field Office Boundary

Land Management Agency

- Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Forest Service
- National Park Service
- Military
- Indian Trust Lands
- State

BLM Designations

- Wilderness
- Off-Highway Vehicle Area
- Conservation Lands of the CA Desert National Monument
- National Conservation Area
- Outstanding Natural Area
- California Coastal National Monument
- California Desert Conservation Area
- Wild and Scenic River

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