

Benefits of Public Lands

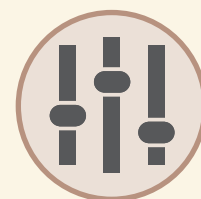
BLM-managed lands and programs directly and indirectly benefit the health, wealth, and well-being of communities across the United States. However, many of the ways people benefit from public lands are not measured in jobs and economic output. **Ecosystem services** from public lands provide people a wide range of benefits, including:

Tangible goods and products



food, fuelwood, fresh water

Natural processes that maintain healthy ecosystems



air quality, pollination, erosion control

Spiritual, educational, and aesthetic benefits



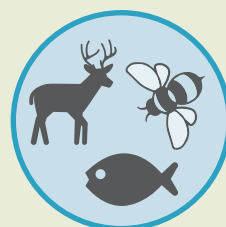
recreation, dark skies, cultural ties

Ecosystem components that sustain other services



nutrient and water cycling, photosynthesis

Ecosystem restoration improves ecosystem services and increases their resilience. In FY 2022, the BLM began using funds from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for restoration, including:



> \$5 million for state and Tribal partners to remove hazardous fuels and improve habitat for wildlife including fish, pollinators, and big game mammals.



\$1 million to address invasive species that threaten native species, reduce biodiversity, and increase wildfire risk.



> \$10 million for restoring abandoned mine lands to improve watershed health and restore native habitat.



> \$6 million to support native seed collection and revegetation efforts that promote biodiversity.

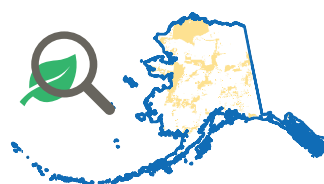
Recreation on BLM-managed lands provides more than spending in local communities. The physical, mental, and social health benefits of outdoor recreation are important ecosystem services. The BLM manages trails, campgrounds, waterways, and other resources to ensure public lands provide recreational opportunities for all. In FY 2022, there were:

3.82 million participants in competitive events, group activities, and other recreation events requiring special recreation permits.

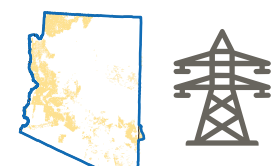
6 fee-free days, waiving standard amenity and day use fees.

> 120 urban centers and thousands of rural towns within 25 miles of BLM lands.

> \$2 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funds allocated to improving recreation infrastructure.



ALASKA: The BLM Campbell Creek Science Center launched program and field trip reservations on recreation.gov, increasing awareness of program offerings, diversifying audience types, and streamlining revenue used to host environmental education and interpretive programs that reached nearly 10,000 people of all ages.



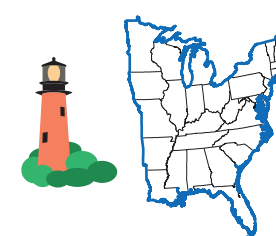
ARIZONA: The BLM began monitoring construction on the Ten West Link, a permitted new 500kV power line spanning 125 miles between Arizona and California that will improve interstate transmission system efficiency and reliability while facilitating development of new renewable energy and energy storage resources.



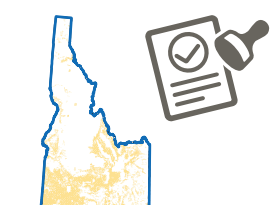
CALIFORNIA: The BLM supports ecosystem health and landscape resiliency by improving native plant populations. The Seeds of Success program utilized 12 collection teams over the course of 158 seed collections within California's 13 distinct ecoregions. A total of 40,000 plants are in restoration sites across six field offices.



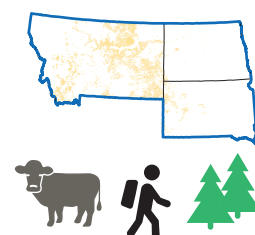
COLORADO: The BLM and several partners acquired the Shaw Reservoir in the South Fork of the Rio Grande to secure permanent water supply for management of wetlands in the San Luis Valley. Blanca Wetlands, which supports wildlife, including more than 200 species of birds, is more resilient to drought due to the water level restoration from this acquisition.



EASTERN STATES: The BLM is deploying more than \$7 million from the Great American Outdoors Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to improve Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area on Florida's Atlantic coast, which serves more than 100,000 visitors annually. This includes planting 5 acres of mangroves to help stabilize the shoreline and eliminate erosion caused by hurricanes and pedestrian and boat traffic.



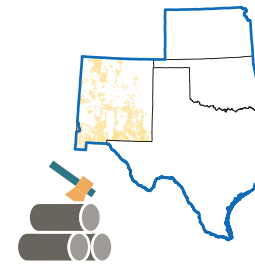
IDAHO: The BLM is collaborating with conservation organizations, permittees, and landowners to implement a vegetation management plan in the Sand Creek Desert in eastern Idaho that mimics natural fire regimes, improves crucial wildlife habitat, and proactively reduces the risk of future catastrophic wildland fire.



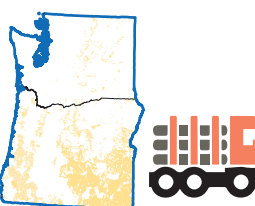
MONTANA/DAKOTAS: Using the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the BLM acquired 4,860 acres in Montana and South Dakota that contain important cultural values, protect the viewshed of a national historic landmark, ensure watershed function for local aquatic species, allow improved public trail connectivity, and provide improved public access. The acquisition supports recreational activities, livestock grazing, and forest management.



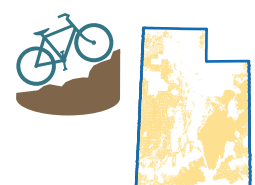
NEVADA: The BLM continues to respond to demands for renewable energy. Through FY 2022, the BLM in Nevada produced 753 megawatts from geothermal plants on public lands, enough energy to power approximately 250,000 homes.



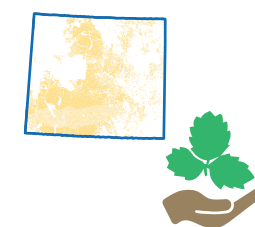
NEW MEXICO: Generations of New Mexicans have used fuelwood as their main source of heat. In New Mexico, the BLM works closely with Tribes and others living in these communities to ensure fuelwood permits on BLM-managed lands are readily available. New Mexico field offices issued permits for more than 4,800 green tons of fuelwood.



OREGON/WASHINGTON: Approximately 272 million board feet of timber were harvested on BLM-managed lands in western Oregon. This supported more than 3,500 local jobs and provided enough timber to build 17,000 single-family homes.



UTAH: In Utah, the BLM continued its commitment to providing the public with varied and world-class recreational opportunities, logging nearly 12 million visits on recreation landscapes. Expenditures from these visitations brought millions of dollars to local economies and provided users with priceless experiences.



WYOMING: For the Tongue River restoration project in the Welch Ranch Special Recreation Management Area, the Buffalo Field Office worked with six federally recognized Tribes to organize Tribal surveys and gain Indigenous knowledge of plant species and ecosystem best practices to enhance reclamation efforts in the project area.

All state facts are for FY 2022.

■ BLM-administered land
— BLM administrative boundaries



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

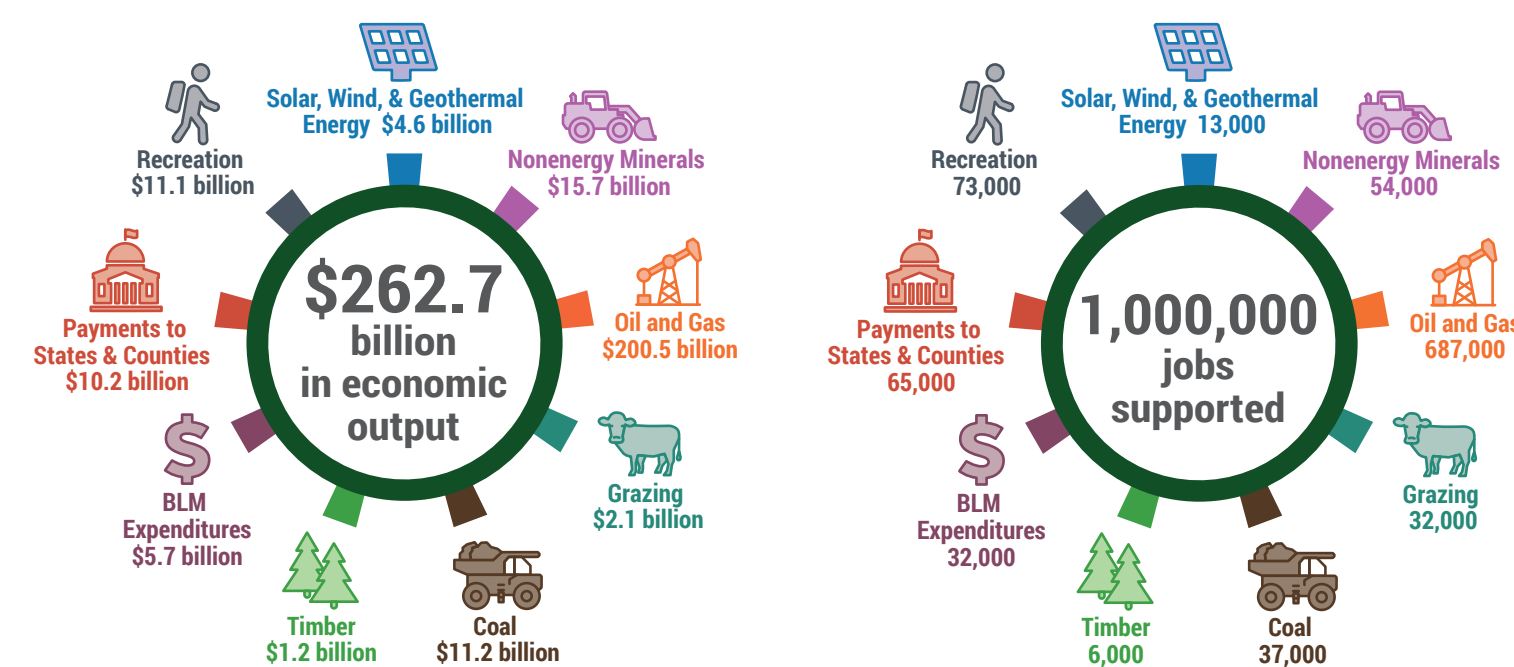
The BLM: Valuing America's Public Lands 2023

As steward for much of America's public lands, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages some of the nation's most historic and scenic landscapes, as well as vast natural resources, for the benefit of all Americans. These public lands include rangelands, forests, mountains, arctic tundra, and deserts and encompass 10 percent of the nation's surface and approximately one-third of its subsurface mineral resources. Through balanced public land management, the BLM authorizes responsible resource use while conserving the natural and cultural legacy of iconic landscapes and sustaining healthy ecosystems that provide clean air and water and support biodiversity.

Activities related to BLM land management are a significant driver of the nation's economy and a critical source of revenue and jobs for communities across the nation. This brochure provides a snapshot of how the diverse activities on public lands during fiscal year (FY) 2022 generated \$262.7 billion in economic output across the country. This economic activity supported more than 1,000,000 jobs and contributed substantial revenue to the U.S. Treasury and state governments. This includes contributions to the economy from the BLM's expenditures, as well as payments the agency transfers to states and counties.

Economic Contributions from BLM-Managed Lands

Fiscal Year 2022



Economic Sectors

> 81
million visits

RECREATION: Recreational activities on BLM-managed lands and waters contribute significantly to local economies through visitor spending and support hundreds of small businesses, including guiding, rafting, climbing, and other recreation-focused businesses. In FY 2022, recreation-related visits increased to more than 81 million. Only about 1 percent of BLM-managed recreation sites, such as developed campsites, charge fees, which help cover the cost of providing services.

45 solar projects
36 wind energy projects

SOLAR, WIND, AND GEOTHERMAL: Through FY 2022, the BLM approved 45 solar energy projects with a generation capacity of more than 9,200 megawatts and 36 wind energy projects with a generation capacity of more than 3,000 megawatts. In addition, 47 geothermal power plants on public lands operate with an installed capacity of approximately 2,500 megawatts. The BLM continues to make progress in meeting the national goal of 25 gigawatts of electricity from renewable energy by 2025.

\$178.2
million in revenue

NONENERGY MINERALS: In FY 2022, nonenergy leasable minerals, such as potash, phosphate, and sodium, produced from federal lands brought in royalties and other payments of \$68.1 million. Nonenergy saleable mineral materials, such as sand, gravel, and soil, brought in royalties and other payments of \$16.4 million. Fees associated with locatable minerals, such as copper and gold, resulted in payments of \$93.7 million. The FY 2022 total revenue received for federal nonenergy minerals was \$178.2 million.

438
million barrels
2022

OIL AND GAS: More than 23.7 million acres of BLM-managed land are under lease for oil and gas development and production, from the Eastern U.S. to the North Slope of Alaska. In FY 2022, the BLM offered 162 parcels and more than 128,000 acres for leasing. Federal onshore oil production increased to 438 million barrels of oil during FY 2022, compared to 374 million barrels in FY 2021.

12.3
million AUMs

GRAZING: In 2022, the BLM permitted 12.3 million animal unit months (AUMs) and billed 8.3 million AUMs for ranchers who graze their livestock, mostly cattle and sheep, on public lands. An AUM is the amount of forage needed to feed a cow and calf, or the equivalent, for a month. The grazing fee in 2022 was \$1.35 per AUM. While the number of AUMs sold each year remains relatively steady, annual variations in use occur due to factors such as drought, wildfire, market conditions, and restoration projects.

45%
of U.S. coal production

COAL: The BLM administers 283 coal leases encompassing 427,425 acres in 11 states. In FY 2022, coal production from federal lands increased to 270.3 million tons (about 45 percent of the 598.3 million tons produced in the U.S. from federal, Indian, and state lands), compared to 258.3 million tons in FY 2021. Federal coal generated approximately \$536 million in royalties, \$1.4 million in rentals, and \$5 million in bonus payments in FY 2022.

315
million board feet

TIMBER: More than 20 percent of the lands managed by the BLM are forest ecosystems. The BLM ensures the health and resilience of these public forest lands as well as the availability of traditional forest products, such as timber. In 2022, the BLM offered 315 million board feet of timber under new sales, good neighbor agreements, and stewardship contracts. The BLM continues to use stewardship contracts to improve, maintain, and restore forest and rangeland health, water quality, and fish and wildlife habitat and to reduce wildfire risk.

> 11,000
permanent, term,
and seasonal workers

BLM EXPENDITURES: The BLM employed more than 11,000 permanent, term, and seasonal workers in FY 2022 who spent their wages on goods and services in surrounding communities and generated economic activity in 39 states. The BLM's purchases of supplies and services, construction costs, and program spending to complete on-the-ground work through contracts and cooperative agreements also generated economic activity in communities. (Note: Some nonlabor spending categories, such as fire suppression and emergency response, were excluded due to differences in the location/year in which accounting and spending occur.)

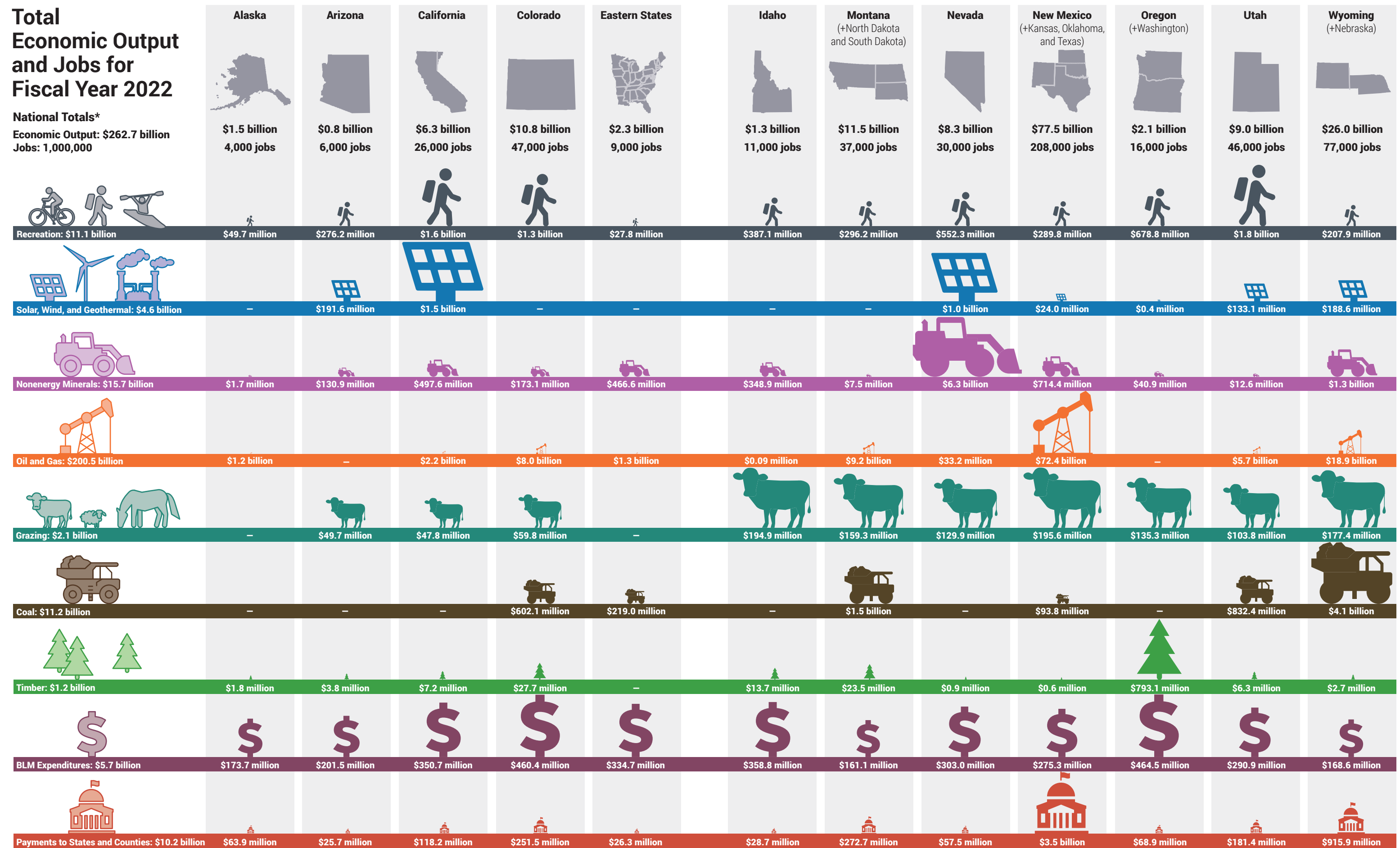
\$28 million
to rural schools

PAYMENTS TO STATES AND COUNTIES: Under certain laws, states and counties receive payments associated with lands and resources administered by the BLM to help fund schools, road improvements, infrastructure, and public services. In FY 2022, the Department of the Interior distributed approximately \$189 million to counties in tax offsets for BLM lands within their jurisdiction under the Payments in Lieu of Taxes program. The BLM distributed another \$28 million under the Secure Rural Schools program and \$18 million in other payments. Revenues generated from BLM energy and mineral activities also resulted in the disbursement of \$4 billion to states and counties from the Office of Natural Resources Revenue.

Total Economic Output and Jobs for Fiscal Year 2022

National Totals*

Economic Output: \$262.7 billion
Jobs: 1,000,000



* The national totals differ from the sum of individual state numbers because they account for activity across state borders and average industry productivity across states.