

Stewardship Assets and Investments

STEWARDSHIP ASSETS AND INVESTMENTS

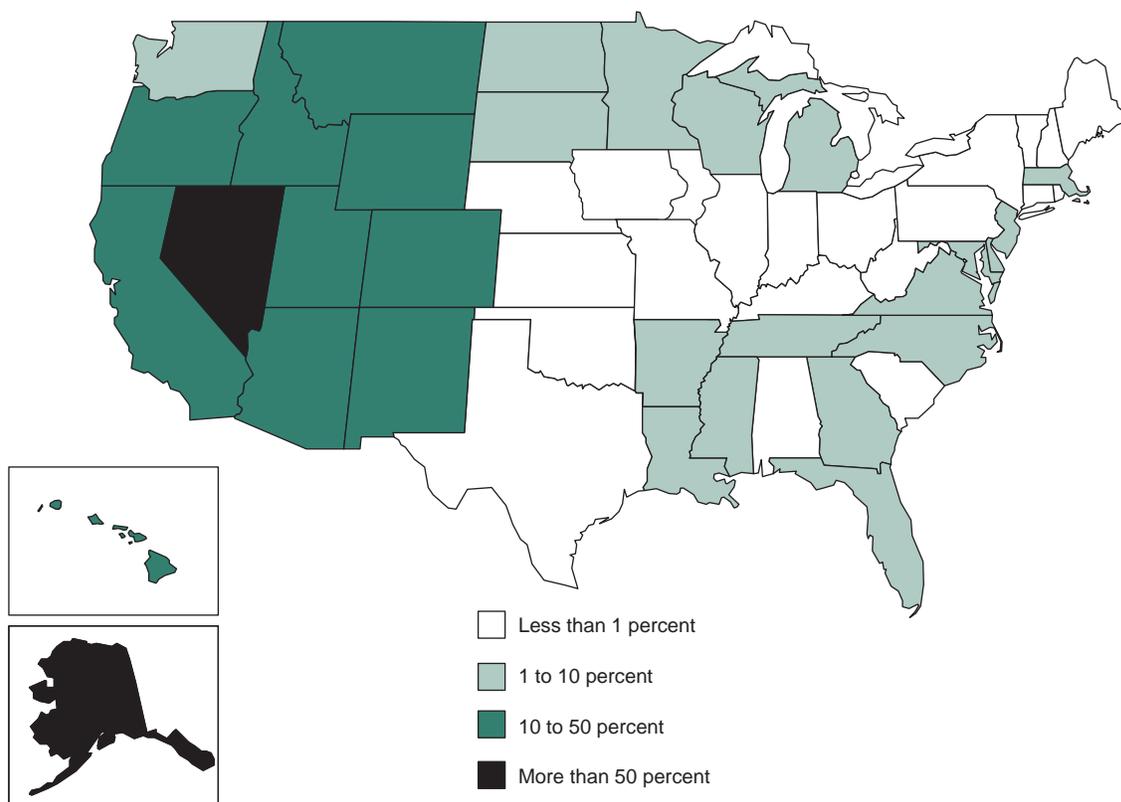
Introduction

The Department of the Interior serves as steward for approximately 429 million acres of America’s public lands and for the natural and cultural resources associated with these lands. The Department also supervises mineral leasing and operations on over 564 million acres of mineral estate that underlie both Federal and other surface ownerships. These stewardship assets are valued for their environmental resources, their recreational and scenic values, the cultural and paleontological resources they contain, their vast open spaces, and the resource commodities and revenue they provide to the Federal government, States, and counties.

Stewardship Lands

Most of the public lands under the purview of Interior management were once a part of the 1.8 billion acres of public domain lands acquired by the United States between 1781 and 1867. Land currently managed by Interior represents about 19 percent of America’s land surface and approximately 66 percent of all federally owned land (*Figure 55*). Each of America’s 50 States, the Pacific Islands, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and Puerto Rico contain lands that are managed by the Department of the Interior.

Figure 55
 Percentage of Each State's Acreage Managed by Interior
 (as of September 30, 1998)



Use of Stewardship Lands

Interior-administered lands include the National Wildlife Refuge System, the National Park System, and the vast expanses of public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In addition, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) manages a nominal acreage of stewardship land. The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service or FWS) manages lands primarily to conserve and protect fish and wildlife and their habitat. The National Park Service (Park Service or NPS) manages lands to conserve, preserve, protect, and interpret the nation's natural, cultural, and recreational resources. The Bureau of Land Management is guided by the principles of multiple use and sustained yield in managing its public lands. Congress has defined multiple use as management of the public lands and their various resource values so they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people. The resources and uses embraced by the multiple use concept include mineral development; natural, scenic, scientific, and historical values; outdoor recreation; range; timber; watersheds; and wildlife and fish habitat.

Types of Stewardship Lands

Figure 56 shows the acreage of Interior stewardship lands by land type. In addition to the 88 million acres shown for the National Wildlife Refuge System, there are approximately 4.9 million additional acres within the system that are not federally owned; these are managed by the Fish and Wildlife Service cooperatively through agreements with landowners and other partners. The National Park System also contains lands that are not federally owned—approximately 6 million acres owned by state and local governments and private landowners. The National Park Service has no management responsibility for this land except in cases where cooperative agreements with landowners authorize direct Federal land management.

America's parks, refuges, and other public lands consist of rangelands; forestlands; riparian areas and wetlands; lakes, reservoirs, and streams; grasslands; swamps; marshes; and seashores, as well as mountaintops, glaciers, barren mountains, sand dunes, playas, and deserts.

Management Units of Interior Stewardship Lands

There are unique management requirements associated with approximately 59 percent of the lands managed by the Department of the Interior because of their congressional or administrative designations. These management units are shown in Figure 57. The acreage included in these units is a subset of Interior's 429-million-acre total.

Condition of Stewardship Lands

Public Lands Managed by the Bureau of Land Management: The Bureau of Land Management assesses the condition of the lands it manages based on the land type and the multiple use and sustained yield goals identified through its land use planning process. Figure 58 shows condition by land type. In adhering to its

Figure 56

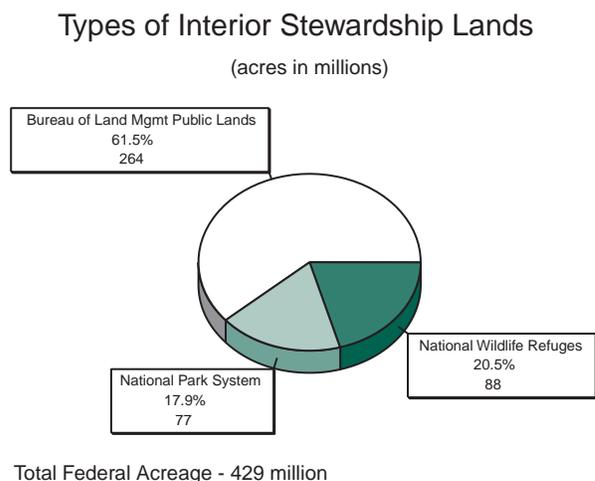


Figure 57

| Management Units of Interior Stewardship Lands | | | | | |
|---|---------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Bureau of Land Management Public Lands | | | | | |
| <u>Management Unit</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Federal</u> <u>Acres</u> | <u>Non-Federal</u> <u>Acres</u> | <u>Total Acres</u> | <u>Miles</u> |
| National Wild and Scenic River Segments | 34 | 956,688 | 0 | 956,688 | 2,038 |
| National Wilderness Areas | 136 | 5,243,012 | 0 | 5,243,012 | - |
| Wilderness Study Areas | 622 | 17,298,430 | 0 | 17,298,430 | - |
| National Conservation Areas | 8 | 11,692,190 | 0 | 11,692,190 | - |
| National Scenic Area | 1 | 101,000 | 0 | 101,000 | - |
| National Recreation Area | 1 | 1,000,000 | 0 | 1,000,000 | - |
| National Historic Trails | 8 | - | - | - | 3,530 |
| National Scenic Trails | 2 | - | - | - | 568 |
| National Recreation Trails | 26 | - | - | - | 429 |
| Outstanding Natural Area | 1 | 100 | 0 | 100 | - |
| Herd Management Areas | 201 | 33,168,712 | 0 | 33,168,712 | - |
| National Monument | 1 | 1,900,000 | 0 | 1,900,000 | - |
| Areas of Critical Environmental Concern | 739 | 13,110,029 | 0 | 13,110,029 | - |
| Research Natural Areas | 152 | 347,214 | 0 | 347,214 | - |
| National Natural Landmarks | 43 | 599,042 | 0 | 599,042 | - |
| National Back Country Byways | 64 | - | - | - | 3,518 |
| Globally Important Bird Areas | 2 | 56,500 | 0 | 56,500 | - |
| BLM Special Management Area Subtotal | 2,041 | 85,472,917 | 0 | 85,472,917 | 10,083 |
| National Multiple Use Lands | - | 178,148,368 | 0 | 178,148,368 | - |
| Bureau of Land Management Subtotal | 2,041 | 263,621,285 | 0 | 263,621,285 | 10,083 |
| National Wildlife Refuge System | | | | | |
| <u>Management Unit</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Federal</u> <u>Acres</u> | <u>Non-Federal</u> <u>Acres</u> | <u>Total Acres</u> | <u>Miles</u> |
| National Wildlife Refuges | 516 | 87,495,000 | 2,919,000 | 90,414,000 | - |
| Refuge Coordination Areas | 50 | 197,000 | 121,000 | 318,000 | - |
| Waterfowl Production Areas | 199 | 704,000 | 1,856,000 | 2,560,000 | - |
| National Fish Hatcheries and Other Fish Facilities | 83 | 14,000 | 6,000 | 20,000 | - |
| Fish and Wildlife Service Subtotal | 848 | 88,410,000 | 4,902,000 | 93,312,000 | - |
| National Park System | | | | | |
| <u>Management Unit</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Federal</u> <u>Acres</u> | <u>Non-Federal</u> <u>Acres</u> | <u>Total Acres</u> | <u>Miles</u> |
| International Historic Site | 1 | 22 | 23 | 45 | - |
| National Battlefields | 11 | 11,803 | 1,254 | 13,057 | - |
| National Battlefield Parks | 3 | 8,033 | 981 | 9,014 | - |
| National Battlefield Site | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | - |
| National Historic Sites | 74 | 19,410 | 4,635 | 24,045 | - |
| National Historic Parks | 38 | 114,452 | 48,262 | 162,714 | - |
| National Lakeshores | 4 | 145,421 | 83,519 | 228,940 | - |
| National Memorials | 28 | 7,979 | 194 | 8,173 | - |
| National Military Parks | 9 | 35,058 | 3,183 | 38,241 | - |
| National Monuments | 73 | 1,898,104 | 166,955 | 2,065,059 | - |
| National Parks | 54 | 49,179,435 | 2,520,515 | 51,699,950 | - |
| National Preserves | 16 | 21,405,495 | 2,374,201 | 23,779,696 | - |
| National Recreation Areas | 19 | 3,360,942 | 362,955 | 3,723,897 | - |
| National Reserves | 2 | 10,630 | 22,477 | 33,107 | - |
| National Rivers | 6 | 311,930 | 112,865 | 424,795 | - |
| National Wild and Scenic Rivers | 9 | 72,355 | 147,337 | 219,692 | - |
| National Scenic Trails | 3 | 155,634 | 68,899 | 224,533 | - |
| National Seashores | 10 | 477,559 | 116,979 | 594,538 | - |
| Parks (other) | 11 | 37,608 | 1,277 | 38,885 | - |
| Parkways | 4 | 163,605 | 7,646 | 171,251 | - |
| National Park Service Subtotal | 376 | 77,415,476 | 6,044,157 | 83,459,633 | - |
| Department of the Interior Total | | | | | |
| <u>Management Unit</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Federal</u> <u>Acres</u> | <u>Non-Federal</u> <u>Acres</u> | <u>Total Acres</u> | <u>Miles</u> |
| Total Interior Management Units | 3,265 | 251,298,393 | 10,946,157 | 262,244,550 | 10,083 |
| Total Interior Stewardship Lands | - | 429,446,761 | 10,946,157 | 440,392,918 | - |

Figure 58

| Condition of Bureau of Land Management Public Lands | | | | |
|---|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Rangeland | Forest and Woodlands | Riparian Areas | Wetlands | Aquatic Areas |
| <u>Alaska</u> | Productive 91% | <u>Alaska</u> | <u>Alaska</u> | <u>Alaska</u> |
| Late seral All | Needing restoration 9% | Properly functioning 91% | Properly functioning 98% | Good |
| <u>Lower 48 States</u> | | Functioning at risk Trace | Functioning at risk Trace | |
| Potential natural community 5% | | Nonfunctional 1% | Nonfunctional Trace | <u>Lower 48 States</u> |
| Late seral 29% | | Unknown 8% | Unknown 2% | Poor |
| Mid seral 38% | | <u>Lower 48 States</u> | <u>Lower 48 States</u> | |
| Early seral 12% | | Properly functioning 36% | Properly functioning 41% | |
| Unclassified 16% | | Functioning at risk 35% | Functioning at risk 13% | |
| | | Nonfunctional 9% | Nonfunctional 2% | |
| | | Unknown 20% | Unknown 44% | |

mandate for multiple use and sustained yield, the BLM's land management programs include significant efforts to restore riparian wetlands; preserve significant cultural and natural features; create opportunities for commercial activities; protect endangered species; develop opportunities for recreation and leisure activities; protect public health, safety, and resources; manage wild horses and burros; manage wildlife habitat and fisheries; administer mining laws; manage rangelands; oversee forest management, development, and protection; and manage wilderness and wild and scenic rivers.

National Wildlife Refuge System Lands: Stewardship lands managed by the Fish and Wildlife Service include refuges, fish hatcheries, wilderness, National Natural Landmarks, wild and scenic rivers, and other special designations. These lands are used and managed in accordance with the explicit purpose of the statutes that authorize their acquisition or designation and that direct their use and management. The Service conducts activities to manage stewardship lands so that fish, wildlife, and plants that depend on these lands for habitat are benefitted over both the short- and long-term. Lands placed in the land conservation systems managed by the Service are protected in perpetuity as long as they remain in the National Wildlife Refuge System and the National Fish Hatcheries System. As new acquisitions enter these conservation systems, lands are managed to maintain their natural state, to mitigate adverse effects of actions previously conducted by others, or to enhance existing conditions to improve benefits to fish and wildlife resources. The Service safeguards the stewardship values of the lands it administers through management actions taken on individual refuges and hatcheries; however, such actions take into consideration the needs and purposes of entire conservation systems. These conservation systems provide integrated habitat and life support for permanent resident populations as well as migratory populations needing temporary stopover sites to rest, breed, and feed and to survive their nationwide and, in some cases, worldwide seasonal migrations. While some individual units of stewardship lands can be improved at any time during their management cycles, the condition of the stewardship lands as a whole, which are protected by inclusion in both the National Wildlife Refuge System and the National Fish Hatcheries System, is sufficient to support the mission of the Service and the statutory purposes for which these conservation systems were authorized.

National Park System Lands: The National Park Service stewardship lands are used and managed in accordance with the statutes authorizing their acquisition or directing their use and management. The Park Service conducts various activities to preserve and protect land resources, and to mitigate the effects of activities conducted previously on or near parks that adversely affect the natural state of the land. While individual units of the stewardship lands can be improved, the condition of these assets as a whole is sufficient to support the mission of the Park Service.

Net Change in Stewardship Land Acreage from 1997 to 1998

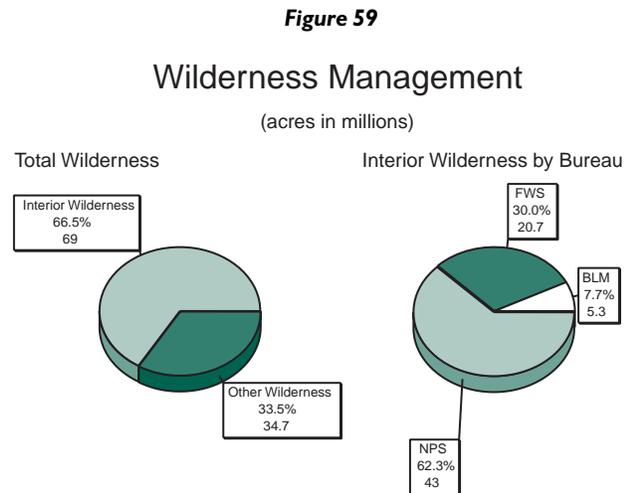
Federally owned lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior at the end of 1998 decreased by approximately 32,000 acres from 1997. This represents a net decrease of 0.007 percent, which resulted from the net effect of acquisition, disposal, exchange, withdrawal, and restoration transactions.

Natural Heritage Assets

National Wilderness Preservation System

The National Wilderness Preservation System was created by the Wilderness Act of 1964. A wilderness area is an area designated by Congress to assure that increasing populations, expanding settlement, and growing mechanization do not occupy and modify all areas of the United States. Designations ensure that certain lands are preserved and protected in their natural condition. In contrast to those areas where humans and their works dominate the landscape, wilderness is where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by human beings, where humans themselves are visitors who do not remain.

America’s wilderness system encompasses approximately 103.7 million acres. The Department of the Interior manages almost 66.5 percent of this wilderness system—255 areas comprising almost 69 million acres (Figure 59).



National Wild and Scenic Rivers System

For a river to be eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, it must be in a free-flowing condition and, to a remarkable degree, it must possess one or more specific values: scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values. Suitability is based upon the extent of public lands in the immediate environment of the river and on the funds required for acquisition, development, and management, as well as local or state interest in acting to protect and manage the river. Wild and scenic eligibility studies are presented to Congress with a Presidential recommendation. Congress then decides whether or not to add the river to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

There are 154 rivers containing 178 river segments included in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Each mile of each designated segment is classified as either wild, scenic, or recreational. The total system covers 10,831 river miles. Fifty-four percent of the river miles in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System are managed by Interior (Figure 60).

National Natural Landmarks

National Natural Landmarks are management areas having national significance as sites that exemplify one of a natural region’s characteristic biotic or geologic features. The site must have been evaluated and found to be one of the best known examples of that feature. These areas must be located within the boundaries of the United

States or on the Continental Shelf and are designated by the Secretary of the Interior. To qualify as a National Natural Landmark, an area must contain an outstanding representative example(s) of the Nation's natural heritage, including terrestrial communities, aquatic communities, landforms, geological features, habitats of native plant and animal species, or fossil evidence of the development of life on earth.

The Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Land Management each manage 43 National Natural Landmarks; these Landmarks total about 4.1 million acres. The National Park Service manages 18 National Natural Landmarks in 16 units of the National Park System.

Paleontological Sites

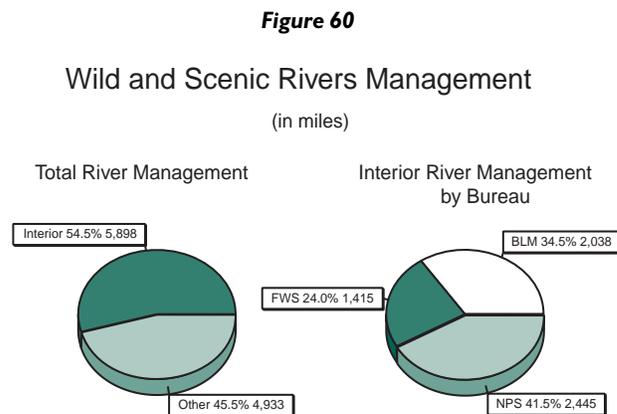
Since the early 1800s, professional and amateur paleontologists have made discoveries that helped launch the new scientific discipline of paleontology in America, filling our Nation's museums of natural history with the remains of spectacular creatures that have captured the public's imagination. Today, the public lands continue to provide paleontological resources that fuel scientific discovery and evoke public wonder. Interior bureaus manage these fragile and nonrenewable resources as a public trust not only to assure preservation of their scientific values, but also to see that their educational and recreational values are realized.

While all Interior bureaus take paleontological resources into account on public lands, the Bureau of Land Management is specifically responsible for over 50 specially designated areas, including Research Natural Areas, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, and National Natural Landmarks, totaling nearly 300,000 acres that are managed wholly or in part for their outstanding paleontological values. In addition, the Fish and Wildlife Service has identified paleontological resources in 10 Wildlife Refuges, with paleontological research being conducted by the scientific community at these sites. Two active Fish and Wildlife Service sites are the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge in Montana and the McKay Creek National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon. Fossils have also been located in over 120 National Park Service areas. These fossils collectively reveal a story ranging from Precambrian algae in Glacier National Park to Ice Age mammals in the Alaskan parks.

The Department of the Interior manages a number of publicly accessible and interpreted paleontological sites such as the Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry, the Trilobite Trail, the Trail Through Time, and Dinosaur National Monument. To meet public demands for recreational opportunities, the Bureau of Land Management also makes many public lands available for collecting invertebrate fossils and limited amounts of petrified wood.

Condition of Natural Heritage Assets

Natural heritage assets represent a subset of stewardship lands. As such, the condition of these natural assets is as good as or better than that described for each land type under the Stewardship Lands section of this report.





Grand Teton National Park (photo by Deb Carey).

Net Change in Natural Heritage Assets from 1997 to 1998

Figure 61 shows net changes in selected natural heritage designations from 1997 to 1998.

Figure 61

| Net Change in Selected Natural Heritage Designations From Fiscal Year 1997 to Fiscal Year 1998 | | | |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Special Management Area | Net Change in Number | Net Change in Total Acres | Net Change in Total Miles |
| National Wild and Scenic Rivers | | +4,864 | +16 |
| Wilderness Areas | | -8,351 | |
| Wilderness Study Areas | | -722,119 | |
| National Conservation Areas | | +2,416 | |
| Santa Rosa Mountains Scenic Area | | +35,720 | |
| National Historic Trails | -1 | | -60 |
| National Scenic Trails | | | +66 |
| Herd Management Areas | +2 | +960 | |
| Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument | | +185,000 | |
| Areas of Critical Environmental Concern | +43 | +2,738,447 | |
| Research Natural Areas | +52 | +20,765 | |
| National Back Country Byways | -5 | | |

Cultural Heritage Assets

The Department of the Interior is steward for a large, varied, and scientifically important body of cultural heritage assets (*Figures 62 and 63*). These resources include archaeological sites, historical structures, cultural landscapes, and various objects. Many are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, acknowledging their importance to American history. Some are National Historic Landmarks that are exceptional in illustrating the heritage of the United States.

Interior's heritage assets come from public or acquired lands, historic properties under Interior's management, and donations. The Department has a responsibility to inventory, preserve, and interpret these resources for the benefit of the American public. The Department does not normally dispose of such property. Interior bureaus have information on the numbers and types of resources and their condition. Not all resources have been inventoried and, for many resources, adequate condition information is lacking.

Figure 62

| Types of Cultural Heritage Assets | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Type | Description |
| National Register of Historic Places | The National Register of Historic Places is America's official listing of sites important to history and prehistory. Properties listed in the National Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. These resources contribute to an understanding of the historical and cultural foundations of the Nation. |
| Historic Structures | Historic structures are constructed works consciously created to serve some human activity or purpose. Structures are historic because they individually meet the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places or are contributing elements of sites or districts that meet National Register criteria. As such, historic structures are significant at the national, state, or local level and are associated with the important people and history of this nation. Structures that do not meet National Register criteria may be considered historic due to management responsibilities established by legislation or through management planning processes. Such structures include moved, reconstructed, or commemorative structures as well as structures that have achieved significance within the last 50 years. |
| National Historic Landmarks | National Historic Landmarks are districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects possessing exceptional value in commemorating or illustrating the history of the United States. The Historic Sites Act of 1935 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to designate National Historic Landmarks as the Federal government's official recognition of the national importance of historic properties. These places possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States in history, architecture, archaeology, technology, and culture as well as possessing a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. |
| Cultural Landscapes | A cultural landscape is a geographic area, including both natural and cultural resources, associated with an historic event, activity, or person. Cultural landscapes are complex resources that range from large rural tracts covering several thousand acres to formal gardens of less than an acre. The Department of the Interior recognizes four cultural landscape categories: historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes, historic sites, and ethnographic landscapes. These landscapes individually meet the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places, are contributing elements of sites or districts that meet National Register criteria, or have value to associated communities. |
| Archaeological Sites | Archaeological sites are locations that contain the remains of past human activity of various sorts. Archaeological sites include prehistoric structures, middens, and roadways, such as those found on many of the lands managed by the Department of the Interior in the Southwest. Sites also include the ancient earthen mounds in the midwestern and southern parts of the nation, many of them managed by Interior bureaus. Other archaeological sites come from historic times and are associated with the settlement of the United States by Euroamericans, African-Americans, and Asian Americans. |
| World Heritage Sites | The preservation of a common world heritage is the objective of the international Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. This international agreement, signed to date by more than 150 nations, was adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1972. Its primary mission is to (a) define and conserve the world's heritage by drawing up a list of sites whose outstanding values should be preserved for all humanity, and (b) to ensure protection through a closer co-operation among nations. |

Figure 63

| Number, Net Change, and Condition of Cultural Heritage Assets | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Type of Asset | Number of Assets | Net Change in Assets 1997 to 1998 | Condition |
| Bureau of Land Management | | | |
| National Register of Historic Places | 248 Listings | +7 | |
| | 3,625 Contributing Properties | +324 | Acceptable |
| Archaeological and Historical Properties | 220,800 Properties | +8,300 | Acceptable |
| National Historic Landmarks | 22 Landmarks | - | Acceptable |
| Fish and Wildlife Service | | | |
| National Register of Historic Places | 93 Listings | - | Unclassified |
| Historical Structures | 188 Structures | - | Unclassified |
| Archaeological and Historical Properties | 11,000 Properties | - | Unclassified |
| National Historic Landmarks | 9 Landmarks | - | Unclassified |
| National Park Service | | | |
| National Register of Historic Places | 1,246 Listings | - | Unclassified |
| Historical Structures | 23,167 Structures | +3,169 | Good 43.1% Fair, Poor, or Unknown 56.9% |
| National Historic Landmarks | 178 Landmarks | +35 | Unclassified |
| Cultural Landscapes | 1,593 Landscapes | +718 | Good 33% Fair 46% Poor 21% |
| Archaeological Sites | 60,000 Sites | - | Good 4% Poor 4% Unclassified 92% |
| World Heritage Sites | 18 Sites | - | Unclassified |
| Bureau of Reclamation | | | |
| National Register of Historic Places | 61 Listings | - | Unclassified |
| Bureau of Indian Affairs | | | |
| National Register of Historic Places | 31 Listings | - | Unclassified |
| Other Bureaus | | | |
| National Register of Historic Places | 9 Listings | - | Unclassified |

Museum Property

Department of the Interior museum collections total approximately 110 million museum objects (Figure 64). Disciplines represented include art (39,000), ethnography (100,000), archaeology (60 million), documents (41 million), history (3.4 million), biology (1.4 million), paleontology (4 million), and geology (50,000). In

Figure 64

| 1998 Cataloged Interior Museum Collection Data | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | Where Collections Are Held | | | Number of Objects Cataloged | Cataloging Backlog |
| | Within Interior | Other Institutions | Total | | |
| Bureau of Indian Affairs | 617,773 | 64,188 | 681,961 | 0 | 681,961 |
| Bureau of Land Management | 5,900,229 | 17,942,184 | 23,842,413 | 2,181,064 | 21,661,349 |
| Bureau of Reclamation | 3,487,188 | 3,540,296 | 7,027,484 | 1,960,745 | 5,066,739 |
| Fish and Wildlife Service | 841,615 | 3,604,121 | 4,445,736 | 1,200,000 | 3,245,736 |
| National Park Service | 70,757,522 | 2,637,964 | 73,395,486 | 31,018,410 | 42,377,076 |
| Indian Arts and Crafts Board | 19,805 | 0 | 19,805 | 13,747 | 6,058 |
| Interior Museum | 1,846 | 2,917 | 4,763 | 1,600 | 3,163 |
| Minerals Mgmt Service | 54 | 0 | 54 | 0 | 54 |
| U.S. Geological Survey * | 63 | 1 | 64 | 63 | 1 |
| Interior Totals | 81,626,095 | 27,791,671 | 109,417,766 | 36,375,629 | 73,042,137 |

* USGS data does not include Biological Resources Division museum collection

past years, we reported documents in number of linear feet rather than in number of objects. The 41 million documents reported this year equals 25,762 linear feet of archival documents (up from 24,750 linear feet reported in 1997). The growth is due primarily to improved reporting rather than to new acquisitions. Numbers are relatively stable for all disciplines as bureaus continue to refine their estimates. Department of the Interior museum collections are important for both their intrinsic value and for their associations with Federal lands and resources managed by Interior bureaus. The assemblage of historic structures for which the Department of the Interior is responsible is the tangible evidence of where we have been and what we have done as a Nation and is a most compelling testimony of our rich, multi-ethnic heritage; the cultural landscapes are significant at the national, State, or local level and are associated with the important people and history of this Nation; and the archaeological sites are most important for the unique information they contain about the past and for the sense of commemoration they can express for the people and events with which they are associated.

For the first time, Interior has a Departmentwide baseline data on the number of items cataloged and on the backlog of uncataloged collections. The number of objects reported as cataloged is a minimum number based on available data. Additional collections at non-Federal repositories may have been cataloged, but precise data are not available in all cases. Information on accessions, deaccessions, and conditions are incomplete. Available information is provided below in individual bureau discussions.

Highlights for 1998 include improved public access to collections, continued documentation of our collections, improved preventive conservation practices, and renewed planning for collections management in all bureaus. New visitor centers were opened by the Bureau of Land Management (National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, Flagstaff Hill, Oregon), Bureau of Reclamation (New Melones Visitor Center, California, Guernsey Museum at Guernsey Lake, Wyoming; and an exhibit on "Hoover Dam: the World War II Years"), and Fish and Wildlife Service (National Conservation Training Center, Shepherdstown, West Virginia). The National Park Service installed major exhibits in 10 parks and historic furnishings in three parks. The NPS also initiated world wide web exhibits using park collections. Other bureaus maintain web exhibits as well.

The Branch of Museum Services in the Department's National Business Center is the operations branch of the Interior Museum Program; it operates the Interior Museum, interprets our headquarters building, and provides Departmentwide training and technical assistance to bureaus and offices. The Office of Acquisition and Property Management is the policy branch that develops Departmentwide policies and strategies and provides oversight for the museum programs in all Interior bureaus and offices. Trends in 1998 include increased focus on planning and accountability, increased use of partnerships to improve long-term management of collections, increased public access to the collections, and coordination among Interior museum collections managers.



Museum exhibit on Native American culture at the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service's National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, West Virginia (photo by FWS).

Figure 65

| 1998 Interior Museum Property | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| Entity | Property Information | Other Information |
| Bureau of Indian Affairs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Bureau of Indian Affairs reports 681,961 museum objects: 617,773 artifacts at 106 units in the Bureau and more than 64,188 artifacts in 29 non-Federal institutions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BIA's current focus is on establishing a bureau infrastructure for addressing its backlog in establishing accountability and preventive conservation of collections. Data on 1998 accessions and condition are not available. |
| Bureau of Land Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Bureau of Land Management manages most of its collections through partnerships with 189 non-Federal repositories. Total collection size was last estimated at nearly 24 million objects from the public lands; survey numbers need to be revised. 17,942,184 objects are reported to be at the non-Federal repositories, and 5,900,229 objects have been reported in Bureau facilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data on 1998 accessions and conditions at non-Federal repositories are not available, although more than 30,000 new catalog records were completed at the Anasazi Heritage Center in Colorado. BLM funded five projects through its Museum Partnership Program, and issued Bureau guidance on managing its paleontology resources, worked with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to locate portions of its collections in non-Federal institutions, and partnered with the National Park Service to assess museum collections at a Helium Plant in Amarillo, Texas, formerly operated by the U.S. Bureau of Mines. |
| Bureau of Reclamation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Bureau of Reclamation reports more than 7,027,306 million museum objects, of which 3,487,188 are in bureau facilities and 3,540,118 are in non-Federal institutions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data on accessions and condition are not available. BOR maintained web sites for its art collection and for artifacts from the Central Arizona Project. BOR completed 91 of 108 scheduled action items and drafted comprehensive bureau collections management policies. Requests for exhibit and research loans were processed, and a project on paleontology collections at the Idaho Museum of Natural History was partially funded. Through its compliance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, BOR inventoried 1450 human remains and 61,100 funerary objects at 25 institutions. These items originated at 178 archaeological sites. |
| Fish and Wildlife Service | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Fish and Wildlife Service collections consist of more than 4.4 million objects, of which 841,515 are managed at 135 bureau units, and 3,604,123 are managed at 210 non-Federal institutions. FWS also manages seized and forfeited wildlife specimens and products, which are lent to zoos and other institutions for educational use, and the National Eagle Repository in Denver, CO, which distributes eagle parts and feathers to Indian tribes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FWS issued comprehensive bureau policies and standards for managing its museum collections, and appointed a FWS Heritage Committee to guide documentation and preservation of FWS history. Assessment of collections in non-Federal institutions led to development of Memoranda of Understanding with institutions in Oregon, Idaho, North Dakota, Montana, and Alaska. |
| National Park Service | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Park Service collections total 73,395,486 million objects, of which 37,988,486 are archival items. Of the total, 70,757,522 objects are housed at 335 park units. 136 non-Federal institutions house 2,637,964 NPS museum objects. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 1997 (the most recent data available), cataloged 1.7 million items and corrected 1,848 preservation and protection deficiencies in 225 parks. Acquired 1,288,477 items through gifts, exchanges, purchases, field collections, and transfers. Deaccessioned 2,609 items. At current funding levels for correcting deficiencies, 95 percent of the standards will be met in 2046, and backlog cataloging will be completed in 2021. In 1998, completed its migration to enhanced collections management software that will aid the effort. As of 1997, 54% of NPS objects and 32 percent of NPS archives are cataloged. Drafted conservation and archives strategies to address priority needs and provided training in museum basics, collections management software, and management of digital data. NPS conservation survey and treatment needs are estimated at \$47.5 million. |
| U.S. Geological Survey | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In fiscal year 1997, 800,000 scientific specimens were transferred from FWS. The U.S. Geological Survey manages a small collection of 63 objects at its National Center. One item is in a non-Federal institution. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved lighting of its two large oil on glass paintings that are displayed at the National Center, and continued to assess the Biological Resources Division museum property that was recently transferred from FWS. Survey data on the biological collections have not yet been reported by USGS. |
| Minerals Management Service | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Minerals Management Service maintains a small collection of 54 objects in its administrative offices. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were no accessions or deaccessions during the year. MMS completed cataloging worksheets and digital photography in preparation for data entry when collections management software is available. |
| Indian Arts and Crafts Board | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Indian Arts and Crafts Board holds 19,805 museum objects at four internal facilities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catalog records were transferred from SNAP for DOS to SNAP for Windows collections management software, and training on the new system was completed for IACB staff. Use of interns has accelerated progress on collection documentation projects. A partnership with the State Department's Art-in-Embassies program was initiated. |
| Department of the Interior Museum | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department of the Interior Museum collections contain 4,763 objects: 1,846 of which are in the Main Interior Building and 2,917 are at a repository managed by the National Park Service. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 1998, Interior Museum staff improved management of its archives, installed safety glass and improved lighting in 42 exhibit cases, increased its environmental monitoring program through a radio telemetry system, processed exhibit loans, and began planning for major exhibits scheduled for 1999 in conjunction with the Department's 150th anniversary. |

All Interior bureaus are working toward compliance with the Department's policies and standards by implementing bureau-specific plans. All bureau plans were revised in 1998 to better reflect current resources available to address the backlog of work that remains to be done. Beyond basic accountability, the Department encourages increasing public access to and use of museum collections in support of Interior's missions.

Library Collections

Interior's natural resources library is composed of two collections. The general collection consists of approximately 950,000 holdings dealing with the broad range of matters related to the Department's mission to use and conserve natural resources and to meet its trust responsibilities toward American Indians and Alaska Natives. The law collection has approximately 100,000 holdings related to natural resources and Native American laws.

The U.S. Geological Survey library collection covers all aspects of the earth science and related interdisciplinary subjects. The collection is intended to be as comprehensive as possible in its coverage of worldwide literature. Holdings include extensive sets of State and foreign geological survey publications, as well as publications from geological and other scientific societies, from universities and institutions, and from other government agencies throughout the world. Special collections include the George F. Kurt collection of books on gems and minerals, the Alvison collection of Russian geology, minerals and mining, extensive photographs taken during USGS field work, and field notebooks and additional material relating to USGS projects. The USGS library contains 1.6 million books and periodicals and 1.3 million non-book items for a total of 2.9 million items. During 1998, 10,000 units were added and 8,000 units were withdrawn from the USGS library collection. Approximately 35 percent of the collection is in good condition, 40 percent is in fair condition, and 25 percent is in poor condition. There is no deferred maintenance related to the library collection.

National Park Service libraries contain 1.2 million books and reports and 4.5 million non-book items for a total of 5.7 million items. The NPS estimates that 10 percent of the library collections are in good condition, 40 percent are in fair condition, and 50 percent are in poor condition. Data are not available on the number of acquisitions and withdrawals for 1998.

Investment in Research and Development

The U.S. Geological Survey Research and Development program was authorized by the March 3, 1897 legislation that created the USGS to provide for the examination of geological structures, mineral resources, and products within and outside the national domain. Earth science research, development, and information is responsible for saving lives and property, safeguarding human health, enhancing the economic vitality of the Nation and its people, assessing resources, characterizing environments, and predicting the impact of contamination.

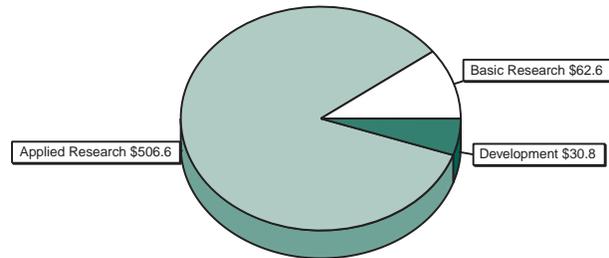


"Hoover Dam: The World War II Years exhibit" (photo by Emme Woodward).

USGS provides the credible, objective, and unbiased information needed by managers of the Nation’s natural resources and resources, including resource managers in Interior. This information aids in solving critical societal problems through research, investigation, application of state-of-the-art geographic and cartographic methods. USGS research assesses and predicts biological consequences of various policies and management practices. Interior’s investment in research and development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, is shown in *Figure 66*.

Figure 66

Investment in Research and Development
(in millions)



Investment in Human Capital

The Bureau of Indian Affairs administers its trust responsibility for education with the long-range goal of promoting healthy Indian communities through life-long learning. This goal is achieved by providing quality educational opportunities from early childhood throughout life, with consideration given to the mental, physical, emotional, spiritual, and cultural aspects of the person served.

Cost includes employee retirement benefits, health benefits, life insurance, and Federal Employee Compensation Act benefits.

The U.S. Geological Survey also accomplishes research and development for other Federal and State agencies under reimbursable agreements. These reimbursable agreements comprise an additional \$160 million—\$9 million in basic research, \$145 million in applied research, and \$6 million in development.

Through various BIA programs, a significant investment in education has been made to help brighten the future of American Indians and Alaska Natives. In addition, Reclamation, Park Service, and the Fish and Wildlife Service provide residential education and job training for disadvantaged youth through the Job Corps program. In 1998, a total of \$546.5 million was expended for American Indian, Alaska Native, and Job Corps education programs (*Figure 67*).

Figure 67

| Interior Investment in Human Capital | | |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| Program | Expenses (in millions) | Program Description |
| Undergraduate Scholarships | \$28.0 | Program provides funding for undergraduate scholarship grants |
| Adult Education | 2.4 | Program provides opportunities for adult Indians and Alaska Natives to earn their General Equivalency Diploma |
| Public and Preschool Attendance | 17.0 | Program provides funding for eligible Indian students to attend public schools and preschool programs |
| Tribally Controlled Community Colleges | 31.0 | Program provides funding for community colleges chartered by Tribal governing bodies and governed by local boards of regents |
| Post Secondary Education | 12.7 | Program provides funding to the Haskell Indian Nations University and the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute |
| Other Education | 1.4 | Program provides funding to Tribal priority education programs |
| Special Scholarships | 1.1 | Program provides funding for graduate school and law school scholarships |
| School Operations | 390.1 | Program provides funding to BIA-operated, grant-operated, and contract-operated elementary and secondary schools |
| School Construction and Maintenance | 9.5 | Program provides funding for school replacements, additions, and repairs |
| School Storm Damage Repair | 1.0 | Program provides supplemental funding for school repair resulting from storm damage |
| Program Management | 4.0 | Program provides funding for general management |
| Job Corps | 48.3 | Program provides funds to train disadvantaged youth |
| Total | \$546.5 | |

Investment in Non-Federal Physical Property

The Office of Insular Affairs provides capital improvement grants to U.S. insular areas to assist the islands in developing more efficient and effective government. The capital investment in non-federal physical property in the islands include transportation, schools, water, sewer and power plants, hospitals and solid waste facilities. In 1998, a total of \$64.5 million was expended for capital improvements in the insular areas. *Figure 68* shows the distribution of Interior's capital investment in the insular areas.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Federal Highway Administration jointly administer the Indian Reservation Roads program (IRR), which involves construction and maintenance of approximately 49,000 miles of IRR, of which 24,000 miles are owned by BIA and an additional 25,000 miles are non-BIA owned public roads. In 1998, approximately \$214 million was expended on 1,544 projects in this program. These projects reflected road construction and road maintenance work on 4,013 miles of roads and 5,825 bridges.

The National Park Service also incurs non-federal physical asset expenditures. During fiscal year 1998, the NPS identified over \$71 million in non-federal physical asset expenditures, of which \$59.1 million were incurred during fiscal years prior to 1998. Of the \$71 million, approximately \$32.2 million was used for major renovations at Independence Hall, which is owned by the City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

