

BUDGET The United States
Department of the Interior
JUSTIFICATIONS
and Performance Information
Fiscal Year 2024

**BUREAU OF
LAND MANAGEMENT**

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2024 Executive Summary

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has the remarkable responsibility of stewarding 245 million acres of public land – more than any other Federal agency. This means the BLM plays a critical role in achieving the environmental, conservation, and economic goals of the Biden-Harris Administration, while working in partnership with thousands of communities large and small, mostly across the American West and in Alaska, where our employees live and work.

The size, location, and natural characteristics of the public lands the BLM manages puts the agency at the forefront of the Administration’s commitments to ensure balanced management on public lands and waters, promote a clean energy future, restore degraded wildlife habitat, and create good-paying jobs that include a free and fair chance to join a union.

Established in 1946 with the merger of the U.S. Grazing Service and the General Land Office, the BLM takes its mission from the *Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA)*, which requires that the Bureau manage lands to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. This requires a balanced approach to managing activities such as energy production, livestock grazing, mining, conservation, wildlife habitat management, watershed protection, and outdoor recreation. In addition, the BLM manages approximately 30 percent of the Nation’s subsurface mineral estate. Due to its unique mission mandated under FLPMA, the BLM can generate revenue, create jobs, conserve natural resources, and improve the quality of life for all Americans, both environmentally and economically. This approach emphasizes how people and public lands are interconnected and interdependent, and balances the diversity of interests and values associated with the various uses of public land. The BLM’s balanced management of these lands advances responsible energy policy, promotes restoration, provides recreation for all, and fosters conservation. Billions of dollars of economic impact and hundreds of thousands of jobs are supported from activities related to the BLM’s land management. The BLM also generates substantial revenue for the U.S. Treasury and State governments. In FY 2021, \$2 billion was redistributed to State and local governments for improvement projects and public services under various revenue-sharing programs, including the Taylor Grazing Act, the Mineral Leasing Act, the Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands, Payments in Lieu of Taxes, and the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act

More than 86 million people live within 100 miles of BLM-managed public lands in the West, making the BLM a key part of connecting Americans to the outdoor opportunities that contribute to and preserve the social fabric of this Nation, bond families across generations, and preserve the character of the rural American West. Public lands are open to use for distinctly American pursuits such as camping, off-highway vehicle riding, mountain biking, river running, hiking, horseback riding, and hunting – opportunities that are becoming increasingly scarce through urbanization and subdivision of once open lands. Since the beginning of the pandemic in early 2020 and continuing today, visitation to exceptional outdoor recreation opportunities on public lands managed by the BLM continues to set records. In 2020, 73 million visitors

were counted visiting public lands, and at the close of 2022, public visitation climbed 11 percent to 81 million visitors.

In order to fulfill its mission, the BLM must respect ties that communities have to public lands, value diverse views on the use of public lands, and engage with a wide range of stakeholders and community members to inform land management decisions. Our nation's public lands also include millions of acres that are of cultural, religious, and historic significance to hundreds of federally recognized Tribes. As a result, the BLM has significant Federal trust responsibilities to protect these resources, as well as to honor Tribal treaty rights and consult with American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes and villages on actions and decisions that may affect them. The BLM's mission advances the President's priority of strengthening the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal Nations.

The Bureau is conducting all this work during a time of substantial impacts on the landscape due to climate change and other stressors that demand our attention and commitment.

Budget Request Overview

The BLM's proposed budget for FY 2024 emphasizes investments to improve the health and resiliency of BLM-managed lands from the stresses of persistent drought and water scarcity, which have led to an influx of invasive species and record numbers of wildland fires of increasing intensity. In addition, the budget request supports the Administration's "America the Beautiful" initiative, a decade-long challenge to pursue a locally led and voluntary nationwide effort to conserve, connect, and restore the lands, waters, and wildlife upon which we all depend. In addition, in 2024 the agency will continue to put the investments from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) to work plugging orphaned oil and gas wells, restoring watersheds, making communities safer from wildfire, ensuring responsible development of mineral resources, and advancing clean energy. It will also continue to implement the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA), which will reduce and restructure BLM's deferred maintenance backlog to support public safety, visitor access, and enjoyment more effectively. Both efforts will help restore the balance on public lands amid the increasing demands of an ever-increasing Western population.

The work of the BLM is carried out by a workforce of approximately 10,000 FTEs, reporting to approximately 170 duty stations, primarily in the West but also in Eastern locations where the BLM has mineral, cadastral, and recreation responsibilities. The budget proposal supports the creation of good-paying jobs with continued funding to remediate abandoned oil and gas wells on the Alaska North Slope and through increased funding for reclamation of abandoned mine lands, expansion of opportunities for renewable energy development, and support of youth corps programs to bring together young people and military veterans to improve the public lands and train the next generation of public land stewards. The BLM is also investing in the future and creating jobs through its Seeds of Success program that has employed Tribal youth in the collection and preservation of culturally important native plant species. This program is conducted in partnership with the Fort Belknap Indian Community and the Society for Ecological Restoration.

Specifically, the budget request also reflects and strengthens the Administration's commitment in the following areas:

1. Strengthening Climate Resilience and Conservation Partnerships
2. Accelerating Responsible Development of Renewable Energy on Public Lands
3. Creating Family-Supporting and Union Jobs
4. Implementing once-in-a-generation investments from the BIL and IRA

Strengthening Climate Resilience and Conservation Partnerships

The FY 2024 budget proposes program increases to enhance the restoration and conservation of public lands managed by the BLM, delivering on a commitment and obligation to future generations. It contributes to the America the Beautiful initiative, will improve equitable access to the outdoors, and will strengthen the economy. The initiative supports Interior's core mission and contributes to President Biden's goal to conserve 30 percent of the Nation's land and water by 2030 by conserving lands and waters to improve their sustainability in the face of rising temperatures and extreme weather. The budget provides increased funding to help the BLM meet the monumental challenge of restoring and conserving BLM lands to increase wildlife habitat and the ability of our public lands to adapt to and withstand change. To support these efforts, **the BLM requests \$304.3 million under the Land Resources Activity**, which provides for integrated management of public land resources, including forestry, range, and cultural resources, as well as wild horses and burro management. **This includes \$12.3 million in Public Domain Forest Management** to help restore forest structure and composition to improve wildfire and climate resilience.

The budget includes funding to improve the health and function of public lands by eradicating and controlling invasive species, re-establishing native plant communities, and carrying out other forms of restoration. Invasive species are a pervasive problem on BLM lands and waters; in terrestrial ecosystems, climate change is driving additional drought and fire, which makes it tougher to control invasive species. This work will improve habitat and support increased landscape connectivity and terrestrial and aquatic wildlife movement.

The BLM requests \$162.0 million in Wildlife Habitat Management. Funding will support efforts to identify, protect, conserve, and restore large landscapes that are necessary to support the long-term resilience of wildlife and plant populations, especially with respect to the impacts of climate change. Increased funding will be used to improve habitat health and resiliency and advance efforts to identify, protect, conserve, and restore functional, landscape-level wildlife migration, dispersal, and daily movement corridors for big game, migratory birds, pollinators, and at-risk species. The BLM will also identify and protect important seasonal habitats to improve connectivity and address habitat fragmentation. The funding level of **\$73.4 million in Aquatic Resources**, a program increase of \$13.1 million over the 2023 enacted level, will enhance BLM capacity to conserve remaining high-quality lands and waters, restore degraded land and water resources, and ensure the connectivity of these systems.

The budget proposes \$72.9 million for National Conservation Lands, including \$61.9 million for national monuments and national conservation areas and \$11.0 million for national scenic and historic trails. National monuments and national conservation areas (NM/NCA) comprise nearly 12 million acres and were created to recognize and help protect their outstanding conservation values. These are some of BLM's most popular and heavily visited sites. The budget request for NMs/NCAs will enable BLM to strengthen management and operational capacity at these sites to enhance visitor services and better ensure the

protection and conservation of these special places. It also supports the Department's Increasing Representation in our Public Lands initiative, which will provide support for recent or potential new designations that preserve important places and tell the stories of those that have been historically underrepresented.

In addition, direct support for conservation objectives of the Biden-Harris Administration is provided through mandatory funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), which was permanently and fully funded starting in 2021 in the GAOA. **The 2024 BLM portion of the LWCF funding for Federal land acquisition totals \$73.9 million.**

The budget proposes **\$65.4 million for Recreation Resources Management**. Program increases of \$7.2 million will allow the BLM to undertake recreation site and trail maintenance and design improvements to mitigate recreation conflicts with sensitive natural resources, such as by altering traffic and concentrated use patterns and undertake a variety of measures to better ensure outdoor recreation remains sustainable in the face of climate change, such as making infrastructure more resilient to climate stressors and relocating existing infrastructure to areas of less risk of climate damage. The budget proposes **\$25.7 million for Wilderness Management**. Increased funding will support weed treatments, native plant restorations, and prescribed burns in wilderness and wilderness study areas.

The BLM will use funding in Public Domain Forest Management and Western Oregon Resource Management to support timber sales as well as improve forest health and resilience, including identifying and managing carbon sinks and developing and implementing reforestation projects and projects to protect old-growth forests. A requested program increase of \$3.4 million in Cadastral, Lands and Realty Management will enable BLM to support carbon sequestration projects on BLM-managed lands.

The budget proposes **\$97.8 million for Resource Management Planning**. Total program increases of \$27.2 million over the 2023 enacted level include \$6.1 million to improve water resources. The funding will support projects and activities aimed at protecting, restoring, and conserving surface and groundwater resources that are vital to the overall health of BLM-managed landscapes and to the wildlife and communities that depend on them.

The BLM's investments in conservation and climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience will be guided by the best available science. The FY 2024 budget request prioritizes climate science by continuing the BLM's adaptive management approach to resource management. An increase of \$10.0 million will enhance BLM's Assessment, Inventory, and Monitoring (AIM) efforts for assessing natural resource conditions and trends, modeling and sharing data, and providing resource managers and decision makers with the information and tools needed to better assure the success of on-the-ground restoration and conservation projects. The BLM will engage partners and other stakeholders in data collection, verification, and monitoring, and invest in decision support tools to identify priority landscapes and restoration methods and projects with the highest potential for success. An increase of \$11.0 million will enable BLM to update resource management plans, including to facilitate and expand siting of renewable energy projects on public lands.

The BLM budget request includes an increase of \$12.0 million over the 2023 enacted level for BLM to engage with youth corps programs to support BLM’s conservation and restoration efforts. The support for youth corps programs will enable the BLM to draw on the skills of young adults and veterans to improve the public lands, build a new generation of land and natural resource managers, and provide a pathway to good-paying jobs.

To help implement restoration projects, the BLM provides strong support for the National Seed Strategy through the nationwide network of seed collectors, farmers and growers, nurseries, and seed storage facilities, and through research to develop science-based native seed mixes to restore resilient ecosystems. The budget proposes \$20.6 million for the Plant Conservation and Restoration program and will also utilize the funding provided in BIL to support these important efforts. To meet the growing need for both native seeds and botanical knowledge, the BLM trains the next generation of land stewards in field botany and seed collection protocols through the Seeds of Success course at the BLM’s National Training Center. An estimated 2,500 seed collectors, most of whom are recent college graduates, have been trained in the Seeds of Success protocol since its inception in 2001. In 2019, the BLM began a partnership with the Fort Belknap Indian Community and the Society for Ecological Restoration for seed collections of culturally important native plant species on BLM and Tribal lands.

The BLM is charged with protecting and managing wild horses and burros in balance with other public resource values on 177 herd management areas across 26.9 million acres of public lands. The current estimated population of 86,189 animals is more than three times greater than the carrying capacity of herd management areas on BLM-managed public lands. **The budget request includes \$154.8 million for the Wild Horse and Burro Management program** to allow the BLM to work to constrain the population growth of animals on the range through such management tools as removals, fertility control treatments, and permanent sterilization efforts, and to address rising costs in off-range corrals and pastures. The BLM will also continue to emphasize other nonlethal population management tools such as private placements and transfers to other Federal, State, and local entities. BLM will continue to aggressively pursue program improvements to more effectively manage the significant program challenges.

Accelerating Responsible Development of Renewable Energy on Public Lands

The BLM has a significant role in promoting the development of renewable energy by providing sites on public lands for environmentally sound development of renewable energy. With excellent solar, wind, and geothermal energy potential on public lands, the BLM can meet the Biden Administration’s goal of permitting 25 gigawatts of renewable energy on public lands by 2025 as part of the broader strategy to rapidly reduce U.S. greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50 percent by 2030. The FY 2024 budget request proposes funding that will allow the BLM to promote and facilitate increased renewable energy development, **including \$72.5 million in the Renewable Energy Management program and an increase of \$11.0 million in the Resource Management Planning program.** The funds will support siting, leasing, processing rights-of-way applications, and oversight of renewable energy projects and transmission lines connecting to renewable energy projects. The BLM expects renewable energy demand and workload to increase significantly as more utilities and States seek to diversify or require increased renewable energy in their electric power portfolios.

Renewable energy proposals on public land have increased in recent years, dramatically in some States. The enactment of the IRA provides significant federal investment of nearly \$400 billion through Department of Energy loans for clean energy and transmission infrastructure. This investment is anticipated to further increase permitting workloads on federal lands through 2030. The Bureau anticipates substantial need for Renewable Energy Coordination Offices (RECOs) permitting support through 2030 and potentially beyond for the construction and monitoring of newly permitted projects.

Since the passage of the Energy Act of 2020, the Bureau has developed and begun implementation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to prioritize permitting coordination among key departments and agencies. This has yielded increased coordination and expedited permitting timeframes. In 2021, the BLM supported the permitting of over 2,800 megawatts (MW) of clean energy in western States through the RECOs. In 2022, the BLM supported nearly 5,700 MW of clean energy in western States. The MOU, RECOs, and dedicated interagency support have been critical in accelerating the permitting process and advancing national energy security.

The FY 2024 budget request supports funding priority efforts critical to achieving the goals of the Energy Act, including processing permits for over 20,000 MW of clean energy between 2023 and 2025; updating regulations for wind, solar, and geothermal energy development; land use planning updates and implementation for renewable energy that will also yield improved conservation outcomes; new information system automation and efficiencies through centralization billing and collections for rights-of-way and renewable energy projects; funding interagency dedicated staff to prioritize environmental review compliance; and robust training of new program staff to facilitate efficient on-the-ground permitting.

Emission Vehicles and Charging Infrastructure

In support of the President's goal of transitioning to a fully Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Federal fleet, BLM's budget request includes **\$7.0 million for ZEV** (battery electric, plug-in electric hybrid, and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles) acquisitions and deploying necessary vehicle charging and refueling infrastructure. These acquisitions are a significant step toward eliminating tailpipe emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG) from the BLM fleet and aligning BLM's fleet operations with the goal of achieving a fully zero emission Federal fleet. This action is important because tailpipe emissions are currently the leading source of GHG emissions that threaten the planet and harm U.S. communities.

The BLM ZEV acquisitions may include vehicles for both its agency-owned and GSA-leased segments of its vehicle fleet, including incremental costs of leased vehicles and lease payments to GSA for conversion of agency-owned vehicles to GSA's leased fleet where appropriate. To ensure effective and efficient deployment of zero emission vehicles, the BLM will undertake preparation and planning for its facilities, prioritize transition to ZEVs where it is simplest and allow time for additional planning where mission demands pose a challenge to transitioning based on current technologies. Integral to this preparation is growth in the number of agency-accessible vehicle charging stations. In installing this infrastructure on-site to support acquired ZEVs, the BLM will take the long-term view to ensure cost efficiencies.

Oil, Gas, and Coal Leasing

The Department is implementing the oil and gas fiscal provisions from the IRA and updating regulations and policy guidance that will implement the law and recommendations from the Report on the Federal Oil and Gas Leasing Program, which the Department published in November 2021. The budget includes **\$174.5 million for oil and gas management and oversight**, and proposes to institute new onshore oil and gas inspection fees to cover the costs of BLM's inspection activities and reduce the net cost to taxpayers of operating BLM's oil and gas program. The Administration is committed to the responsible and sustainable development of Federal energy resources as the Nation transitions to a low-carbon economy, and such reforms are a critical component of this effort. The budget includes **\$17.2 million for Coal Management**. The BLM Coal Management program will continue to focus on prioritizing activities aimed at ensuring American taxpayers receive a fair return from the sale of coal resources, minimizing environmental impacts, and aligning the program to transition to a clean energy future.

Hardrock Mining

The Administration is committed to the responsible and sustainable development of America's public resources. This includes a commitment to ensuring that the U.S. can domestically source the minerals necessary for the shift to a clean energy economy while adhering to the highest environmental, social, labor, and Tribal and community engagement standards. The BLM is working with the Interagency Working Group on Mining Laws, Regulations, and Permitting (Mining IWG) to comprehensively review hardrock mine permitting and oversight on Federal lands. The IWG is expected to deliver recommendations in FY 2023, and BLM will begin implementing some of these recommendations in FY 2023 and FY 2024. Some recommendations and implementation actions related to Tribal Nations were already announced in conjunction with the White House Tribal Nations Summit in November 2022.

Creating Family-Supporting and Union Jobs

The FY 2024 BLM budget will advance the Administration's effort to create good-paying jobs that provide a free and fair chance to join a union. This includes jobs for remediating and reclaiming abandoned wells and mines and jobs to help ease the transition for oil and gas field workers, coal miners, and conventional energy and mining communities as the economy transitions toward cleaner energy sources. The budget will help support underserved communities that have been adversely impacted by energy and mining activities in the past. For example, the budget request for the **Oil and Gas Management program includes a total of \$28.9 million to remediate legacy wells on the Alaska North Slope**. The BLM will address orphaned oil and gas wells in the Lower 48 States with any funds provided for such purposes by the BIL. Plugging these wells will mitigate risks for groundwater contamination and methane leakage; site work can also include reclaiming the land around those wells. The BLM budget request also includes an **increase of \$4.7 million to address abandoned hardrock mine sites** on public lands managed by the BLM. There are an estimated tens of thousands of abandoned mine sites on BLM lands, many of which pose risks to the environment and public safety.

Implementing the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

The BIL was enacted in November 2021 to grow the economy, enhance the Nation's competitiveness, create good jobs, and create a more sustainable, resilient, and just economy. In many places, the law envisioned building on existing efforts. The BLM will use these funds in several areas to accelerate work being done in ecosystem restoration, orphaned and abandoned well remediation, and wildland fire management – all of critical importance to communities in the West. For instance, funding from the BIL will reduce hazardous fuels on BLM-managed lands and support the rehabilitation of burned areas.

In addition, the BLM has a leading role in the Federal Orphaned Well Program to remediate orphaned wells on Federal lands, which will create jobs while improving the environment. This multiagency effort includes DOI land management agencies, the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission. The BIL's historic investments are helping revitalize local economies and is supporting jobs, while addressing environmental impacts from legacy developments.

DOI Field Communication Modernization

On any given day, Interior field operations can include firefighters battling fires in Eastern Oregon, NPS law enforcement officers in Big Bend National Park interdicting smugglers, BLM search and rescue teams providing assistance to a distressed family in the Sonoran desert, USGS installing early warning systems on a high threat Aleutians volcano, FWS conducting duck counts for harvest management, and dozens of other critical functions to effectively manage the Nation's natural and cultural resources. Field communications modernization helps enable capabilities being implemented across DOI communities of practice. From first responder needs to applications such as hazard warning systems, resource management data collection and, in-field collaboration, modernization enables last mile connectivity to these tools in the field, improves safety, increases efficiency, and delivers better data for management decisions.

The decades-old land mobile radio (LMR) systems that DOI operates have a backlog of at least \$185 million to bring to acceptable condition and require tens of millions annually to maintain that condition. Meanwhile, cost-effective modern solutions meet requirements for voice, high-speed data, and video, while reducing the footprint of DOI-owned infrastructure and the costs of maintaining those systems. Where replaced, the modern systems will support streamlined interoperability with other agencies. The 2024 budget includes \$32.2 million for field communications modernization, including \$2.7 million for BLM. In 2024, DOI will focus on modernization in Alaska, the Southeastern United States, and the Pacific Islands as, where feasible, it leverages deployment of communications networks outside of Interior's owned infrastructure, such as FirstNet and other dedicated public safety broadband, as well as improved satellite systems in locations where terrestrial broadband is not feasible. This approach will assess and invest in updated technology where it makes sense while considering the Department's historical reliance on the traditionally more expensive LMR network in areas of the country where LMR remains the most reliable means of communication.

Foundation for America's Public Lands

In January 2022, the Department of the Interior (DOI) announced the launch of the Foundation for America's Public Lands. This non-profit foundation, authorized by Congress in 2017, will help leverage public and private dollars to conserve, protect, and restore lands managed by the BLM for the benefit of the American people. The Foundation has spent the last year building its board and its founding documents. In the coming year, it will partner with the Bureau on shaping a recreation strategy for the coming decades, providing outreach and education to address the issues within the Wild Horse and Bureau program and on implementing restoration efforts aimed at mitigating drought. The Foundation will operate in a manner similar to the other congressionally chartered foundations, matching Federal funding with funding from the private sector and using this money to support grant programs targeted at BLM priorities, areas, and issues. The BLM strives to be a good neighbor in the communities it serves and believes that partnerships at the Federal, State, Tribal, local, and private landowner levels are vital to managing sustainable, working public lands.

Reception and Representation

The 2024 budget proposes appropriations language to enable the BLM to use up to \$15,000 of appropriated amounts for courtesy and social responsibilities associated with official duties, including outreach and engagement with Tribal partners to honor traditions. This request would provide the Bureau similar authority provided to other agencies to extend hospitality to official visitors without bureau employees bearing expenses from their own personal funds.

Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act Report (All Bureaus/Offices)

The Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act (GAO-IG Act, P.L. 115-414) enacted January 3, 2019, requires that Agencies report the status of each open audit recommendation issued more than one year prior to the submission of the Agency's annual budget justification to Congress. The Act requires Agencies to include the current target completion date, implementation status, and any discrepancies on closure determinations.

The Department of the Interior leadership takes audit follow-up very seriously and considers our external auditors, including the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the Office of the Inspector General, valued partners in not only improving the Department's management and compliance obligations but also enhancing its programmatic and administrative operations. As stewards of taxpayer resources, the Department applies cost-benefit analysis and enterprise risk management principles in recommendation implementation decisions. The Department's GAO-IG Act Report will be available at the following link: <https://www.doi.gov/cj>

Conclusion

We have an historic opportunity and responsibility to put people to work restoring and improving the resilience of our public lands, promote and facilitate clean energy development, and build a more robust Bureau of Land Management. The FY 2024 BLM budget proposes significant investments to help us rise to the challenge, supporting the President's agenda to address the climate change and other stressors

affecting the health of public lands, restore balance on public lands and waters, promote a clean energy future, and create good-paying jobs.

Current Appropriations (in \$000)	2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget	
			vs. Enacted	Request
Management of Lands and Resources	1,281,940	1,368,969	+128,100	1,497,069
Offsetting Collections - Mining Law Administration*	<i>[-39,696]</i>	<i>[-39,696]</i>	<i>[-3,000]</i>	<i>[-42,696]</i>
Offsetting Collections - Communication Site Management^	<i>[-2,000]</i>	<i>[-2,000]</i>		<i>[-2,000]</i>
Offsetting Collections - Oil and Gas Inspection Fees	0	0	<i>[-51,020]</i>	<i>[-51,020]</i>
<i>Rescission of Unobligated Balances</i>	+0	+0	+0	0
<i>Supplemental Appropriations</i>	+1,192	0	+0	0
Management of Lands & Resources	1,283,132	1,368,969	128,100	1,497,069
Oregon and California Grant Lands	117,283	120,334	+12,407	132,741
Land Acquisition	0	0	0	0
<i>Rescission of Prior Year Balances</i>	-	-	+0	0
Total, Land Acquisition	-	-	+0	0
Service Charges, Deposits, and Forfeitures‡	44,423	34,270	+3,417	37,687
<i>Offsetting Collections</i>	(44,423)	(34,270)	-3,417	(37,687)
<i>Rescission of Prior Year BA</i>	-	-	+0	0
Total, Service Charges, Deposits and Forfeitures	-	-	0	0
Total, Current Discretionary	1,400,415	1,489,303	+140,507	1,629,810
Range Improvements◇	9,430	9,430	0	9,430
Total, Current Mandatory, Federal Funds	9,430	9,430	0	9,430
Total, Current, Federal Funds	1,409,845	1,498,733	140,507	1,639,240
Miscellaneous Trust Funds, Current Portion‡Δ	22,690	30,000	+0	30,000
Current Mandatory, Contributed Funds	22,690	30,000	+0	30,000
Total, Current Appropriations	1,432,535	1,528,733	140,507	1,669,240

*Direct budget authority for program activities appropriated within the Management of Land and Resources Account, but offset through collections.

^Available budget authority, up to the amount shown, derived from offsetting collections from communication site rental fees.

‡Shown as estimated amounts for fiscal years 2023 and 2024; Authority to spend collections appropriated annually; budget authority created when collections are recognized. Collections authorized by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), as amended (43 USC 1735), and the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended by the Trans-Alaska Pipeline Act of 1973 (30 USC 185).

◇Amounts reflect sequesters of 5.7% pursuant to Section 254 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

Δ Contributed amounts authorized to be collected under Section 307(c) of FLPMA (43 USC 1701).

Permanent Appropriations (in \$000)	2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget	
			vs. 2023 Enacted	Request
Land Acquisition	63,577	69,925	+3,952	73,877
Miscellaneous Trust Funds, Permanent Portion	1,026	1,650	+0	1,650
Permanent Operating Funds	521,955	429,153	-133,186	295,967
Miscellaneous Permanent Payment Accounts	43,843	63,344	-10,919	52,425
Helium Fund	61,494	45,184	-12,514	32,670
<i>Helium Fund Offsetting Collections</i>	<i>(61,494)</i>	<i>(45,184)</i>	<i>+12,514</i>	<i>(32,670)</i>
Total, Permanent Funds	630,401	564,072	-140,153	423,919

Employees	2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget	
			vs. 2023	Request
Full Time Equivalents (FTEs)	9,488	9,622	+461	10,083

Note - Permanent amounts are net of sequester and previously available BA.

Note: Does not include the BLM Working Capital Fund, nor the offsetting collections of that fund.

CROSSCUTTING PROGRAMS

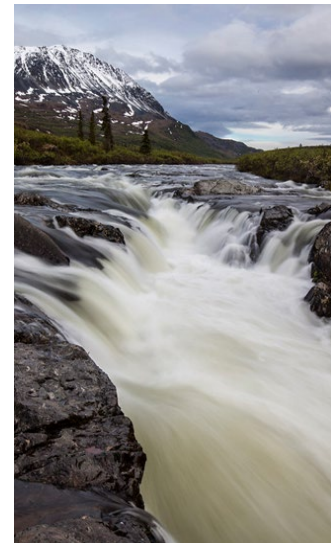
National Wild and Scenic Rivers System



Program Overview

Congress passed the *Wild and Scenic Rivers Act* in 1968, establishing the National Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSR) System to preserve free-flowing rivers for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. The BLM manages 81 designated WSR totaling nearly 2,700 miles. Each WSR is managed to protect and enhance its river values, including free-flow, water quality, and outstandingly remarkable values. WSR help protect biodiversity and increase resilience from climate change. In addition to the 81 designated rivers, the BLM manages thousands of miles of rivers eligible and suitable for WSR designation.

The BLM, National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are charged with protecting and enhancing designated rivers. These agencies work cooperatively with partner organizations and stakeholders to achieve this mandate. The BLM and these interagency partners actively collaborate through the Interagency WSR Coordinating Council to administer the National WSR System in a consistent and coordinated manner.



Delta Wild and Scenic River, Alaska

Program Priorities

FY 2024 WSR Priorities

In FY 2024, the WSR program priorities include river protection and restoration; inventory, monitoring, and research; nurturing partnerships and conservation stewardship; boundary and cadastral work; river management planning; and supporting projects that benefit fish, aquatic habitat, flows, water quality, wildlife and wildlife habitat (including threatened and endangered species), resilience of river values, improved river recreation access, and public outreach.

River Protection and Restoration

The BLM will protect and enhance designated WSRs, prioritizing efforts to:

- Prepare and implement comprehensive river management plans (CRMP)
- Establish Federal reserved water rights
- Develop flow protection strategies
- Maintain and enhance water quality
- Determine detailed boundaries
- Monitor river values
- Restore habitat

Inventory, Monitoring, and Research

The BLM will work with interagency and other partners to achieve WSR-related conservation stewardship objectives with emphasis on inventory, monitoring, and research. Inventory and monitoring are essential to understanding of baseline conditions, changes to those conditions over time, and how those changes affect river values. Research is needed to challenge assumptions and broaden knowledge regarding management and use of WSR.

Nurturing Partnerships and Conservation Stewardship

WSR partners play a key role in safeguarding WSRs while also nurturing the next generation of river stewards. The BLM will continue to support and grow these partnerships, focusing work on key WSR program priorities, including restoration, education, conservation, climate resiliency, and sustainable access and infrastructure.

Boundary and Cadastral Work

Establishing WSR boundaries is statutorily required and critical to protecting and enhancing WSR values. The BLM will prioritize establishment of WSR boundaries, including required cadastral support, in conjunction with development of the CRMP.

River Management Planning (CRMP)

Through the development of statutorily required CRMPs, management decisions designed to protect and enhance WSR values are made. Engagement from interested publics is critical as CRMPs are developed and implemented.

Project Support Example: Improved River Access and Recreation

Developing sustainable river access and other infrastructure and providing visitor-oriented information improves the visitor experience, supports the conservation of river dependent resources, and helps protect tribal interests. The BLM will work with partners on programs and projects to achieve these objectives.



North Fork of the American Wild and Scenic River, California

Program Funding Table

National Wild and Scenic Rivers Program				
Program	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 President's Budget	Change from 2023
Rangeland Management	457	457	457	0
Public Domain Forest Management	118	118	118	0
Cultural Resources Management	320	320	320	0
Aquatic Habitat Management	952	952	952	0
Wildlife Habitat Management	427	427	427	0
Recreation Resources Management	2,947	3,097	3,097	0
Oil & Gas Management	38	38	38	0
Alaska Conveyance	113	113	113	0
Cadastral, Lands & Realty Management	50	50	50	0
Abandoned Mine Lands & Haz. Mat. Mgt	121	121	121	0
Annual Maintenance & Operations	1,220	1,220	1,220	0
Administrative Support	59	59	59	0
O&C Grant Lands (W. OR Resources Management)	124	149	149	0
National WSR Totals	6,946	7,121	7,121	+0

Budget At A Glance

Budget at a Glance
(Dollars in Thousands)

Appropriation: Management of Lands and Resources	2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	2024 Program Changes (+/-)	2024 Request
Land Resources	276,460	291,068	+7,859	0	+5,364	304,291
Rangeland Management	108,965	112,340	+5,191	+0	-2,379	115,152
<i>Focus on Highest Priorities</i>					<i>[-2,379]</i>	
Public Domain Forest Mgmt	10,349	10,814	+542	0	+895	12,251
<i>Improve Forest Health and Resiliency</i>					<i>[+353]</i>	
<i>Youth Corps Programs</i>					<i>[+542]</i>	
Cultural Resource Mgmt	20,053	20,026	+813	0	+1,262	22,101
<i>Enhance Inventory, Monitoring, and Protection</i>					<i>[+471]</i>	
<i>Youth Corps Programs</i>					<i>[+791]</i>	
Wild Horse & Burro Mgmt	137,093	147,888	+1,313	+0	+5,586	154,787
<i>Address Rising Holding Costs</i>					<i>[+5,586]</i>	

(continued)

Budget at a Glance
(Dollars in thousands)

Appropriation: Management of Lands and Resources	2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	2024 Program Changes (+/-)	2024 Request
Wildlife Habitat Management & Aquatic Resources	197,669	207,185	+5,653	0	+22,585	235,423
Aquatic Resources	56,922	58,247	+2,130	0	+13,063	73,440
<i>Youth Corps Programs</i>					<i>[+3,000]</i>	
<i>Improve Habitat Health and Resiliency</i>					<i>[+9,063]</i>	
<i>Subsistence Management</i>					<i>[+1,000]</i>	
Wildlife Habitat Management	140,747	148,938	+3,523	0	+9,522	161,983
<i>Youth Corps Programs</i>					<i>[+2,000]</i>	
<i>Tribal Co-Stewardship</i>					<i>[+2,000]</i>	
<i>Wildlife Conservation</i>					<i>[+5,522]</i>	
Recreation Management	78,928	74,766	+3,603	0	+12,707	91,076
Wilderness Management	18,686	19,216	+930	0	+5,555	25,701
<i>Restore and Conserve Wilderness and WSAs</i>					<i>[+3,595]</i>	
<i>Youth Corps Programs</i>					<i>[+1,960]</i>	
Recreation Resources Management	60,242	55,550	+2,673	0	+7,152	65,375
<i>Youth Corps Programs</i>					<i>[+385]</i>	
<i>Enhance Access and Resiliency</i>					<i>[+6,767]</i>	

(continued)

Budget at a Glance
(Dollars in thousands)

Appropriation: Management of Lands and Resources	2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	2024 Program Changes (+/-)	2024 Request
Energy & Minerals Management	216,535	234,333	8,254	0	-12,150	230,437
Oil & Gas Management	106,135	112,873	+6,165	0	+4,469	123,507
<i>Enhance Base Capacity</i>					[+1,969]	
<i>IRA Implementation</i>					[+2,500]	
Oil & Gas Inspection Activities	50,402	50,402	+0	0	+618	51,020
Enhance Inspection Capacity					+618	
Oil & Gas Inspection Activities - Inspection Fee Offsetting Collections	0	0			-51,020	-51,020
Coal Management	16,079	16,609	+581	0	+0	17,190
Other Mineral Resources	12,936	13,466	+659	0	+3,075	17,200
<i>Restore Legacy Disturbances</i>					[+3,075]	
Renewable Energy	30,983	40,983	+849	0	+30,708	72,540
<i>Permitting Related to IRA Implementation</i>					[+10,000]	
<i>Accelerate Clean Energy Planning & Permitting</i>					[+20,708]	
Realty & Ownership Management	82,024	89,814	+3,292	0	+4,446	97,552
Alaska Conveyance	26,219	31,654	+697	0	+0	32,351
Cadastral, Lands & Realty Management	55,805	58,160	+2,595	0	+4,446	65,201
<i>Carbon Sequestration</i>					[+3,446]	
<i>Enhance Realty Capacity</i>					[+1,000]	

(continued)

Budget at a Glance
(Dollars in thousands)

Appropriation: Management of Lands and Resources	2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	2024 Program Changes (+/-)	2024 Request
Communication Site Management	0	0	+0	0	+0	0
Communication Site Management	2,000	2,000	+0	0	+0	2,000
<i>Offsetting Collections</i>	-2,000	-2,000	+0	0	+0	-2,000
Resource Protection & Maintenance	136,140	154,763	+3,247	0	+31,849	189,859
Resource Mgmt Planning, Assessment, & Monitoring	67,969	69,029	+1,545	0	+27,185	97,759
<i>Modernize Assessment, Inventory and Monitoring</i>					<i>[+10,000]</i>	
<i>RMP – Application of Natural Resource Data Planning to Support Siting</i>					<i>[+11,000]</i>	
<i>Improving Water Resources</i>					<i>[+6,185]</i>	
Resource Protection and Law Enforcement	28,038	28,568	+734	0	+0	29,302
Abandoned Mine Lands & Hazardous Materials Mgmt	40,133	57,166	+968	0	+4,664	62,798
<i>Youth Corps Programs</i>					<i>[+264]</i>	
<i>Abandoned Mine Land Sites</i>					<i>[+4,400]</i>	
Transportation & Facilities Maintenance	79,035	76,187	+1,974	0	+6,842	85,003
Annual Maintenance & Operations	44,055	44,180	+1,666	0	+0	45,846
Def. Main. & Cap. Improvements	34,980	32,007	+308	0	+6,842	39,157
<i>DOI Field Communications Modernization (DIFCOM)</i>					<i>[+2,740]</i>	
<i>ZEV Charging Infrastructure</i>					<i>[+4,102]</i>	
Mining Law Administration	0	0	+0	0	+0	0
Mining Law Administration	39,696	39,696	+0	0	+3,000	42,696
<i>Offsetting Collections</i>	-39,696	-39,696	+0	0	-3,000	-42,696

(continued)

Budget at a Glance
(Dollars in thousands)

Appropriation: Management of Lands and Resources	2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	2024 Program Changes (+/-)	2024 Request
Workforce & Organizational Support	165,875	175,754	+10,372	0	+4,399	190,525
Administrative Support	53,330	56,305	+2,016	0	+3,746	62,067
<i>Zero Emission Fleet Modernization</i>					[+2,913]	
<i>Enhance Core Capacity</i>					[+833]	
Bureauwide Fixed Costs	86,046	92,515	+7,425	0	+0	99,940
IT Management	26,499	26,934	+931	0	+653	28,518
<i>IT Modernization Investments</i>					[+653]	
National Conservation Lands	49,274	61,599	+1,899	0	+9,405	72,903
National Monuments and National Conservation Areas	49,274	61,599	+1,899	0	+9,405	
<i>Enhance Management and Operational Capacity</i>					[+5,347]	
<i>Increasing Representation in Our Public Lands</i>					[+3,000]	
<i>Youth Corps Programs</i>					[+1,058]	
National Scenic & Historic Trails		[11,000]		+0		[11,000]
Congressionally Directed Spending		3,500			[-3,500]	
<i>Supplemental Appropriations (Disaster Relief Act, P.L. 117-43)</i>	1,192					
TOTAL, Management of Land and Resources	1,283,132	1,368,969	46,153	0	81,947	1,497,069

(continued)

Budget at a Glance
(Dollars in thousands)

Appropriation: Management of Lands and Resources	2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	2024 Program Changes (+/-)	2024 Request
Western Oregon Resources Management						
Western Oregon Resources Management	103,557	106,138	+3,868	0	+7,951	117,957
<i>Improve Landscape Health and Resiliency</i>					[+5,951]	
<i>Youth Corps Programs</i>					[+2,000]	
Info. & Resource Data Systems	1,828	1,887	+102	0	+0	1,989
Info. & Resource Data Systems	1,828	1,887	+102	0	+0	1,989
Transportation & Facilities Maintenance	10,770	11,123	+437	0	+0	11,560
Annual Maintenance & Operations	10,770	11,123	+437	0	+0	11,560
Construction & Acquisition	340	369	+18	0	+0	387
Construction & Acquisition	340	369	+18	0	+0	387
Western Oregon National Conservation Lands	788	817	+31	0	+0	848
NMs & NCSs	788	817	+31	0	+0	848
TOTAL, Oregon & California Grant Lands	117,283	120,334	+4,456	0	+7,951	132,741

(continued)

Budget at a Glance
(Dollars in thousands)

Appropriation: Management of Lands and Resources	2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	2024 Program Changes (+/-)	2024 Request
Range Improvements						
Public Lands Improvements	6,491	7,713			+0	7,713
Farm Tenant Act Land Improvements	2,939	1,717			+0	1,717
Administrative Costs						
Total Range Improvements	9,430	9,430	+0	0	+0	9,430
Miscellaneous Trust Fund (Current)	22,690	30,000			+0	30,000
Service Charges, Deposits & Forfeitures						
Service Charges, Deposits & Forfeitures	44,423	34,270			+3,417	37,687
Service Charges, Deposits & Forfeitures (Offset)	-44,423	-34,270			-3,417	-37,687
Total, Service Charges, Deposits & Forfeitures	0	0	+0	0	0	0
TOTAL, Bureau of Land Management (w/ Supplemental)	1,432,535	1,528,733	+50,609	0	+89,898	1,669,240

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COLLECTIONS

BLM Collections, 2021 - 2024 (*\$000*)

Collection Source	2021 Actual Gross Amount*	2022 Actual Gross Amount*	2023 Estimated Gross Amount*	2024 Estimated Gross Amount*
Sale of Public Land and Materials	149,169	497,612	347,292	252,364
Earnings on Investments	2,923	2,302	51,287	69,200
Miscellaneous Filing Fees	17	17	17	17
Mineral Leasing National Grasslands	750	411	342	363
Grazing Fees & Land Utilization Project Lands	12,790	10,046	15,000	16,000
Timber Sales & Vegetative Material	60,642	69,812	64,950	59,252
Recreational Use Fees	27,435	31,115	30,000	31,000
Sale of Helium	64,182	61,494	45,184	32,670
Mining Claim Holding Fees**	83,536	94,506	76,227	78,920
Service Charges, Deposits and Forfeitures	32,130	44,423	34,270	37,687
APD Processing Fees***	55,613	40,378	44,021	46,040
Wind and Solar Rights-of-Way Rents and Capacity Fees	25,933	12,308	15,498	17,498
Other Collections	48,100	46,644	56,147	46,602
Total	563,220	911,068	780,235	687,613

* The amounts represent actual and estimated total (gross) amounts collected by the BLM (e.g., they do not reflect the effect of sequester or pop-ups).

** The amounts include Maintenance Fees and Location Fees.

***The amounts reflect 100% of APD fees collected by BLM.

2024 Collections

In 2024, BLM will directly collect an estimated total of \$710 million in revenue. Revenue is collected by the BLM from sources such as the sale of land and materials, grazing fees, timber sales, recreation use fees, and various filing fees. These collections assist State and local governments through shared receipts, support all programs funded from the General Fund of the U.S. Treasury, and offset charges for program operations where certain fees collected can be retained by the BLM.

In addition, the Office of the Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR) collects billions in receipts from energy and mineral activities on BLM-managed lands (bonuses, rents, and royalties). Because the ONRR collects

them, these mineral leasing receipts are reflected in the Energy Leasing Receipts chapter within the Office of the Secretary Budget Justification.

The amount of revenue expected to come from some sources varies for the reasons described below.

Sales of Public Land and Materials – This category includes receipts from the sale of public land, including land sales in Clark County, Nevada. Excluded from this collection source are the sales of timber and vegetative materials from the public domain land, sale of land and timber and vegetative materials from the Oregon & California Grant Lands and Coos Bay Wagon Road Lands, sale of land from Land Utilization project lands, sale of land and materials from reclaimed lands (reserved or withdrawn), and sale of town sites and reclamation projects.

The main sources of collections in the Sale of Public Land and Materials category are described below. The collection amounts described here represent 100 percent of the funds collected. In many cases, portions of the funds collected are distributed to State governments, to the U.S. Treasury, or other entities before the remaining portion is distributed to the BLM. The Management of Lands and Resources, Permanent Operating Funds, Miscellaneous Permanent Payments, and Miscellaneous Trust Funds chapters describe the portions allocated to the BLM and how the BLM uses the funds.

- ***Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) Sales Proceeds*** – The SNPLMA, as amended, provides a process for the orderly sale of certain public lands in Clark County, Nevada, near the city of Las Vegas. Approximately 70,000 acres of public land are within the disposal boundary area. The BLM has conducted land sales for over 20 years under the authority of this statute. Collections in 2022 were \$388,546,000. Estimated collections in 2023 and 2024 are expected to be \$270,803,000 and \$118,357,000, respectively. Estimated collections for 2023 and 2024 will mainly be coming from BLM land sales. Collections are reported when payments are received regardless of when sales are held. For more information see the SNPLMA, P.L. 105-263, as amended.
- ***Southern Nevada Public Land Management and Lincoln County – Earnings on Investments*** – The SNPLMA authorizes the Secretary to manage the collections account for the purposes set out above, and also authorizes the Secretary to use interest generated from the above-mentioned funds. The BLM is authorized to invest the unspent balance of collections from the SNPLMA and Lincoln County Lands Act land sale receipts. The combined earnings on investments for Southern Nevada Public Land Management and Lincoln County for 2021 and 2022 were \$2,923,000 and \$2,302,766 respectively. Interest estimated to be earned in 2023 and 2024 is \$51,287,000 and \$69,200,000 respectively. Projected investment earnings take into account revenue from land sales, earnings on investments, and projected interest rates and outlays. Funds in the special account earn interest at a rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury and are available for expenditure without further appropriation under the provisions of the Act.
- ***Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA)*** – The FLTFA, which was permanently reauthorized in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Division O, Title III), allows lands identified as suitable for disposal in current land use plans to be sold using FLTFA authority. The

FLTFA sales revenues are used to fund the acquisition of environmentally sensitive lands and the administrative costs associated with conducting sales. Four percent of the FLTFA collections are paid to the State in which the land is sold. In 2022, the BLM collected \$4,277,794. There are no estimated collections for 2023 and 2024. The Permanent Operating Funds section provides more information on the program.

- ***Lincoln County Land Sales*** – \$80,000 was collected in 2022 from land sales under the Lincoln County Land Act (P.L. 106-298) and the Lincoln County Conservation, Recreation, and Development Act (P.L. 108-424). Deposits from land sales are estimated to be \$686,000 in 2023. This estimate excludes interest deposited to the fund. The estimated collections for 2024 is \$817,000.
- ***Sale of Materials (includes public domain)*** – Collections in this account include the sale of mineral materials, saw-log timber, and other forest products (including post, poles, pulp, mushrooms, yew bark, Christmas trees, florals, pine nuts, and landscape plants).

Miscellaneous Filing Fees – Collections in this category are primarily from fees received for filing or recording documents; charges for registration of individuals, firms, or products; and requests for approval of transfer of leases or permits under statutory authorities that do not permit the BLM to retain and spend those collections.

Mineral Leasing-National Grasslands – The ONRR is responsible for the collection and distribution of most mineral leasing receipts; however, the BLM administers and collects rentals from oil and gas pipeline rights-of-way associated with lands leased under the *Mineral Leasing Act* and the *Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands*. Also, the BLM pays 25 percent of mineral leasing collections on acquired lands to counties where the collections were generated. The BLM continues to collect first-year rentals and initial bonuses from mineral leasing but transfers these receipts to the ONRR accounts.

Grazing Fees from Public Lands and Land Utilization Project Lands – This category includes all grazing fees collected from public lands and Land Utilization Project lands administered by the BLM. It also includes mineral leasing and other receipts from Land Utilization Project lands. Grazing fees are collected under the authority of the *Taylor Grazing Act*, *Federal Land Policy and Management Act*, and the *Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978*. For more information on the use of these fees see the Range Improvements section.

Timber and Vegetative Material Sales—

- ***Receipts from the Oregon and California (O&C) and Coos Bay Wagon Road Grant (CBWR) Lands*** – In 2021 and 2022, the BLM collected \$56,254,000 and \$65,913,000 respectively, mostly from timber receipts from O&C and CBWR lands. Estimated collections are \$60,880,000 and \$55,152,000 in 2023 and 2024, respectively.
- ***Timber Receipts from the Public Domain Forest Lands*** – In 2023, the BLM expects to offer for sale 30 million board feet of timber products from public domain lands. Total timber and vegetative Public Domain collections in 2021 and 2022 were \$4,388,000 and \$3,899,000,

respectively, and the estimated collections for 2023 and 2024 are \$4,050,000 each year.

- ***Stewardship Contracting Fund*** – With stewardship contracting, the BLM may apply the value of timber or other forest products removed as an offset against the cost of services received, and monies from a contract under subsection (a) may be retained by the United States Forest Service and the BLM. These monies are available for expenditure without further appropriation at the project site from which the monies are collected or at another project site. In 2021 and 2022, the BLM collected \$900 and \$0, respectively. The BLM estimates collections will be \$20,000 and \$50,000 in 2023 and 2024, respectively.

Recreation Use Fees – Recreation use fees are derived from collecting fees on public lands at recreation sites, issuing recreation use permits, and selling Federal recreation passports such as the Golden Eagle and Golden Age passes. These funds are used to improve recreation facility conditions and user services at recreation sites where the fees were generated. In 2021 and 2022 recreation fee collections were \$27,435,000 and \$31,115,000, respectively. The BLM anticipates collecting \$30,000,000 in 2023 and \$31,000,000 in 2024 under its recreation fee collection authorities. The use of recreation fee collections is described in the Permanent Operating Funds section.

Sales of Helium – The *Helium Privatization Act of 1996* required the Secretary to offer for sale a portion of the Conservation Helium stored underground at the Cliffside Field north of Amarillo, Texas. Revenue from sales in 2021 was \$64,182,000. Authority for the helium program was reauthorized by the *Helium Stewardship Act of 2013* (HSA), P.L. 113-40. Collections from annual sales in 2022 was \$61,494,000. In 2023 and 2024, collections are projected to be \$45,184,000 and \$32,670,000, respectively, although a pending sale of the helium reserve assets, mandated by the HAS, may significantly impact those estimates.

Mining Claim-Related Fees – Authority to collect these fees was initially enacted in the *Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for 1989*, which provided that fees established by the Secretary of the Interior for processing actions relating to the administration of the General Mining Laws shall be immediately available to the BLM for Mining Law Administration program operations.

The *Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993*, P.L. 103-66, Section 10101, provided for the annual \$100 per claim maintenance fee for unpatented mining claims and sites to continue through 1998. The authority has been modified and extended by subsequent Interior appropriations acts. The law allows a waiver from the fee for those claimants who hold 10 or fewer claims. The authority also established a \$25 per claim location fee for new claims, to be paid at the time of recordation. The law requires the fee be adjusted for inflation. The maintenance fee is currently \$165 per claim and the location fee is currently \$40 per claim. Additional information is included in the Mining Law Administration section.

A \$20 processing fee is required for new mining claim locations in addition to the initial maintenance fee and location fee. The BLM collects this fee under its cost recovery regulations (see 43 CFR 3000.12). These fees are accounted for separately from the maintenance and location fees and therefore are not included in the above total. Additional information is included in the Mining Law Administration section.

Service Charges, Deposits, and Forfeitures – These receipts include revenue from providing special program services, such as rights-of-way application processing fees; wild horse and burro adoption fees; fees charged to timber sale purchasers when the BLM performs work required by the contract; reimbursement to the government for damage to lands and resources; collections for processing disclaimers of interest applications; and photocopying fees. The collection and retention of each of these receipts are authorized through legislation. Collections in 2021 and 2022 were \$32,130,000 and \$44,423,000, respectively, and are estimated to be \$34,270,000 in 2023 and \$37,687,000 in 2024. Additional information is included in the Service Charges, Deposits, and Forfeitures section. Receipts in this account typically support long-term projects, some up to 30 years, and therefore can carry large balances as the funds are drawn down. These balances do not represent efficiencies; work continues throughout the lifetime of the project and the funds must remain available during the entire period.

Application for Permit to Drill (APD) Fees – The *National Defense Authorization Act for 2015 (NDAA)* provided for a 10-year authorization of APD fees, adjusted each year for inflation, replacing a fee previously established through annual appropriations language. The fee in 2022 was \$10,360 per application and \$40,377,920 was collected. The fee in 2023 is \$11,805. The NDAA also requires that the fees be deposited to the Permit Processing Improvement Fund. The BLM expects to collect \$44,020,845 from APD fees in 2023 and \$46,039,500 in 2024. For more information, please refer to the discussion in the Oil and Gas Management Program and the Permanent Operating Funds Chapter.

Wind and Solar Rights-of-Way – Collections in this category are annual rentals and capacity fees collected from rights-of-way (ROW) authorizations issued under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, for the granting of solar and wind power production. In 2021 and 2022, the BLM collected \$25,933,000 and \$12,308,000 in ROW fees, respectively. BLM estimates total wind and solar rents and fees to be \$15,498,000 in 2023 and \$17,498,000 in 2024.

Other Collections – Other receipts collected by the BLM are from land rentals for authorized commercial, industrial, and residential purposes; annual rentals from rights-of-way permits (except those issued under the authority of the *Mineral Leasing Act*); and from contributions. These consist of funds contributed to the BLM from non-Federal sources for projects or work authorized by the *Federal Land Policy and Management Act*, *Taylor Grazing Act*, *Sikes Act*, and other laws. Additional information on other collections is included in the Miscellaneous Permanent Payments, Permanent Operating Funds, and Miscellaneous Trust Fund sections.

Management of Lands and Resources

Appropriations Language

MANAGEMENT OF LANDS AND RESOURCES

For necessary expenses for protection, use, improvement, development, disposal, cadastral surveying, classification, acquisition of easements and other interests in lands, and performance of other functions, including maintenance of facilities, as authorized by law, in the management of lands and their resources under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, including the general administration of the Bureau, and assessment of mineral potential of public lands pursuant to section 1010(a) of Public Law 96–487 (16 U.S.C. 3150(a)), [\$1,368,969,000] \$1,497,069,000, to remain available until September 30, [2024] 2025; of which [\$76,187,000] \$85,003,000 for annual maintenance and deferred maintenance programs and [\$147,888,000] \$154,787,000 for the wild horse and burro program, as authorized by Public Law 92–195 (16 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.), shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That amounts in the fee account of the BLM Permit Processing Improvement Fund may be used for any bureau-related expenses associated with the processing of oil and gas applications for permits to drill and related use of authorizations: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, up to [\$3,500,000] \$1,000,000 may be made available for the purposes described in section 122(e)(1)(A) of division G of Public Law [115–21] 115–31 (43 U.S.C. 1748c(e)(1)(A)): *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this [heading, \$3,500,000 is for projects specified for Land Management Priorities in the table titled "Interior and Environment Incorporation of Community Project Funding Items/Congressionally Directed Spending Items" included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act)] *paragraph, not to exceed \$15,000 may be for official reception and representation expenses.*

In addition, [\$39,696,000] \$42,696,000 is for Mining Law Administration program operations, including the cost of administering the mining claim fee program, to remain available until expended, to be reduced by amounts collected by the Bureau and credited to this appropriation from mining claim maintenance fees and location fees that are hereby authorized for fiscal year [2023] 2024, so as to result in a final appropriation estimated at not more than [\$1,368,969,000] \$1,497,069,000, and \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended, from communication site rental fees established by the Bureau for the cost of administering communication site activities.

In addition, \$51,020,000, to remain available until expended, is for conducting oil and gas inspection activities, to be reduced by amounts collected by the Bureau and credited to this appropriation from onshore oil and gas inspection fees that the Bureau shall collect, as provided for in this Act, so as to result in a final appropriation estimated at not more than \$1,497,069,000. (Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023.)

Appropriations Language Citation

1. **For necessary expenses for protection, use, improvement, development, disposal, cadastral surveying, classification, acquisition of easements and other interests in lands, and performance of other functions, including maintenance of facilities, as authorized by law, in the management of lands and their resources under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, including the general administration of the Bureau,**

Appropriates funds to implement the *Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976*, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) for management of the public lands on a multiple use and sustained yield basis and such laws applicable to the management of the public lands.

2. **and assessment of mineral potential of public lands pursuant to section 1010(a) of Public Law 96-487(16U.S.C.3150(a)),**

The *Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act*, P.L. 96-487 (16 U.S.C. 3150(a)) established the Alaska mineral resource assessment program to assess the oil, gas, and other mineral potential on all public lands in the State of Alaska in order to expand the data base with respect to the mineral potential of such lands. The appropriations language provision allows the funds appropriated under this section to also be used for the Alaska mineral resource assessment program to assess the oil, gas, and other mineral potential on all public lands in the State of Alaska in order to expand the database with respect to the mineral potential of such lands.

3. **\$1,497,069,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025; of which \$85,003,000 for annual and deferred maintenance and \$154,787,000 for the wild horse and burro program, as authorized by Public Law 92-195 (16 U.S.C. 1331 et sec.), shall remain available until expended:**

The language makes the appropriations to the account available for a two-year basis, with an exception for Wild Horse & Burro Management and Annual Maintenance and Deferred Maintenance. Funding for these programs remain available until expended, allowing the BLM a valuable degree of flexibility needed to support program operations.

4. **Provided, That amounts in the fee account of the BLM Permit Processing Improvement Fund may be used for any bureau-related expenses associated with the processing of oil and gas applications for permits to drill and related use of authorizations.**

Provides the BLM with flexibility to allocate these fee revenues to where they are most needed, rather than having their allocation be prescribed by Section 3021 of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2015 (P.L. 113-291). Section 3021 requires that BLM transfer at least 75 percent of the fee revenue collected by a BLM office to the State Office of the State in which the fees are collected. To best ensure timely processing, flexibility to move resources among States and field offices in response to demand and workload shifts and surges is needed.

- 5. Provided further, That of the amounts made available under this heading, up to \$1,000,000 shall be made available for the purposes described in section 122(e)(1)(A) of division G of Public Law 115–31 (43 U.S.C. 1748c(e)(1)(A)).**

This provision allows BLM to provide up to \$1,000,000 of the MLR appropriation amount in direct funding to the BLM Foundation established in P.L. 115-31. The 2024 language changes the amount from up to \$3,500,000 to up to \$1,000,000.

- 6. [heading, \$3,500,000 is for projects specified for Land Management Priorities in the table titled “Interior and Environment Incorporation of Community Project Funding Items/Congressionally Directed Spending Items” included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act)]**

The budget removes language included in the 2023 appropriations associated with funding for Congressionally directed spending projects. The budget request does not include Congressionally Directed Spending and Community Project Funding included in the 2023 enacted bill in order to advance the Administration's priorities.

- 7. Provided further, That of the amounts made available under this paragraph, not to exceed \$15,000 may be for official reception and representation expenses.**

The 2024 budget proposes appropriations language to enable the Bureau of Land Management to use up to 15,000 of appropriated amounts for courtesy and social responsibilities associated with official duties, including outreach and engagement with Tribal partners to honor traditions. This request would provide the Bureau similar authority provided to other agencies to extend hospitality to official visitors without bureau employees bearing expenses from their own personal funds.

- 8. In addition, \$42,696,000 is for Mining Law Administration program operations, including the cost of administering the mining claim fee program, to remain available until expended, to be reduced by amounts collected by the Bureau and credited to this appropriation from mining claim maintenance fees and location fees that are hereby authorized for fiscal year 2024,**

This continued provision appropriates the BLM an amount to be offset by revenues generated by a mining claim fees (maintenance fees and location fees) to offset the cost of providing access to mineral resources in an environmentally responsible manner on public lands managed by the BLM. The 2024 budget increases this amount from \$39,696,000 to \$42,696,000.

- 9. so as to result in a final appropriation estimated at not more than \$1,497,069,000,**

This is the final budget authority, net of offsetting collections for mining law administration.

- 10. and \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended, from communication site rental fees established by the Bureau for the cost of administering communication site activities.**

This continued provision authorizes the BLM to spend revenues (actual collections, but not to exceed \$2.0 million) generated by a rental fee on rights-of-way authorizations under Title V of the *Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976*, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.).

11. In addition, \$51,020,000, to remain available until expended, is for conducting oil and gas inspection activities, to be reduced by amounts collected by the Bureau and credited to this appropriation from onshore oil and gas inspection fees that the Bureau shall collect, as provided for in this Act, so as to result in a final appropriation estimated at not more than \$1,497,069,000.

This provision appropriates the BLM an amount for oil and gas inspection activities to be offset by revenues generated from proposed new onshore oil and gas inspection fees. The fee authority and fee schedule are established by appropriations language in Title I General Provisions.

Authorizations

General Authorizing Legislation – The following authorize the general activities of the Bureau of Land Management or govern the manner in which the BLM’s activities are conducted.

Reorganization Plan No. 3 Establishes the BLM.
of 1946, §403

Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.)

Outlines functions of the BLM, provides for administration of public lands through the BLM, provides for management of the public lands on a multiple use basis, and requires land-use planning, including public involvement and a continuing inventory of resources. The Act establishes as public policy that, in general, the public lands will remain in Federal ownership, and also authorizes:

- Acquisition of land or interests in lands consistent with the mission of the Department and land use plans
- Permanent appropriation of road use fees collected from commercial road users, to be used for road maintenance
- Collection of service charges, damages, and contributions and the use of funds for specified purposes
- Protection of resource values
- Preservation of certain lands in their natural condition
- Compliance with pollution control laws
- Delineation of boundaries in which the Federal government has right, title, or interest
- Review of land classifications in land use planning; and modification or termination of land classifications when consistent with land use plans
- Sale of lands if the sale meets certain disposal criteria
- Issuance, modification, or revocation of withdrawals
- Review of certain withdrawals by October 1991
- Exchange or conveyance of public lands if in the public interest
- Outdoor recreation and human occupancy and use
- Management of the use, occupancy, and development of the public lands through leases and permits
- Designation of Federal personnel to carry out law enforcement responsibilities
- Determination of the suitability of public lands for rights-of-way purposes (other than oil and gas pipelines) and specification of the boundaries of each right-of-way
- Recordation of mining claims and reception of evidence of annual assessment work

Omnibus Public Land Management Act, 2009 (P.L. 111-11):

- Codifies the 26 million acre National Landscape Conservation System as a permanent program in the BLM
- Established one new National Monument in New Mexico
- Established four new National Conversation Areas: two in Utah, one in Colorado, and one in New Mexico
- Added approximately 2 million acres to the National Wilderness Preservation System
- Added approximately 1,000 miles to the National Wild and Scenic River System
- Directed eight conveyances of public land out of Federal ownership

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.)

Requires the preparation of environmental impact statements for Federal projects that may have a significant effect on the environment. It requires systematic, interdisciplinary planning to ensure the integrated use of the natural and social sciences and the environmental design arts in making decisions about major Federal actions that may have a significant effect on the environment.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.)

Directs Federal agencies to ensure that their actions do not jeopardize threatened and endangered species and that through their authority they help bring about the recovery of these species.

Energy Policy Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-58)

Directs Federal agencies to undertake efforts to ensure energy efficiency, and the production of secure, affordable, and reliable domestic energy.

An Act to Amend the Reclamation Recreation Management Act of 1992 (P.L. 107-69)

Provides for the security of dams, facilities and resources under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Reclamation. Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to authorize law enforcement personnel from the Department of the Interior to enforce Federal laws and regulations within a Reclamation Project or on Reclamation lands.

The Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 (5 U. S. C. 1701)

Requires each executive agency to conduct a continuing program to eliminate the under-representation of minorities and women in professional, administrative, technical, clerical, and other blue-collar employment categories within the Federal services.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000)

Requires development and maintenance of affirmative action programs to ensure non-discrimination in any employment activity.

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520)

Provides national Federal information policy, and requires that automatic data processing and telecommunication technologies be acquired and used to improve services, delivery, and productivity, and to reduce the information-processing burden for the Federal government and the public.

The Electronic FOIA Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-231)

Requires that government offices make more information available in electronic format to the public.

The Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-106 §5001)

Requires agencies to more effectively use Information Technology to improve mission performance and service to the public, and strengthen the quality of decisions about technology and mission needs through integrated planning, budgeting, and evaluation.

The Chief Financial Officers Act of 1990 (U.S.C. 501)

Requires that a Chief Financial Officer be appointed by the Director of OMB and that this CFO will provide for the production of complete, reliable, timely and consistent financial information for use by the executive branch of the Government and the Congress in the financing, management, and evaluation of Federal programs.

The Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-62)

Requires 10 Federal agencies to launch a 3-year pilot project beginning in 1994, to develop annual performance plans that specify measurable goals, and produce annual reports showing how they are achieving those goals.

P.L. 101-512, November 5, 1990

Authorizes the BLM to negotiate and enter into cooperative arrangements with public and private agencies, organizations, institutions, and individuals to implement challenge cost share programs.

Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 201)

Requires compliance with all Federal, State, or local statutes for safe drinking water.

E-Government Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-374)

Requires the use of internet-based information technology to improve public access to information and to promote electronic services and processes.

John D. Dingell Jr., Conservation, Management and Recreation Act (P.L. 116-9)

Permanently authorizes and funds the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Adjusts boundaries of existing Federal land use designations. The act also authorizes:

- Designates 12 new recreation areas.
- Directs off-highway vehicle recreation to newly federally designated areas.
- Directed eight conveyances of public land out of Federal ownership.

Great American Outdoors Act, P.L. 116-152

The Great American Outdoors Act, which was enacted in 2020, amended the Land and Water Conservation Fund authorization (54 U.S.C. 200303) to permanently appropriate full funding (\$900 million a year) for the LWCF.

Specific Authorizing Legislation - In addition to the above laws that provide general authorization and parameters, a number of laws authorize specific program activities, or activities in specific or designated areas.

Rangeland Management

Taylor Grazing Act of 1934 (43 U.S.C. 315), as amended by the Act of August 28, 1937 (43 U.S.C. 1181d)

Authorizes the establishment of grazing districts, regulation and administration of grazing on the public lands, and improvement of the public rangelands. It also authorizes the Secretary to accept contributions for the administration, protection, and improvement of grazing lands, and establishment of a trust fund to be used for these purposes.

Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978 (43 U.S.C. 1901-1908)

Provides for the improvement of range conditions to assure that rangelands become as productive as feasible for watershed protection, livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, and other rangeland values. The act also authorizes:

- Research on wild horse and burro population dynamics, and facilitates the humane adoption or disposal of excess wild free roaming horses and burros, and,
- Appropriation of \$10 million or 50 percent of all moneys received as grazing fees, whichever is greater, notwithstanding the amount of fees collected.

Bankhead Jones Farm Tenant Act of 1937 (7 U.S.C. 1010 et seq.)

Authorizes management of acquired farm tenant lands, and construction and maintenance of range improvements. It directs the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a program of land conservation and utilization to adjust land use to help control soil erosion, conduct reforestation, preserve natural resources, develop and protect recreational facilities, protect watersheds, and protect public health and safety.

Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (P.L. 113-291)

Provides authority to continue the terms and conditions of a grazing permit or lease that has expired until any environmental analysis and documentation has been completed.

Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act of 1977 (16 U.S.C. 2001)

Provides for conservation, protection and enhancement of soil, water, and related resources.

Public Domain Forest Management

Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (P.L. 108-148) – 16 U.S.C. 6501 et seq.

Authorizes the BLM and the U.S. Forest Service to conduct hazardous fuels reduction projects on Federal land in wildland-urban interface areas and on certain other Federal lands using expedited procedures.

Forest Ecosystem Health & Recovery Fund (P.L. 102-381)

Authorizes quick response to fire and reforestation of forests damaged by insects, disease, and fire. Also includes proactive vegetative treatments designed to reduce the risk of catastrophic damage to forests and increase forest resiliency to disturbances. Funds in this account are derived from the Federal share (defined as the portion of receipts not paid to the counties under 43 U.S.C. 2605 and 43 U.S.C. 2601 et seq., and P.L. 106-393) of receipts from all BLM timber salvage sales and all BLM forest health restoration treatments funded by this account. The Fund was established as a permanent appropriation in the FY 1993 Interior Appropriations Act (Public Law 102-381). This authority was subsequently amended to temporarily expand the use of the FEHRF to cover additional forest health and recovery activities. This temporary expansion also included the authority for receipts from the expanded activities to be deposited in the FEHRF and expended without having to be appropriated. The temporary, expanded authority of the FEHRF was extended for five years in the *2010 Interior Appropriations Act* (P.L. 111-88, 123 STAT. 2906) and was scheduled to expire at the end of fiscal year 2015. The *2015 Omnibus Appropriations Act* (Section 117) extended this authority again through 2020. The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 extended this authority through 2021. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (P.L. 117-103), included a one-year extension of this authority. It was extended for another year in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117-328). The 2024 President’s budget proposes a one-year extension of this authority (through September 30, 2024).

Sec. 347 of Public Law 105-277, as amended by Public Law 108-7 and P. L. 113-79

Permanently authorizes the BLM, via agreement or contract as appropriate, to enter into stewardship contracting projects with private persons or other public or private entities to perform services to achieve land management goals for the national forests and the public lands that meet local and rural community needs.

Cultural Resources Management

P.L. 107-346

To convey certain property to the City of St. George, Utah, in order to provide for the protection and preservation of certain rare paleontological resources on that property, and for other purposes.

The Federal Cave Resource Protection Act of 1988 (16 U.S.C. 4301)

Provides for the protection of caves on lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary, and the Secretary of Agriculture. Establishes terms and conditions for use permits, and penalties for violations.

The Historic Sites Act (16 U.S.C. 461)

Declares national policy to identify and preserve historic sites, buildings, objects, and antiquities of national significance, providing a foundation for the National Register of Historic Places.

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470)

Expands protection of historic and archaeological properties to include those of national, State, and local significance. It also directs Federal agencies to consider the effects of proposed actions on properties eligible for or included in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470a, 470cc and 470ee)

Requires permits for the excavation or removal of Federally administered archaeological resources, encourages increased cooperation among Federal agencies and private individuals, provides stringent criminal and civil penalties for violations, and requires Federal agencies to identify important resources vulnerable to looting and to develop a tracking system for violations.

The Chacoan Culture Preservation Act of 1980 (16 U.S.C. 410; ii)

Provides for preservation, protection, research, and interpretation of the Chacoan system, including 33 archaeological protection sites, located throughout the San Juan Basin on public, State, Indian and private lands.

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 (25 U.S.C. 3001)

Requires agencies to inventory archaeological and ethnological collections in their possession or control (which includes non-Federal museums) for human remains, associated funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony; identify them

geographically and culturally; and notify appropriate Tribes within five years.

Galisteo Basin (New Mexico) Archaeological Sites Protection Act (P.L. 108-208)

Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to administer the designated sites under this Act and other laws to protect, preserve, provide for research on, and maintain these archaeological resources.

Wild Horse and Burro Management

Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971 (P.L. 92-195), as amended

The Secretary is authorized and directed to protect and manage wild free-roaming horses and burros as components of the public lands, and he may designate and maintain specific ranges on public lands as sanctuaries for their protection and preservation, where the Secretary after consultation with the wildlife agency of the State wherein any such range is proposed and with the Advisory Board established in Section 7 of this Act deems such action desirable. The Secretary shall manage wild free-roaming horses and burros in a manner that is designed to achieve and maintain a thriving natural ecological balance on the public lands.

Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.)

For the purpose of furthering knowledge of wild horse and burro population dynamics and their interrelationship with wildlife, forage and water resources, and assisting the Secretary in making his determination as to what constitutes excess animals, the Secretary shall contract for a research study of such animals with such individuals independent of Federal and State government as may be recommended by the National Academy of Sciences for having scientific expertise and special knowledge of wild horse and burro protection, wildlife management and animal husbandry as related to rangeland management.

***Public Rangelands
Improvement Act of 1978
(43 U.S.C. 1901-1908)***

Based on the information available to him at the time, if the Secretary determines that overpopulation of wild free-roaming horses and burros exists on a given area of the public lands and that action is necessary to remove excess animals, he shall immediately remove excess animals from the range to achieve appropriate management levels. Such action shall be taken until all excess animals have been removed to restore a thriving natural ecological balance to the range, and protect the range from the deterioration associated with overpopulation.

The Secretary shall cause such number of additional excess wild free-roaming horses and burros to be humanely captured and removed for private maintenance and care for which he determines an adoption demand exists by qualified individuals, and for which he determines he can assure humane treatment and care (including proper transportation, feeding, and handling).

Wildlife Habitat Management

***National Fish and Wildlife
Foundation Establishment
Act, as amended, (16 U.S.C.
3701)***

Establishes the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation as a nonprofit corporation to encourage, accept and administer private gifts of property and to undertake activities to further the conservation and management of fish, wildlife, and plant resources of the United States.

***The Migratory Bird
Conservation Act of 1929,
as amended (16 U.S.C. 715)
and treaties pertaining
thereto***

Provides for habitat protection and enhancement of protected migratory birds.

***The Sikes Act of 1974, as
amended (16 U.S.C. 670 et
seq.)***

Provides for the conservation, restoration, and management of species and their habitats in cooperation with State wildlife agencies.

Aquatic Resources

***The Federal Noxious Weed
Act of 1974, as amended (7
U.S.C. 2814)***

Provides for the designation of a lead office and a person trained in the management of undesirable plants; establishment and funding of an undesirable plant management program; completion and implementation of cooperative agreements with State agencies; and establishment of integrated management systems to control undesirable plant species.

<i>Noxious Weed Control Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-412)</i>	Establishes a program to provide assistance through States to eligible weed management entities to control or eradicate harmful, nonnative weeds on public and private lands.
<i>Carlson-Foley Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 1241-1243)</i>	Authorizes the BLM to reimburse States for expenditures associated with coordinated control of noxious plants.
<i>Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (P.L. 108-447) – including the authorizations:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watershed Restoration Projects (P.L. 106-291, Section 331, as amended by P.L. 108-447, Division E, Section 336) – Permits the Colorado State Forest Service to perform watershed restoration and protection services on BLM-managed lands in the State of Colorado when similar and complementary work is being performed on adjacent state lands. <li>• <i>Snake River Water Rights Act of 2004</i> (P.L. 108-447, Division J, Title X) – Directs the BLM to transfer, at the selection of the Nez Perce Tribe, certain land managed by the BLM in northern Idaho to the Bureau of Indian Affairs to be held in trust for the Tribe. Existing rights and uses on the selected lands remain in effect until the date of expiration of the lease or permit. The fair market value of the parcels of land selected by the Tribe is not to exceed \$7 million.
<i>Burnt, Malheur, Owyhee, and Powder River Basin Water Optimization Feasibility Study Act of 2001 (P.L. 107-237)</i>	Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to conduct feasibility studies on water optimization in the Burnt River, Malheur River, Owyhee River, and Powder River Basins.
<i>Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act Amendment of 1984 (43 U.S.C. 1593)</i>	Directs the Department to undertake research and develop demonstration projects to identify methods to improve the water quality of the Colorado River. The amendment requires the BLM to develop a comprehensive salinity control program, and to undertake advanced planning on the Sinbad Valley Unit.
<i>The Clean Air Act of 1990, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7401, 7642)</i>	Requires the BLM to protect air quality, maintain Federal and State designated air quality standards, and abide by the requirements of the State implementation plans.

The Clean Water Act of 1987, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251)

Establishes objectives to restore and maintain the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the Nation's water.

P.L. 107-30

Provides further protections for the watershed of the Little Sandy River as part of the Bull Run Watershed Management Unit, Oregon, and adds responsibilities for the Secretary of the Interior and the BLM.

Wilderness Management

Defense Department FY 2006 Authorization Bill (P.L. 109-63)

Provides for the designation and management of Cedar Mountain Wilderness in Utah.

Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006

Designates wilderness in White Pine County, Nevada.

Otay Mountain Wilderness Act of 1999

Establishes the Otay Mountain Wilderness Area in California, to be managed by the Secretary, acting through the BLM Director.

Clark County Conservation of Public Land and Natural Resources Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-282) (16 USC 460qqq)

Establishes Wilderness Areas, including Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area, and to promote conservation, improve public land, and provide for high quality development in Clark County, Nevada, and for other purposes.

Ojito Wilderness Act (P.L. 109-94)

Designates New Mexico's Ojito Wilderness Study Area as wilderness, to take certain land into trust for the Pueblo of Zia, and for other purposes.

P.L. 107-361

Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain public lands within the Sand Mountain Wilderness Study Area in Idaho to resolve an occupancy encroachment dating back to 1971.

Northern California Coastal Wild Heritage Wilderness Act (P.L. 106-362)

Provides for the designation and management of Wilderness Areas in California.

Big Sur Wilderness and Conservation Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-370)

Designates certain lands in the State of California as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, and for other purposes.

<i>Utah West Desert Land Exchange Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-301)</i>	Authorizes exchange of public lands for certain lands owned by the State of Utah within existing and proposed Wilderness Study Areas in the West Desert Region of Utah.
<i>The Land Use Planning Act (P. L. 94-579), as amended by the California Desert Protection Act of 1994 (P.L. 103-433) (43 USC 1781)</i>	Establishes boundaries and management responsibilities for areas in the California Desert, and establishes 69 new Wilderness Areas.
<i>The Wilderness Act of 1964 (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.)</i>	Provides for the designation and preservation of Wilderness Areas.
<i>Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (P.L. 113-291)</i>	Establishes the Rocky Mountain Front Conservation Management Area in Montana including 13,087 acres of BLM-managed land; withdraws certain lands in the North Fork Federal Lands Withdraw Area from all forms of location, entry, and patent under mining laws and disposition under all laws relating to mineral leasing and geothermal leasing; and designates 26,000 acres of land as wilderness.

Recreation Resources Management

<i>Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (P.L. 104-134)</i>	Provides authority to the BLM for collection of recreation fees to maintain and improve the quality of visitor amenities and services.
<i>The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460 et seq.)</i>	Provides for the establishment of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, special BLM accounts in the Treasury, the collection and disposition of recreation fees, the authorization for appropriation of recreation fee receipts, and other purposes. Authorizes planning, acquisition, and development of needed land and water areas and facilities.
<i>Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260)</i>	Extends the current Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) expiration date to October 1, 2022. The current FLREA authority expires on October 1, 2024. The 2024 President’s budget proposes appropriations language to extend the authority through October 1, 2025.
<i>John D. Dingell Jr., Conservation,</i>	Codifies the existing McCoy Flats Trail System.

*Management, and
Recreation Act (P.L. 116-9)*

Oil and Gas Management

*The Act of March 3, 1909,
as amended, and the Act of
May 11, 1938 (25 U.S.C.
396, 396(a))*

Provides the basic mandate under which the BLM supervises minerals operations on Indian Lands. Provides that lands allotted to Indians, and unallotted Tribal Indian lands, may be leased for mining purposes, as deemed advisable by the Secretary.

*The Federal Oil and Gas
Royalty Management Act of
1982 (30 U.S.C. 1701)
(FOGRMA)*

Comprehensive law dealing with royalty management on Federal and Indian leases. In addition to revenue accountability, it includes provisions pertaining to onshore field operations, inspections, and cooperation with State and Indian Tribes; duties of lessees and other lease interest owners, transporters, and purchasers of oil and gas; reinstatement of onshore leases terminated by operation of law; and a requirement that the Secretary study whether royalties are adequate for coal, uranium, and non-energy leasable minerals.

*Energy Policy and
Conservation Act
Amendments of 2000 (P.L.
106-469, Section 604)*

Directs the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretaries of Agriculture and Energy, to conduct an inventory of all onshore Federal lands to determine reserve estimates of oil and gas resources underlying the lands and the extent and nature of any impediments to development of the oil and gas resources.

*The Federal Onshore Oil
and Gas Leasing Reform
Act of 1987 (30 U.S.C. 226,
et seq.)*

Establishes a new oil and gas leasing system, and changes certain operational procedures for onshore Federal lands.

*The Combined
Hydrocarbon Leasing Act
of 1981 (30 U.S.C. 181,
351)*

Permits the owners of oil and gas leases issued after November 16, 1981, to explore, develop, and produce tar sands. Authorizes the issuance of combined hydrocarbon leases in specified areas designated by the Department of the Interior on November 20, 1980.

*Reorganization Plan No. 3
of 1946, §402 (60 Stat.
1099)*

Transferred mineral leasing functions to the Secretary, from the Secretary of Agriculture, for certain acquired lands.

*The Interior and Related
Agencies Appropriations*

Provides for competitive leasing of oil and gas in the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska.

Act for 1981 (42 U.S.C. 6508)

The Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1001)

Authorizes the Secretary to issue leases for the development of geothermal resources.

The Geothermal Steam Act Amendments of 1988

Lists significant thermal features within the National Park System requiring protection, provides for lease extensions and continuation of leases beyond their primary terms, and requires periodic review of cooperative or unit plans of development.

The Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 21a)

Establishes policy of fostering development of economically stable mining and minerals industries, their orderly and economic development, and studying methods for disposal of waste and reclamation.

The Act of March 3, 1879, as amended (43 U.S.C. 31(a))

Provides for the inventory and classification of the public lands, and examination of the geologic structure, mineral resources, and products of the national domain.

Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (P.L. 113-235)

Provides authority for an Internet-based oil and gas leasing program.

Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (P.L. 113-291)

Authorizes processing fee for applications for permit to drill (APD) for 2016 through 2026, with collections deposited into and permanently appropriated from the BLM Permit Processing Fund (PPIF), except in years 2016 through 2019 when only 85 percent of APD fee revenues are permanently appropriated. The NDAA also permanently extends the BLM access to the mineral lease rent revenues deposited in the PPIF. Prior to enactment of the NDAA, the BLM access to the PPIF would have expired at the end of 2015, in accordance with Section 365 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, which created the PPIF. Amends the *Mineral Leasing Act* to provide authority for establish and implement internet leasing for onshore oil and gas leases.

Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (P.L. 115-97)

Establishes an oil and gas leasing program in the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska.

John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act

Authorizes the Secretary of the Army to continue production and use of the natural gas at Fort Knox in Kentucky in compliance with

for Fiscal Year 2019 (P.L. 115-232)

the Mineral Leasing Act (MLA). The Act also requires the Secretary of the Interior to calculate the value of royalty payments that the State of Kentucky would have received under the MLA for past production, and authorizes the disbursement of revenues up to \$49,000 annually to the State.

Coal Management

The Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 U.S.C. 1201 et seq.)

Provides that lands may be declared unsuitable for surface coal mining where significant adverse impacts could result to certain wildlife species.

The Federal Coal Leasing Amendments Act of 1976 (30 U.S.C. 201, et seq.)

Requires competitive leasing of coal on public lands, and mandates a broad spectrum of coal operations requirements for lease management.

The Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 21a)

Establishes policy of fostering development of economically stable mining and minerals industries, their orderly and economic development, and studying methods for disposal of waste and reclamation.

The Act of March 3, 1879, as amended (43 U.S.C. 31(a))

Provides for the inventory and classification of the public lands, and examination of the geologic structure, mineral resources, and products of the national domain.

Other Mineral Resources

Mineral Materials Act of 1947 (30 U.S.C. 601)

Authorizes the BLM to sell sand, gravel, crushed stone, clay and pumice at fair market value and to grant free-use permits to Government agencies and nonprofit organizations, so long as public land resources, the environment and the public are protected.

The Multiple Surface Use Act (30 U.S.C. 611)

Specified that sand, gravel, and certain other minerals were no longer locatable under the General Mining Law of 1872 but were subject to disposal by sale under the *Minerals Materials Act of 1947*.

Alaska Conveyance

The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 (ANCSA) (43 U.S.C. 1612)

Requires the survey of Alaska Native lands for conveyance to Native corporations and individuals.

The Alaska Statehood Act, as amended (48 U.S.C. Chap. 2 note)

Requires the survey of lands for conveyance to the State.

The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 (16 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.)

Provides for the designation and conservation of certain public lands in Alaska. The BLM responsibilities include six Wild and Scenic Rivers; nine study rivers; one National Conservation Area; one National Recreation Area; and, one National Scenic Highway.

Alaska Native Allotment Subdivision Act (P.L. 108-337)

Allows Native Alaskans to subdivide their restricted allotment lands with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

Alaska Land Acceleration Act of 2003 (P.L. 108-452)

Reduces the delays that exist in the adjudication and conveyance of Alaska Native Allotments, State and other land entitlements that are authorized under the *Alaska Native Allotment Act of 1906*, the *Alaska Native Claims Act*, and the *Alaska Statehood Act*.

43 U.S.C. 2

Provides that the Secretary shall perform all executive duties pertaining to the surveying and sale of public lands, private claims of public lands, and the issuing of patents for all grants of land under the authority of the Government.

43 U.S.C. 52

Provides that the Secretary shall cause all public lands to be surveyed and monumented, that all private land claims shall be surveyed after they have been confirmed, and that the Secretary shall transmit plats of all lands surveyed to such officers as he may designate.

Swan Lake Hydroelectric Project Boundary Correction Act (P.L. 115-200)

Directs the BLM to issue a patent to the State of Alaska for a tract of land within the boundary of Swan Lake Hydroelectric Project.

*John D. Dingell Jr.,
Conservation,
Management, and
Recreation Act (P.L. 116-9)*

Directs the BLM to identify Federal Land administered by the BLM as available Federal land for allotment selection in the State by eligible individuals under the Alaska Native Vietnam Era Veterans Land Allotment.

Cadastral, Lands and Realty

Executive Order 12906

The executive branch is developing, in cooperation with State, local, and Tribal governments, and the private sector, a coordinated National Spatial Data Infrastructure to support public and private sector applications of geospatial data. The BLM is charged with developing data standards, ensuring the capability to share cadastral data from the Public Land Survey System of the U.S. with partners.

*Native American Technical
Corrections Act of 2004
(P.L. 108-204, Title II)*

Placed in trust for the Pueblo of Santa Clara in New Mexico approximately 2,484 acres of BLM-managed land. Placed in trust for the Pueblo of San Ildefonso in New Mexico approximately 2,000 acres of BLM-managed land.

P.L. 107-374

Directs the Secretary of the Interior to grant to Deschutes and Crook Counties, Oregon, a right-of-way to West Butte Road.

P. L. 109-46

Directs the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain land to Lander County, Nevada, and the Secretary of Interior to convey certain land to Eureka County, Nevada, for continued use of cemeteries.

P. L. 109-69

Directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land in Washoe County, Nevada, to the Board of Regents of the University and Community College System of Nevada.

P. L. 109-130

Directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey a parcel of real property to Beaver County, Utah.

*Southern Nevada Public
Land Management Act of
1998 (P.L. 105-263)*

Authorizes the disposal through sale of 27,000 acres in Clark County, Nevada, the proceeds of which are distributed as follows: (a) 5 percent for use in the general education program of the State of Nevada; (b) 10 percent for use by Southern Nevada Water Authority for water treatment and transmission facility infrastructure in Clark County, Nevada; and (c) the remaining 85 percent to be used to acquire environmentally sensitive lands in Nevada; to make capital improvements to areas administered by NPS, FWS, and the BLM in Clark County, Nevada; to develop a multi-species habitat plan in

Clark County, Nevada; to develop parks, trails, and natural areas in Clark County, Nevada; and to provide reimbursements for the BLM costs incurred in arranging sales and exchanges under this Act.

Clark County Conservation of Public Land and Natural Resources Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-282) as amended by P.L. 108-447

Enlarges the area in which the BLM can sell lands under the *Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act* (SNPLMA); approves a land exchange in the Red Rock Canyon Area; designates wilderness; designates certain BLM-managed lands for a new airport for Las Vegas; and gives land to the State and City for certain purposes.

Lincoln County Lands Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-298)

Authorizes disposal of certain Federal lands through public sale in Lincoln County, Nevada, and provides for use of the receipts: 5 percent to the State of Nevada, 10 percent to the County, and 85 percent to an interest bearing account that is available for expenditure without further appropriation.

Lincoln County Conservation, Recreation and Development Act (P.L. 108-424)

Addresses a wide-range of public lands issues in Lincoln County, Nevada, designates as wilderness 768,294 acres of BLM-managed lands and releases from wilderness study area (WSA) status 251,965 acres of public land. The bill also directs the BLM to dispose of up to 90,000 acres of public land and divides the proceeds 85 percent to a Federal fund and 15 percent to State and county entities, establishes utility corridors, transfers public lands for State and county parks, creates a 260-mile OHV trail and resolves other public lands issues.

Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (P.L. 108-447) – including the authorizations:

- *Foundation for Nevada's Veteran's Land Transfer Act of 2004* (P.L. 108-447, Division E, Section 144) – Authorizes the transfer of public lands from the BLM to the Veteran's Administration for the construction and operation of medical and related facilities.
- *To Resolve a Minor Boundary Encroachment on Lands of the Union Pacific Railroad Company in Tipton, CA* (P.L. 108-447, Division E, Section 139) – Relinquishes the Federal government's reversionary interest in an abandoned railroad right-of-way in order to clear the cloud on the title of a small parcel of private land.
- *Federal Land Recreation Enhancement Act* (P.L. 108-447, Division J, Title VIII) – Gives the BLM authority to collect

entrance fees at certain recreation areas for ten years beginning in 2005.

P.L. 107-324

A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land to the City of Haines, Oregon.

***T'uf Shur Bien
Preservation Trust Area Act
(P.L. 108-7, Division F,
Title IV)***

Amends FLPMA, Section 316, to require that any corrections to land conveyance documents, which affect the boundaries of land administered by a Federal agency other than the BLM, be made only after consultation with, and the approval of, the head of such other agency.

P.L. 107-371

Directs the Secretary of the Interior to disclaim any Federal interest in lands adjacent to Spirit Lake and Twin Lakes in Idaho resulting from possible omission of lands from an 1880 survey.

P.L. 107-350

Provides for the conveyance of certain public land in Clark County, Nevada, for use as a shooting range.

P.L. 107-138

Requires the valuation of non-Tribal interest ownership of subsurface rights within the boundaries of the Acoma Indian Reservation, and for other purposes.

P.L. 106-206

Revised authority for commercial filming and still photography activities. In doing so, it clarifies authority on the requirements for commercial filming and still photography permits and establishes limitations on filming activities for the protection of resources.

***Ivanpah Valley Airport
Public Land Transfer Act
(P.L. 106-145)***

Authorizes sale at fair market value of certain lands in Clark County, Nevada to Clark County, for use as an airport. Provides that the funds be deposited in the special account for the *Southern Nevada Public Lands Act*, to be used for acquisition of private in-holdings in the Mojave National Preserve and protection of petroglyph resources in Clark County, Nevada.

***The Burton-Santini Act
(P.L. 96-586)***

Authorizes the Secretary to sell not more than 700 acres of public lands per calendar year in and around Las Vegas, Nevada. The proceeds are to be used to acquire environmentally sensitive lands in the Lake Tahoe Basin of California and Nevada.

***The Federal Power Act of
1920, as amended (16
U.S.C. 818)***

Allows other uses of Federal waterpower withdrawals with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approval.

<i>The Act of May 24, 1928, as amended (49 U.S.C. App. 211-213)</i>	Authorizes the Secretary to lease contiguous unappropriated public lands (not to exceed 2,560 acres) for a public airport.
<i>The Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982 (49 U.S.C. 2215)</i>	Authorizes conveyance of lands to public agencies for use as airports and airways.
<i>The Engle Act of February 28, 1958 (43 U.S.C. 156)</i>	Provides that Congress shall make withdrawals for the Department of Defense for more than 5,000 acres.
<i>The Recreation and Public Purposes Act of 1926, as amended (43 U.S.C. 869)</i>	Authorizes the Secretary to classify public lands for lease or sale for recreation or public purposes.
<i>The R&PP Amendment Act of 1988</i>	Provides that suitable public lands may be made available for use as solid waste disposal sites, in a manner that will protect the U.S. against unforeseen liability.
<i>The Desert Land Act of 1877 (43 U.S.C. 321-323)</i>	Provides authority to reclaim arid and semi-arid public lands of the western States through individual effort and private capital.
<i>The Act of August 30, 1949, as amended (43 U.S.C. 687(b))</i>	Authorizes the Secretary to dispose of public lands, and certain withdrawn Federal lands in Alaska, that are classified as suitable for housing and industrial or commercial purposes.
<i>The Utah School Lands Act (P.L. 103-93)</i>	Authorizes the Secretary to enter into land exchanges for certain purposes.
<i>Federal Land Exchange Facilitation Act of 1988 (43 U.S.C. 1716)</i>	Amends FLPMA to provide for the streamlining of Federal land exchange procedures.
<i>The Arkansas-Idaho Land Exchange Act of 1992 (P.L. 102-584)</i>	Authorizes the Secretary to enter into land exchanges for certain purposes.
<i>Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (P.L. 113-291)</i>	Authorizes the Secretary to enter into land exchanges and to convey land for certain purposes.

Black Hills National Cemetery Boundary Expansion Act (P.L. 115-175)

Transfers administrative jurisdiction of approximately 200 acres of BLM-managed public land to the Department of Veterans Affairs' National Cemetery Administration for inclusion in the Black Hills National Cemetery in Meade County, South Dakota.

Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (P.L. 115-141)

Permanently reauthorizes the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA) and broadened the Act's applicability to include recreational access and use, in addition to other values. The Act also required the BLM to establish and maintain a public database containing a comprehensive list of all public lands identified as potentially suitable for disposal under a land use plan.

Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (P.L. 115-141)

Amends FLPMA by adding new provisions regarding vegetation management, facility inspection, and operation and maintenance activities within electric transmission and distribution facility rights-of-way. The new provisions aim to enhance the reliability of the electrical grid and reduce the threat of wildfire by minimizing the need for case-by-case approvals of vegetation management activities. The Act requires the Department to generate guidance; allows ROW grant-holders (utilities) to develop maintenance plans that include timelines; allows for some activities to be undertaken without prior Departmental approval; excludes some actions from environmental review; limits liability in certain instances; and establishes new training requirements for departmental personnel.

Abandoned Mine Lands and Hazardous Materials Management

The Clean Water Act of 1987, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251)

Establishes objectives to restore and maintain the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the Nation's water.

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act as amended by Federal Facility Compliance Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 6901-6992)

Authorizes the EPA to manage, by regulation, hazardous wastes on active disposal operations. Waives sovereign immunity for Federal agencies with respect to all Federal, State, and local solid and hazardous waste laws and regulations. Makes Federal agencies subject to civil and administrative penalties for violations, and to cost assessments for the administration of the enforcement.

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. 9601-9673)

Provides for liability, risk assessment, compensation, emergency response, and cleanup (including the cleanup of inactive sites) for hazardous substances. Requires Federal agencies to report sites where hazardous wastes are or have been stored, treated, or disposed, and requires responsible parties, including Federal agencies, to clean-up releases of hazardous substances.

Community Environmental Response Facilitations Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 9620(h))

Amendment to the *Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980*, as amended, which expands on the risk assessment requirements for land transfers and disposal.

The Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. 11001-11050)

Requires the private sector to inventory chemicals and chemical products, to report those in excess of threshold planning quantities, to inventory emergency response equipment, to provide annual reports and support to local and State emergency response organizations, and to maintain a liaison with the local and State emergency response organizations and the public.

The Pollution Prevention Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13101-13109)

Requires and encourages prevention and reduction of waste streams and other pollution through minimization, process change, and recycling. Encourages and requires development of new technology and markets to meet the objectives.

Annual Maintenance and Operational Costs

National Dam Inspection Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. 467)

Requires the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, to carry out a dam inspection program to protect human life and property.

National Conservation Lands

The King Range National Conservation Area Act of 1970, as amended (P.L. 91-476) (16 U.S.C. 460y)

Provides for management and development of the King Range National Conservation Area for recreational and other multiple use purposes. It authorizes the Secretary to enter into land exchanges and to acquire lands or interests in lands within the national conservation area.

Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976,

Establishes the California Desert Conservation Area.

*as amended (43 U.S.C.
1701 et seq.)*

***Alaska National Interest
Lands Conservation Act
(P.L. 96-487) (16 USC
460mm)***

Establishes the Steese National Conservation Area to be managed by the BLM.

***National Parks and
Recreation Act of 1978
Amendment (P.L. 101-628)***

Establishes the Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area in the State of Oregon in order to protect the unique scenic, scientific, educational, and recreational values of such lands. Requires the Secretary of the Interior to develop a management plan for such Area. The Secretary of the Interior shall manage the monument through the BLM.

***Arizona Desert Wilderness
Act of 1990 – Title II –
Designation of the Gila Box
Riparian National
Conservation Area (P.L.
101-628) (16 USC 460ddd)***

Establishes the Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area. The Secretary of the Interior shall manage the monument through the BLM.

***The Snake River Birds of
Prey National Conservation
Area Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-
64) (16 USC 460iii)***

Establishes the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area, Idaho, to provide for the conservation, protection, and enhancement of raptor populations, habitats, and associated natural resources and of the scientific, cultural, and educational resources of the public lands. Requires the Secretary of the Interior to finalize a new comprehensive management plan for the Area. Authorizes the Secretary, acting through the BLM, to establish a visitor's center to interpret the history and geological, ecological, natural, cultural and other resources of the Area and biology of the raptors and their relationships to humans.

***An Act to Establish the Red
Rock Canyon National
Conservation Area in
Nevada (P.L. 101-621) as
amended by 107-282 (16
U.S.C. 460ccc)***

Provides for the conservation, protection, and enhancement of cultural and natural resources values by the BLM within the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area.

***An Act to Establish the El
Malpais National
Monument and the El***

Provides for the protection and management of natural and cultural resource values within the El Malpais National Conservation Area by the BLM.

***Malpais National
Conservation Area in New
Mexico, P.L. 100-225 (16
U.S.C. 460uu 21)***

***An Act to Provide for the
Designation and
Conservation of Certain
Lands in Arizona and
Idaho (P.L. 100-696) (16
U.S.C. 460xx)***

Establishes the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area in Arizona and provides for management and development for recreation and other multiple use purposes.

***Black Canyon of the
Gunnison National Park
and Gunnison Gorge
National Conservation
Area Act of 1999 (6 USC
410fff), as amended (P.L.
106-76 & 108-128)***

Establishes the Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area to be managed by the Secretary, acting through the Director of the Bureau of Land Management. P.L. 108-128 amends the boundaries of the National Conservation Area.

***Black Rock Desert/High
Rock Canyon Emigrant
Trails National
Conservation Area Act of
2000, as amended, (P.L.
106-554 & P.L. 107-63) (16
U.S.C. 460ppp)***

Establishes the Black Rock Desert/High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area in Nevada, to be managed by the Secretary, acting through the BLM Director.

***Colorado Canyons National
Conservation Area and
Black Ridge Canyon
Wilderness Act of 2000 (16
U.S.C. 460mmm, P.L. 106-
353), as amended by P.L.
108-400 (43 USC 460mmm)***

Establishes the McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area (formerly Colorado Canyons National Conservation Area) and Black Ridge Canyon Wilderness Area in Colorado, to be managed by the BLM.

***Las Cienegas National
Conservation Area Act
(P.L. 106-538) (16 U.S.C.
460ooo)***

Establishes the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area in Arizona, to be managed by the Secretary, acting through the BLM Director.

***Santa Rosa and San
Jacinto Mountains
National Monument Act of***

Establishes the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument in California, to be managed by the Secretary, acting through the BLM Director.

2000 (P.L. 106-351) (16 U.S.C. 431)

Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-399) (16 U.S.C. 460nnn)

Establishes the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area in Oregon, to be managed by the Secretary, acting through the BLM Director.

Presidential Proclamation 6920 of 1996

Establishes the Grand Staircase - Escalante National Monument, to be managed by the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the BLM Director.

Presidential Proclamation 7265 of 2000

Establishes the Grand Canyon - Parashant National Monument. The Secretary of the Interior shall manage the monument through the BLM and the NPS. The BLM shall have primary management authority for those portions of the Monument outside of the Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Presidential Proclamation 7264 of 2000

Establishes the California Coastal National Monument. The Secretary of the Interior shall manage the monument through the BLM.

Presidential Proclamation 7263 of 2000

Establishes the Agua Fria National Monument. The Secretary of the Interior shall manage the monument through the BLM.

P.L. 107-213

Re-designates certain lands within the Craters of the Moon National Monument, and for other purposes.

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.)

Provides for the development and management of certain rivers. Authorized the Secretary to exchange or dispose of suitable Federally-owned property for non-Federal property within the authorized boundaries of any Federally-administered component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

The National Trails System Act of 1968, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1241-1249)

Establishes a national trails system and requires that Federal rights in abandoned railroads be retained for trail or recreation purposes, or sold with the receipts to be deposited in the LWCF.

The National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1242-1243)

Establishes a number of national historic trails which cross public lands.

<i>Old Spanish Trail Recognition Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-325)</i>	A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Old Spanish Trail as a National Historic Trail.
<i>Presidential Proclamation 8803 of 2012</i>	Establishes the Fort Ord National Monument.
<i>Presidential Proclamation 8946 of 2013</i>	Establishes the Rio del Norte National Monument.
<i>Presidential Proclamation 8947</i>	Establishes the San Juan Islands National Monument.
<i>Presidential Proclamation 9131</i>	Establishes the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument.
<i>Presidential Proclamation 9297</i>	Establishes the Basin and Range National Monument.
<i>Presidential Proclamation 9298</i>	Establishes the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument.
<i>Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (P.L. 115-31)</i>	Adjusts the boundary of the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area (NCA) in Idaho to accommodate rights-of-way associated with the Gateway West transmission project.
<i>Presidential Proclamation 9558</i>	Modifies the Bears Ears National Monument.
<i>Presidential Proclamation 10285</i>	Restored the original boundary of Bears Ears National Monument as of December 3, 2017, and the approximately 11,200 acres added by Proclamation 9681, encompassing approximately 1.36 million acres.
<i>Presidential Proclamation 9682</i>	Modifies the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.
<i>Presidential Proclamation 10286</i>	Restored the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument to its size and boundaries as they existed prior to December 4, 2017.

Mining Law Administration

***The Omnibus Budget
Reconciliation Act of 1993
(P.L. 103-66)***

Establishes an annual \$100 per claim maintenance fee for unpatented mining claims and sites through 1998 and requires that the fee be adjusted for inflation. The law allows a waiver from the fee for those claimants who hold 10 or fewer claims. It also establishes a \$25 per claim location fee for new claims, to be paid when they are recorded with the BLM. The Act also broadened the BLM's authority to collect recreation use fees.

***The General Mining Law
of 1872, as amended (30
U.S.C. 22, et seq.), as
amended by P.L. 108-447,
Division E, Section 120, (30
U.S.C. 23 et seq.)***

Provides for locating and patenting mining claims where a discovery has been made for locatable minerals on public lands in specified States, mostly in the western United States.

***The Act of March 3, 1879,
as amended, (43 U.S.C.
31(a))***

Provides for the inventory and classification of the public lands, and examination of the mineral resources and products of the national domain.

***The Mining and Minerals
Policy Act of 1970, (30
U.S.C. 21a) (30 U.S.C.
1601, et seq.)***

Sets out the policy of fostering development of economically stable mining and mineral industries, and studying methods for waste disposal and reclamation.

***The Department of the
Interior and Related
Agencies Appropriations
Act for 1989 (43 U.S.C.
1474)***

Provides that receipts for 1989 and thereafter from administrative fees (service charges) established by the Secretary for processing actions relating to the administration of the General Mining Laws shall be immediately available to the BLM for mining law administration program operations.

***The 1994 Interior and
Related Agencies
Appropriations Act (P.L.
103-138)***

Provides that funds shall be available to the BLM for mining law administration program operations, to be reduced by amounts collected from annual mining claim fees.

***The 1999 Interior and
Related Agencies
Appropriations Act
(P.L. 105-277)***

Reauthorizes the collection of annual mining claim maintenance fees through 2001. Extends the recreation fee demonstration program through fiscal year 2001, with collected funds remaining available through fiscal year 2004.

*The 2002 Interior and
Related Agencies
Appropriations Act (P.L.
107-63)*

Reauthorizes the collection of annual mining claim maintenance fees through 2003. Extends the recreation fee demonstration program through fiscal year 2004, with collected funds remaining available through fiscal year 2007.

Other Authorizations

*The Food Security Act of
1985 (7 U.S.C. 148f)*

Provides for the transfer of funds to the Secretary of Agriculture for Mormon cricket and grasshopper control.

*Indian Self Determination
And Education Assistance
Act (P.L. 93-638)*

Provides for non-competitive contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements entered into between a Tribal organization and the Federal government for the planning, conduct, and administration of programs which enhance Indian educational achievement or provide other Federal services more responsive to the needs and desires of those communities.

*Oregon Land Exchange Act
of 2000 (P.L. 106-257)*

Authorizes exchange of specified parcels of public and national forest lands in Oregon for specified parcels of private lands.

P.L. 109-127

Revokes a Public Land Order with respect to certain lands erroneously included in the Cibola National Wildlife Refuge, California.

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Summary of Requirements for Bureau of Land Management (Dollars in Thousands)

ACCOUNT NAME	2022 Actual	2022 FTE	2023 Enacted	2023 Enacted FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-) Amount	2024 Request	2024 FTE	Change from 2023 Enacted (+/-) Amount	Change from 2023 (+/-) Enacted FTE
Land Resources											
Rangeland Management	108,965	639	112,340	675	+5,191		-2,379	115,152	670	+2,812	-5
Public Domain Forest Management	10,349	70	10,814	70	+542		+895	12,251	72	+1,437	+2
Cultural Resources Management	20,053	105	20,026	111	+813	-	+1,262	22,101	114	+2,075	+3
Wild Horse & Burro Management	137,093	244	147,888	239	+1,313	-	+5,586	154,787	239	+6,899	+0
Total, Land Resources	276,460	1,058	291,068	1,095	+7,859	-	+5,364	304,291	1,095	+13,223	+0
Wildlife Habitat Management and Aquatic Resources											
Aquatic Resources	56,922	269	58,247	291	+2,130		+13,063	73,440	312	+15,193	+21
Wildlife Habitat Management	140,747	494	148,938	499	+3,523		+9,522	161,983	519	+13,045	+20
Threatened and Endangered Species	[31,000]		[34,000]		[+756]			[34,756]		[+756]	
Total, Wildlife Habitat Management and Aquatic Resources	197,669	763	207,185	790	+5,653	-	+22,585	235,423	831	+28,238	+41
Recreation Management											
Wilderness Management	18,686	112	19,216	117	+930		+5,555	25,701	123	+6,485	+6
Recreation Resources Management	60,242	342	55,550	297	+2,673		+7,152	65,375	303	+9,825	+6
Total, Recreation Management	78,928	454	74,766	414	+3,603	-	+12,707	91,076	426	+16,310	+12
Energy & Minerals Management											
Oil & Gas Management	106,135	405	112,873	381	+6,165		+4,469	123,507	381	+10,634	+0
Oil & Gas Inspection Activities	50,402	329	50,402	364	+0		+618	51,020	364	+618	+0
<i>Offsetting Collections - Oil & Gas Inspection Fees</i>							-51,020	(51,020)		-51,020	+0
Coal Management	16,079	79	16,609	77	+581		+0	17,190	77	+581	+0
Other Mineral Resources	12,936	76	13,466	79	+659		+3,075	17,200	82	+3,734	+3
Renewable Energy	30,983	138	40,983	146	+849		+30,708	72,540	227	+31,557	+81
Total, Energy & Minerals Management	216,535	1,027	234,333	1,047	+8,254	-	-12,150	230,437	1,131	-3,896	+84
Realty & Ownership Management											
Alaska Conveyance	26,219	100	31,654	97	+697	-	+0	32,351	97	+697	+0
Cadastral, Lands & Realty Mgmt	55,805	314	58,160	344	+2,595	-	+4,446	65,201	358	+7,041	+14
Total, Realty & Ownership Management	82,024	414	89,814	441	+3,292	-	+4,446	97,552	455	+7,738	+14

ACCOUNT NAME	2022 Actual	2022 FTE	2023 Enacted	2023 Enacted FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-) Amount	2024 Request	2024 FTE	Change from 2023 Enacted (+/-) Amount	Change from 2023 Enacted (+/-) FTE
Communication Site Management	2,000	11	2,000	11				2000	11	+0	+0
Communication Site Management <i>Offsetting Collections</i>	(2,000)		(2,000)			-		(2,000)		+0	+0
Total, Communication Site Management	0	11	-	11	+0	-	+0	-	11	+0	+0
Resource Protection & Maintenance											
Resource Mgmt Planning, Assessment, & Monitoring	67,969	241	69,029	258	+1,545		+27,185	97,759	273	+28,730	+15
Law Enforcement	28,038	117	28,568	122	+734		+0	29,302	122	+734	+0
Abandoned Mine Lands & Hazardous Materials Mgmt	40,133	123	57,166	143	+968	-	+4,664	62,798	143	+5,632	+0
Total, Resource Protection & Maintenance	136,140	481	154,763	523	+3,247	-	+31,849	189,859	538	+35,096	+15
Transportation & Facilities Maintenance											
Annual Maint. & Ops	44,055	218	44,180	223	+1,666		+0	45,846	223	+1,666	+0
Def. Maint. & Cap. Improvements	34,980	49	32,007	73	+308		+6,842	39,157	73	+7,150	+0
Total, Transportation & Facilities Maintenance	79,035	267	76,187	296	+1,974	-	+6,842	85,003	296	+8,816	+0
Mining Law Administration											
Mining Law Administration	39,696	358	39,696	236			+3,000	42,696	261	+3,000	+25
<i>Offsetting Collections</i>	(39,696)		(39,696)				-3,000	(42,696)		-3,000	+0
Total, Mining Law Administration	0	358	-	236	+0	-	+0	-	261	+0	+25
Workforce & Organizational Support											
Administrative Support	53,330	212	56,305	235	+2,016		+3,746	62,067	236	+5,762	+1
Bureauwide Fixed Costs	86,046	-	92,515	-	+7,425		+0	99,940	0	+7,425	+0
IT Management	26,499	33	26,934	107	+931	-	+653	28,518	107	+1,584	+0
Total, Workforce & Organizational Support	165,875	245	175,754	342	+10,372	-	+4,399	190,525	343	+14,771	+1
National Monuments and National Conservation Areas	49,274	261	61,599	303	+1,899		+9,405	72,903	312	+11,304	+9
National Scenic & Historic Trails			[11,000]					[11,000]			
Total, National Conservation Lands	49,274	261	61,599	303	+1,899	-	+9,405	72,903	312	+11,304	+9
<i>Congressionally Directed Spending</i>			3,500				-3,500	-		-3,500	
TOTAL, Management of Land Resources w/o SUPPLEMENTAL	1,281,940	5,339	1,368,969	5,498	+46,153	-	+81,947	1,497,069	5,699	+128,100	+201
Supplemental Funding	1,192	0	-	-	+0	-	-	-	0	+0	+0
TOTAL, Management of Land Resources w/SUPPLEMENTAL	1,283,132	5,339	1,368,969	5,498	+46,153	-	+81,947	1,497,069	5,699	+128,100	+201

Management of Land Resources
Justification of Fixed Costs
(Dollars in Thousands)

Fixed Cost Changes and Projections	2023 Total or Change	2023 to 2024 Change	Description
Change in Number of Paid Days	-2,796	+2,834	This column reflects changes in pay associated with the change in the number of paid days between 2023 and 2024. 2024 has one day more than 2023.
Pay Raise	+29,063	+35,723	The President's Budget for 2024 includes one quarter of the 4.6% pay raise for 2023 and three quarters of a planned 5.2% pay raise for 2024.
Employer Share of Federal Employee Retirement System	+0	+171	This column reflects no budgeted increase to the employer contribution to the Federal Employee Retirement System and a 0.6% increase to the employer contribution for the Law Enforcement Federal Employees Retirement System.
Departmental Working Capital Fund	+2,409	+5,924	The change reflects the final 2024 Central Bill approved by the Working Capital Fund Consortium.
Worker's Compensation Payments	-254	-71	The amounts reflect final chargeback costs of compensating injured employees and dependents of employees who suffer accidental deaths while on duty. Costs for 2024 will reimburse the Department of Labor, Federal Employees Compensation Fund, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 8147(b) as amended by Public Law 94-273.
Unemployment Compensation Payments	+0	+449	The amounts reflect projected changes in the costs of unemployment compensation claims to be paid to the Department of Labor, Federal Employees Compensation Account, in the Unemployment Trust Fund, pursuant to Public Law 96-499.
Rental Payments	+6,769	+1,123	The amounts reflect changes in the costs payable to General Services Administration (GSA) and others for office and non-office space as estimated by GSA, as well as the rental costs of other currently occupied space. These costs include building security. Costs of mandatory office relocations, i.e. relocations in cases where due to external events there is no alternative but to vacate the currently occupied space, are also included.
Baseline Adjustments for O&M Increases	+0	+0	In accordance with space maximization efforts across the Federal Government, this adjustment captures the associated increase to baseline operations and maintenance requirements resulting from movement out of GSA or direct-leased (commercial) space and into Bureau-owned space. While the GSA portion of fixed costs will go down as a result of these moves, Bureaus often encounter an increase to baseline O&M costs not otherwise captured in fixed costs. This category of funding properly adjusts the baseline fixed cost amount to maintain steady-state funding for these requirements.
Account Total Fixed Cost		+46,153	

Activity: Land Resources

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	Change from 2023 Enacted
Rangeland Management	<i>\$000</i>	108,965	112,340	+5,191	0	-2,379	115,152	+2,812
	<i>FTE</i>	639	675		0	-5	670	-5
Public Domain Forest Mgmt	<i>\$000</i>	10,349	10,814	+542	0	+895	12,251	+1,437
	<i>FTE</i>	70	70		0	+2	72	+2
Cultural Resources Mgmt	<i>\$000</i>	20,053	20,026	+813	0	+1,262	22,101	+2,075
	<i>FTE</i>	105	111		0	+3	114	+3
Wild Horse & Burro Mgmt	<i>\$000</i>	137,093	147,888	+1,313	0	+5,586	154,787	+6,899
	<i>FTE</i>	244	239		0	+0	239	+0
Total, Land Resources	<i>\$000</i>	276,460	291,068	+7,859	0	+5,364	304,291	+13,223
	<i>FTE</i>	1,058	1,095		0	+0	1,095	+0

Activity Description

The Land Resources activity includes forestry and rangeland management, cultural resources management, and wild horse and burro management. Together these programs support the BLM mission by managing for resilient landscapes, healthy forests, seeds for restoration from native plant communities, stable and productive soils, and healthy rangeland ecosystems. The activity also ensures preservation of cultural and paleontological resources and related museum collections.

Funding for these programs supports staff that develop and implement program policy, carry out resource management projects, and maintain vital partnerships at all levels within the BLM to support multiple uses of public lands. Management activities emphasize on-the-ground actions that measurably improve land health, increase resilience to the impacts of climate change, inventory and preserve cultural and paleontological resources, honor commitments to Tribes under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, and sustain recreational and commercial uses that enhance or maintain many local economies in the West.

Managing the Public Lands

The FY 2024 budget request emphasizes partnerships and increasing efficiencies to achieve multiple conservation, restoration, and sustained yield priorities. The BLM focuses on the Department's priorities of conservation, recreation, renewable energy production, and job creation, with a holistic approach across the Land Resources, Wildlife and Aquatics, Recreation Management, and Resource Protection and Maintenance activities. The BLM supports local economies and jobs through its management of healthy forests and native plant communities; stable and productive soils, rangelands, and wildlife and fish habitat; and non-renewable cultural and paleontological resources. The Department estimates that \$10.6 billion in economic activity and thousands of jobs are associated with the recreation, grazing, and timber programs

of the Bureau.¹ Building partnerships and being a good neighbor to the communities surrounding BLM-managed lands is essential to success.

¹“The BLM: A Sound Investment for America 2020” <https://www.blm.gov/about/data/socioeconomic-impact-report>

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Activity: Land Resources
Subactivity: Rangeland Management

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023 Enacted
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Rangeland Management	<i>\$000</i>	108,965	112,340	+5,191	0	-2,379	115,152	+2,812
	<i>FTE</i>	639	675		0	-5	670	-5

Summary of 2024 Program Changes for Rangeland Management		(\$000)	FTE
Focus on Highest Priority		-2,379	-5
Total		-2,379	--5

Justification of 2024 Program Changes

The 2024 budget request for Rangeland Management is \$115,152,000 and 670 FTEs, a program change of -\$2,379,000 and -5 FTEs from the 2023 enacted level.

Focus on Highest Priorities (-\$2,379,000; -5 FTE) – The BLM will continue to focus on the highest priorities for ensuring land health, processing and renewing grazing permits in areas where it is likely that adjustments will be needed to achieve land health standards, provide for noxious weed and invasive species control and eradication, conduct monitoring and inventorying projects in high priority areas that support restoration of landscapes that have crossed a threshold into an undesirable state, and completing land health assessments and evaluating achievement of land health standards in priority landscapes. Additional funding the BLM receives through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) will focus on advancing land health and restoration priorities in addition to the priorities mentioned herein.

Program Overview

The Rangeland Management program includes managing rangelands through grazing management, vegetation treatments, development of grazing management structures, soil management, and rangeland health, as well as inventorying, controlling, and managing noxious weeds and invasive species. The BLM will deliberately identify projects that otherwise may not be funded through annual appropriations.

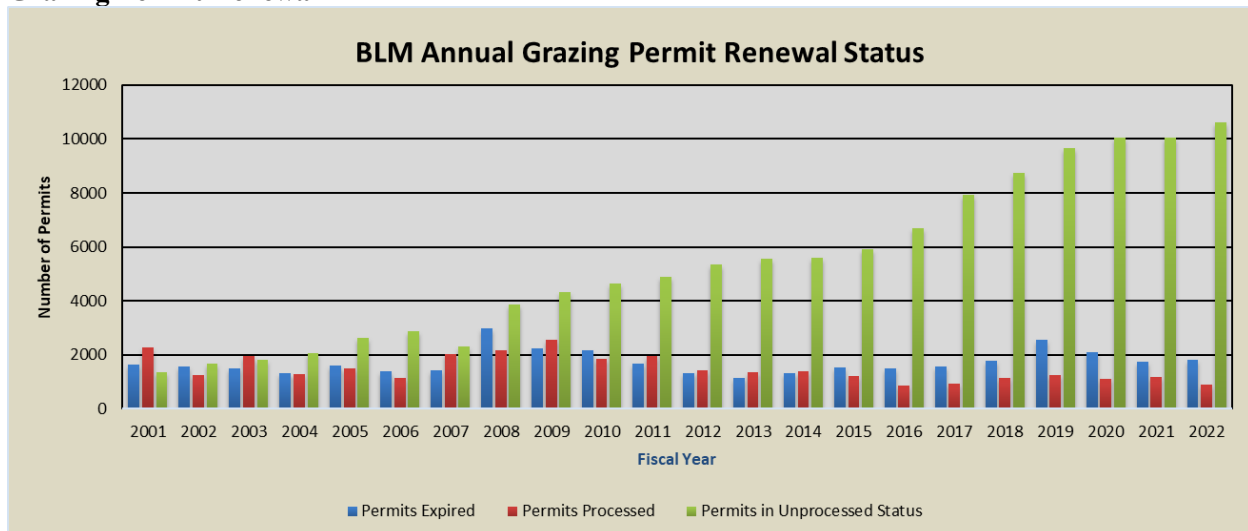


In FY 2024, the BLM will continue to implement drought management and response, and the DOI Invasive Species Strategic Plan (Strategic Plan). The Strategic Plan includes objectives to manage and control noxious weed and invasive species. The prevention, detection, and eradication of noxious weeds and invasive species supports the improvement of land health, functional ecosystems, climate resilience, and open access to our public lands.

The primary statutory authorities guiding the BLM's rangeland management program are the Taylor Grazing Act of 1934, as amended; FLPMA; and the Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978, as amended. The Endangered Species Act (ESA), National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and Archeological Resources Protection Act provide significant guidance for how the Rangeland Management program is implemented. The Plant Protection Act of 2000; Section 15 of the Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974; the Carlson-Foley Act of 1968; the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act of 2019; and Executive Order 13112 of February 3, 1999, on Invasive Species, as amended by Executive Order 13751, authorize coordination of management of weeds and invasive species on public lands.

Grazing – Grazing administration includes processing, issuing, and overseeing compliance with grazing permits and leases. The BLM administers about 18,000 grazing permits and leases on nearly 155 million acres of public land in nearly 22,000 grazing allotments. Grazing permits are generally issued for ten years, which means that renewing grazing permits is a cyclical process and not a one-time event. In FY 2022, the BLM permitted 12.3 million animal unit months (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 one month. The grazing fee in 2023 is \$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. In FY 2024, about 1,526 grazing permits are scheduled to expire. As of February 2023, the BLM had 10,744 unprocessed permits. The BLM expects to process 1,100 grazing permits/leases and monitor 3,100 grazing allotments in FY 2024.

Grazing Permit Renewal



This chart illustrates the status of processing grazing permits since 2001. Processing permits includes, at a minimum, NEPA and ESA compliance. Unprocessed permits are those issued in accordance with General Provision language in Appropriations Acts or FLPMA Section 402(c)(2) authority. Permits Expired and Permits Processed are the number of permits and leases that expire during the designated year, and the number of permits that are processed during the designated year. The number of Permits in Unprocessed Status is the cumulative number of permits which are operating under Appropriations Act or FLPMA Section 402(c)(2) authority.

Outcome Based Grazing Authorizations (OBGAs) - In FY 2018, 11 demonstration projects with 12 associated grazing authorizations were selected, and information from the demonstration projects was used to develop initial guidance for broader application of the principles of Outcome Based Grazing. The demonstration projects have provided opportunities to develop additional partnerships that have encouraged habitat management on private lands in coordination with the management of public land grazing, and greater participation by permittees in collecting monitoring data. These demonstration projects have also informed the Bureau on how to adapt annual reporting, use of the Land Potential Knowledge System (LandPKS) monitoring tool, and different approaches to alternative development in NEPA documents to better address the needs of a flexible permit in a consistent and efficient manner.

Of the 11 projects, eight are fully processed, one is scheduled to be fully processed in FY 2023, one is held up in litigation with a stay granted in full, and one project is withdrawn. The eight fully processed projects are currently implementing this flexibility and conducting monitoring and annual reporting. These permits have already utilized this flexibility during the recent and ongoing drought. Based on experience gained from processing and implementing the demonstration projects, additional guidance will be developed for expanding the use of the OBGAs approach beyond the demonstration projects.

In FY 2023, the BLM is planning to issue updated guidance as well as make changes to the BLM's authorization and billing system (Rangeland Administration System, RAS) to ensure consistent and effective annual reporting is supplied and available. The BLM is also developing additional monitoring training to allow for permittees to more effectively contribute to cooperative monitoring. The demonstration projects have highlighted the need for innovative approaches to provide flexibility at a larger scale and the BLM is pursuing other approaches to modify grazing permits and leases. This will include large scale programmatic documents that can be used to modify many permits. In FY 2022, the BLM allocated just under \$1,000,000 to 5 projects that collectively will increase flexibility in over 250 permits/leases. The

BLM plans to allocate funding to projects that will result in additional permits/leases with flexible terms and conditions throughout FY 2023 and FY 2024.

Invasive Species – Management of noxious weeds and other invasive species improve rangeland health, helping to prevent wildfire by reducing fuels build-up, and improving landscape connectivity and function. By decreasing invasive vegetation in public waterways, the BLM improves wildlife habitat, water quality, and recreation opportunities for the public. In FY 2022, BLM treated 379,000 acres to control and eradicate noxious weeds and invasive species. In FY 2024, the BLM will focus on noxious and invasive species treatments; restoration activities following weed treatments; and treatment evaluations in areas critical for habitat improvement and climate resilience. The BLM will, as a result of program changes, focus noxious and invasive weeds management on areas where it can make the most progress toward agency and Department goals and can most effectively leverage regular appropriations funding and other restoration and resilience opportunities.

These efforts align with the objectives outlined in the DOI Invasive Species Strategic Plan (2021-2025). Specific objectives addressed include:

- **Goal 1:** Collaborate across Interior and with others to optimize operations through leveraging partnerships, joint educational efforts, and shared funding. – The BLM participates as an active member of the DOI Invasive Species Task Force, the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force, the Federal Interagency Committee for the Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds, and various other partner organizations.
- **Goal 3:** Implement early detection and rapid response efforts in coordination with other Federal agencies, States, Tribes, Territories, and other partners to reduce potential damage and costs from new infestations becoming established. – The BLM implements Early Detection and Rapid Response programs and works with State and local government partners to monitor and evaluate areas where there is high potential for the spread of weeds onto and across public lands and those adjacent.
- **Goal 4:** Effectively control or eradicate established invasive species populations to reduce impacts and help restore ecosystems. – The BLM continues its efforts to manage noxious weeds and invasive plant species effectively and efficiently. Additional investments through appropriations and the BIL will be applied to strategic efforts to prevent the introduction, detect new populations, and eradicate noxious weeds and invasive plants species.
- **Goal 5:** Improve invasive species data management for decision-making at all levels of government. – The BLM has implemented and will continue to refine its vegetation treatment and management database, VMAP.

Soil Management – The BLM partners with other Federal agencies, such as the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and academic institutions for cooperative soil surveys to understand soil type distribution, properties, and responses to various uses. The BLM also uses these data to develop ecological site descriptions to understand the processes that influence the type, amount, and distribution of vegetation. This provides key information to land managers for reclamation and rehabilitation, and to improve land health and productivity.



Rangeland Health – The BLM will strive to improve efforts for conducting land health assessments in priority landscapes that provide support for decision-making. The BLM will also continue to collect data using BLM’s AIM strategy. Use of consistent, comparable, and common indicators, consistent methods, and an unbiased sampling framework allows for analyses that are repeatable and comparable across regions and for legally-defensible decisions based on science. The BLM will invest in scientific products and

decision support tools that facilitate a broader, landscape-scale approach to assessments.

Other Resources Supporting Rangeland Management:					
		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 Estimate	Change from 2023
Resource Development Protection & Management	<i>\$000</i>	796	1,266	1,266	+0
	<i>FTE</i>	4	4	4	+0
Range Improvement	<i>\$000</i>	9,430	9,430	9,430	+0
	<i>FTE</i>	18	23	23	+0

Notes:

- Resource Development Protection & Management amounts are shown as new budget authority derived from non-Federal sources (contributed funds); the Taylor Grazing Act of 1934, as amended (43 CFR USC 315h, 315i) appropriates these funds on a permanent basis. More information on Resource Development Protection & Management is found in the Miscellaneous Trust Funds chapter.
- Actual and estimated obligations, by year, for Resource Development Protection & Management and Range Improvements are found in President’s Budget Appendix under the BLM section.

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Activity: Land Resources

Subactivity: Public Domain Forest Management

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023 Enacted
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Public Domain Forest Management	<i>\$000</i>	10,349	10,814	+542	0	+895	12,251	+1,437
	<i>FTE</i>	70	70			+2	72	+2

Other Resources Supporting Public Domain Forest Mgmt.:					
		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 Estimate	Change from 2023
Forest Ecosystem Health & Recovery	<i>\$000</i>	3,064	3,500	3,500	+0
	<i>FTE</i>	10	10	10	+0
USFS Forest Pest Control	<i>\$000</i>	0	0	0	+0
	<i>FTE</i>	0	0	0	+0

Notes:

- Forest Ecosystem Health & Recovery amounts are shown as new budget authority derived from the Federal share of receipts from all BLM timber salvage sales, and from BLM forest health restoration treatments funded by this account; 43 USC 1736a appropriates these funds on a permanent basis. Forest Ecosystem Health & Recovery is used on both Public Domain Forestry and Oregon and California Grant Lands. More information on Forest Ecosystem Health & Recovery is found in the Permanent Operating Funds chapter. Amount for Forest Ecosystem Health & Recovery shown net of sequestration and funds previously not available due to sequestration (i.e. pop-ups). Actual and estimated obligations, by year for Forest Ecosystem Health & Recovery, are found in President's Budget Appendix under the BLM section.

- USFS Forest Pest Control amounts are shown as estimated transfers. More information on USFS Forest Pest Control is found in the U.S. Forest Service Budget Justifications. USFS Forest Pest Control is used on both Public Domain Forestry and Oregon and California Grant Lands. Although BLM did not receive funds in FY22, the bureau may still receive transfer in FY23 or FY 24; but does not yet know how much funding it may receive.

Summary of 2024 Program Changes for Public Domain Forest Management.

	(\$000)	FTE
Youth Corps Programs	+542	+0
Improve Forest Health and Resiliency	+353	+2
Total	+895	+2

Justification of 2024 Program Changes

The 2024 budget request for Public Domain Forest Management is \$12,251,000 and 72 FTEs, a program change of +\$895,000 and +2 FTE from 2023, which includes:

Youth Corps Programs (+\$542,000; +0 FTE) – The BLM will prioritize work in partnership with Tribes, States, and local governments to advance locally designed projects that improve economic opportunities in urban and rural communities. Working with youth corps programs, BLM will create opportunities to

advance natural resource conservation and protection through maintenance, restoration, resilience, and monitoring.

The BLM will utilize youth corps programs to support implementation of fuels reduction/thinning projects, tree planting projects, forest inventory on status and condition of resources, and treatment monitoring. Youth corps program participants will gain knowledge on forest ecosystem management while helping to implement treatments to restore resilience.

Improve Forest Health and Resiliency (+\$353,000; +2 FTE) – The 2024 budget includes an increase to build capacity within the program to address priorities such as implementation of Executive Order (EO) 14072, *Strengthening the Nation’s Forests, Communities, and Local Economies*. The BLM will be focused on the reforestation target for 2030 identified in EO 14072.

Program Overview

The BLM manages approximately 56 million acres of forests and woodlands in the public domain across 12 western States, including Alaska. The suppression of natural fire from forest ecosystems has led to overly dense conditions that are susceptible to high severity fire, insect epidemics, and loss of climate resilience in many forest types on BLM managed lands. To address these challenges, the BLM uses the best available science to restore resilient structure and composition as well as landscape connectivity and habitat function through various silvicultural treatments. In addition to forest treatments to restore resilience to stressors, the BLM is identifying forests and woodlands affected by tree mortality due to severe wildfire, insect epidemics, and drought that need reforestation to conserve and restore forest ecosystems and to manage carbon sinks. Foresters will use appropriate tree species adapted to local conditions and assess local climate trends to develop reforestation projects. The program uses various outreach tools to implement these activities, including working with States, counties, and Tribes through Good Neighbor Authority. In FY 2024, the program will seek to provide opportunities to implement treatments through youth corps programs with the goal of sharing the program’s vision of forest stewardship and natural resource conservation with that workforce. In FY 2024, the program will seek opportunities to strengthen government-to-government relations with Tribal Nations through the Tribal Forest Protection Act and the Tribal Biomass Demonstration Project authorities.

Forest management of public lands has four primary performance metrics. *Restoration through sales* consists of acres of forest and woodland treatments designed to enhance resilience to disturbances such as fire, insect, disease, and drought as well as to restore ecosystem functions and habitat. *Forest development* consists of acres of silvicultural activities designed to enhance the productivity and sustainability of forests and woodlands such as reforestation, pre-commercial thinning, insect and disease control, wildfire fuels management, and prescribed burning. *Vegetative permits* provide the public with a wide variety of forest and other vegetative materials for personal and commercial use; the BLM sells over 25,000 permits annually for products such as Christmas trees, fuelwood, pine nuts, mushrooms and other edibles, and native plant materials for restoration. The Bureau manages for long-term productivity and sustainable harvest of these products, and permit areas are often developed to also achieve forest health goals such as fire resilience thinning. *Forest inventory* consists of collecting and maintaining an inventory of forest and woodland resources and the status and condition of those resources. In addition to these activities, the

program supports the cost of conducting NEPA analysis and site surveys such as archaeology that are required prior to approving forest management activities.

The FY 2024 Budget for Public Domain Forest Management will increase capacity to expand forestry projects through ongoing partnerships, such as the Lower Blackfoot River Stewardship Project near Missoula, Montana. This project was developed in partnership with The Nature Conservancy, which purchased these lands from a private industrial logging company to shift from management for maximum timber production to forest management that more closely reflects natural fire regimes and native plant communities. The Nature Conservancy's transfer of these lands to the BLM for management also restored reserved treaty rights to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. The Tribes were interested in partnering with the BLM on project development given the area's historical importance as a major travel route for buffalo hunting as well as the Tribes' interest in restoring culturally important plants, such as camas and bitterroot. Thinning treatments on this project will restore fire resilient stand structure and improve forage quality for wild ungulates by increasing vigor and density of native bunch grasses, forbs, and shrubs with a focus on plant species and communities of cultural importance to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

The Public Domain Forest Management program continues to strive for efficiencies and employ technology to meet the program goals and to improve public access to programs. For example, the BLM has an online permit system (forestproducts.blm.gov) where the public can buy fuelwood and Christmas tree permits 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The BLM has sold over 34,000 permits through the new website and has provided a valuable public service to those that do not live near a BLM office to buy a permit over the counter. This website was also effective in maintaining permit issuance during COVID-induced office closures when public contact was suspended. Permittees are provided the permit and maps at the time of purchase via email.

Stewardship Contracting Special Exhibit

Background

This special exhibit is included to address requirements of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (as amended, 16 U.S.C 6591c): The BLM shall report annually to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources and the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives on:

1. The status of development, execution, and administration of contracts under subsection (b), which states, "The Chief and the Director, via agreement or contract as appropriate, may enter into stewardship contracting projects with private persons or other public or private entities to perform services to achieve land management goals for the national forests and the public lands that meet local and rural community needs";
2. The specific accomplishments that have resulted; and
3. The role of local communities in development of agreements or contract plans.

Overview

Stewardship contracting is a special authority that the BLM uses to perform treatments to achieve the land management goals described in the authorizing statute. Land management goals include:

1. Road and trail maintenance or obliteration to restore or maintain water quality.
2. Soil productivity, habitat for wildlife and fisheries, or other resource values.

3. Setting of prescribed fires to improve the composition, structure, condition, and health of stands or to improve wildlife habitat.
4. Removing vegetation or other activities to promote healthy forest stands, reduce fire hazards, or achieve other land management objectives.
5. Watershed restoration and maintenance.
6. Restoration and maintenance of wildlife and fish habitat.
7. Control of noxious and exotic weeds and reestablishing native plant species.

Projects that meet at least one of these goals and that meet local and rural community needs qualify to become a stewardship project. The benefits of using stewardship authority to conduct projects include the following: the BLM can offset the cost of restoration treatments by using the value of those forest products removed as a result of the treatment; the BLM can retain excess revenue from forest products sold and use it to fund future stewardship projects; and the BLM can enter into contract terms up to 20 years. Absent stewardship contracting, many forest treatments that BLM does to enhance resilience to wildfire, insects, disease, and drought would have to use two separate processes—one to sell forest products through a timber sale and another to procure services through a contract, which would increase administrative costs.

Specific Accomplishments

The BLM developed and awarded 28 stewardship contracts and agreements for restoration treatments on 14,441 acres during fiscal years 2017 – 2022. The total value of the service work provided during this period was \$3,814,471. The harvest of forest products that were byproducts of the land health treatments reduced the appropriated funds needed to complete that service work by \$683,598 (Table 1).

Table 1. BLM Stewardship Accomplishments

Fiscal Year	Contracts and Agreements Executed	Acres Under Contracts and Agreements	Service Cost*	Product Value*
2017	9	2,926	\$989,028	\$181,034
2018	3	1,794	\$927,931	\$40,814
2019	3	2,569	\$271,242	\$189,138
2020	7	5,646	\$557,705	\$57,559
2021	2	853	\$82,050	\$11,390
2022	4	653	\$986,515	\$203,663
Total	28	14,441	\$3,814,471	\$683,598

*Service and product values include modifications executed in the current fiscal year to contracts that were awarded in the current year and prior fiscal years.

The BLM has implemented stewardship contracting projects in 13 States (Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming) since 2003. The volume of timber offered under stewardship contracts and agreements during fiscal years 2017–2022 was 11.7 million board feet (MMBF) (Table 2). This is an important economic

driver in many rural communities. The primary product captured in the stewardship biomass figure is wood chips used to generate renewable energy.

Table 2. Product Volume Offered Under Stewardship Contracts and Agreements

Fiscal Year	Sawtimber MMBF*	Biomass Tons (Includes Fuelwood)*
2017	4.3	36,963
2018	1.3	14,411
2019	1.3	9,222
2020	2.0	7,760
2021	0.6	-958**
2022	2.2	4,277
Total	11.7	71,675

* Table values include modifications executed in the current fiscal year to contracts that were awarded in the current year and prior fiscal years.

** Negative value due to cancellation of unfinished contract resulting in negative modification.

Status of Development, Execution, and Administration

The BLM's use of stewardship has been most effective for forest development treatments, fire risk reduction thinning in forested wildland urban interface, and forest health treatments, which often entail the harvest of commercial and pre-commercial timber as well as fuels treatment. Most of these treatments are a net cost to the BLM. Forest health and fire-resilience thinning projects that harvest primarily commercial timber are typically conducted using timber sales under the Forest Ecosystem Health and Recovery Fund. Given that most BLM stewardship projects are a net cost, the use of stewardship is dependent upon funding from the Public Domain or Oregon & California Forest Management programs.

The BLM continues to develop policies and guidance to improve the execution of the contracting process, including updates to the stewardship manual to incorporate changes from the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (P.L. 115-141). These changes include increasing the contract term from 10 to 20 years for projects in areas that are in Fire Regime Groups I, II, or III. In addition, P.L. 115-141 authorized preferential award to a contractor that would, as a part of the contract, promote an innovative use of forest products, including cross-laminated timber.

The BLM has also adopted a policy that project leads and contracting staff responsible for project inspection and administration attend stewardship training coordinated by the BLM headquarters office. The BLM held this training three times since FY 2021. Currently, more than 30 warranted contracting officers and grants management officers bureau-wide have attended the stewardship training and are certified to award stewardship contracts or agreements.

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Activity: Land Resources

Subactivity: Cultural Resources Management

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023 Enacted
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Cultural Resources	<i>\$000</i>	20,053	20,026	+813		+1,262	22,101	+2,075
Management	<i>FTE</i>	105	111			+3	114	+3

Summary of 2024 Program Changes Cultural Resources Management		(\$000)	FTE
Youth Corps Programs		+791	+1
Enhance Inventory, Monitoring, and Protection		+471	+2
Total		+1,262	+3

Justification of 2024 Program Change

The 2024 budget request for Cultural Resources Management is \$22,101,000 and 114 FTE, a program change of +\$1,262,000 and +3 FTE from the 2023 enacted level, which includes:

Youth Corps Programs (+\$791,000: +1 FTE) – The BLM will prioritize work in partnership with Tribes, States, local governments, other partners and youth corps programs to advance locally designed projects that improve climate-driven economic opportunities in urban and rural communities. Working with youth corps programs, BLM will create opportunities to advance natural and cultural resource conservation and protection through resource protection, research, resilience, and mitigation. The BLM, with the assistance from youth corps programs, will conduct cultural and paleontology site inventory, documentation, condition monitoring, and stabilization to preserve and protect historical and palaeoecological data informing the understanding of climate change and human relationships to the natural environment. The requested funding will support research incorporating Native American traditional knowledge, ethnographic and oral history information, and scientific principles and practices to inform land management decisions. It will also produce interpretive and educational material for the public as well as inventory, stabilize, research, and interpret museum collections for the benefit of the public and Tribal communities.

Enhance Inventory, Monitoring, and Protection of Cultural Resources (+\$471,000: +2 FTE) The funding will support additional acres inventoried for cultural heritage sites, adding to the amount of potential data available in the National Cultural Resources Information Management System for project implementation planning and cultural site probability modeling that supports other priorities such as fuels management and interstate energy transmission infrastructure. This could also increase opportunities to expedite environmental compliance processes and reduce the time needed for permitting renewable energy projects. It will also support Wild and Scenic River (WSR) cultural and paleontology resources priority inventory and monitoring work in tandem with key heritage resource work, including inventory,

monitoring, study and documentation, stabilization, and work with historic, archaeological, paleontological, or WSR-related museum collections.

Program Overview

The BLM is responsible for the largest, most diverse, and most scientifically important aggregation of cultural and paleontological resources on the public lands and associated museum collections. BLM's management of these resources informs the public about climate change and human interactions with the natural environment; offers educational, interpretive, and recreational opportunities to the public; and affirms public and Native American Tribal community connections to the landscape.



The Cultural Resources Management subactivity supports the management of cultural and paleontological resources to benefit the public and to advance scientific knowledge. The programs will continue to develop procedural efficiencies and business practices that will enhance land use planning decisions for renewable energy, infrastructure, and other land use proposals. The cultural program was launched in the 1970s to provide expertise in archaeology and historic preservation and to support identification of resources impacted by Federal actions consistent with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and NEPA. The cultural resource program also provides guidance to support consultation with Native American Tribes. The Paleontology Program was included in the sub-activity in 1984 and is responsible for implementing the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act of 2009. In 1981, the BLM assumed responsibility from the National Park Service for all cultural and paleontology permitting that was previously authorized under the Antiquities Act of 1906 and later by regulations authorized under FLPMA, the Archaeological Resources Protection Act, and the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act. Museum collections are managed by both the Cultural and Paleontology Programs under multiple authorities. Today the Cultural Resources Management Program facilitates preservation and scientific research through permitting processes, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act compliance, and by overseeing BLM's museum collections.

The BLM is part of a national Programmatic Agreement (PA) with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers. The national PA provides participating BLM western States and Alaska flexibility in compliance activities and establishes a Preservation Board comprised of senior cultural resource specialists and managers to guide policy and provide recommendations to the BLM Director.

Program activities are directed by statutes that address the management of archaeological resources, historic properties, and paleontological resources on the public lands, and associated museum collections. Statutory direction guides coordination and consultation with Indian Tribes regarding places of historic, cultural, and traditional value. The subactivity supports statutory requirements in the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act to inventory and repatriate Native American human remains and cultural items held in museum collections and responds to new discoveries on public lands. Funding from

the Cultural Resources Management subactivity also facilitates opportunities for the public to connect with heritage sites by developing areas for public access and providing recreational, educational, and interpretive opportunities.

The Program supports law enforcement efforts to protect the public's cultural and paleontological resources and curb criminal acts resulting in theft, damage, vandalism, loss, and destruction in implementing the prohibited acts sections of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, and the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act.

Finally, funding from this subactivity enhances tools to improve compliance processes, providing flexibility and cost-savings for the Bureau and land-users and enhancing capacity for on-the-ground work through partnerships with State, local, Tribal, and youth and non-profit organizations. The Cultural Resource Data Partnership employs geo-spatial modeling tools and data sharing to leverage capacity between the BLM and State Historic Preservation Offices. Partnerships with site stewards and other volunteer organizations enable the BLM to capitalize on scarce skill sets and augment staffing to monitor the condition of cultural and paleontological sites.

Multiple data systems supported by the Cultural Resources Management subactivity enhance access to data and result in cost-savings to the Bureau. The National Cultural Resources Information Management System provides access to standardized cultural resource data across the BLM. The Potential Fossil Yield Classification system evaluates lands for paleontological resources, and the Recreation and Permit Tracking and Online Reporting system for paleontological permitting and inventory provides web-based geospatial solutions for paleontology resource management.

Funding for completing the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 process review of effects from Federal actions and authorizations (undertakings) on historic properties included in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places is provided by the benefitting program or land-use proponent driving proposals requiring compliance. Within the BLM, much of the Section 106 compliance supports energy development, rights-of-way for energy and transmission, fuels management, and forestry and rangeland management. External proponents fund compliance through cost-recovery accounts and by directly contracting with cultural resource consultants to complete the identification phase of the Section 106 process.

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Activity: Land Resources

Subactivity: Wild Horse and Burro Management

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023 Enacted
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Wild Horse & Burro Management	<i>\$000</i>	137,093	147,888	+1,313	0	+5,586	154,787	+6,899
	<i>FTE</i>	244	239		0	+0	239	+0

Other Resources Supporting Wild Horse & Burro Management:						
		2022 Actual	2023 Estimate	2024 Estimate	Change from 2023	
USFS Wild Horses	<i>\$000</i>	550	600	600	+0	
	<i>FTE</i>	0	0	0	+0	
Adopt-A-Horse Program	<i>\$000</i>	1,602	550	550	+0	
	<i>FTE</i>	0	0	0	+0	

Notes:

- Adopt-A-Horse Program amounts are shown as new budget authority derived from a minimum \$125 per horse or burro fee under a competitive bidding process for adoption of animals gathered from the public lands, conducted under The Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971, as amended by the Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978 (16 USC 1331-1340); the annual Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriation Act appropriates these funds on a current basis. More information on the Adopt-A-Horse Program is found in the Service Charges, Deposits, & Forfeitures chapter.

- Actual and estimated obligations by year for the Adopt-A-Horse Program are found in President's Budget Appendix under the BLM section.

Summary of 2024 Program Changes for Wild Horse & Burro Mgmt.	(\$000)	FTE
Address Rising Holding Costs	+5,586	+0
Total	+5,586	+0

Justification of 2024 Program Change

The 2024 budget request for the Wild Horse and Burro (WH&B) Program is \$154,787,000 and 239 FTE, a program change of +\$5,586,000 and 0 FTE from the 2023 enacted level, which includes:

Address Rising Holding Costs (+\$5,586,000; +0 FTE) – The budget request will increase BLM's ability to meet the needs of the WH&B program during a time of unprecedented price increases in the cost of off-range holding. In FY 2022, the BLM conducted a historic number of gathers, causing the number of WH&B in off-range holding to jump by more than 20,000 animals. As of February 2023, the BLM had nearly 60,000 animals in holding. The cost of keeping one animal in off-range holding facilities was an average of \$6.59/animal/day in FY 2022. Over the past year, the BLM has seen significant increases for feed, fuel, labor, and related costs. This average is expected to increase by as much as 30 percent for FY 2023 due to contractual economic price adjustments arising from increased commodity and operational costs. Over the past year, the BLM has seen significant increases for feed, fuel, labor, and related costs. On-range costs such as contracted gather and removal operations continue to be similarly impacted. For FY 2021 the average cost to remove one animal was \$336, which rose to \$466 in FY 2022. The requested increase will allow the BLM to begin to offset these rising costs.

Importantly, to reduce holding costs and support other Program operations, the BLM will strive to place 7,500 excess animals into private care through adoptions, sales, and transfers, which is in line with average placements for the past four years (7,422). The 20-year trend for the number of private care placements is the dark blue trend line on the graph below. This will be achieved through a multi-pronged approach:

- Continuing to offer untrained animals for placement at BLM corral facilities, contracted Public Off-Range Pastures, and targeted satellite events around the country;
- Maximizing placement of trained animals through public-private partnerships with state correctional facilities and other partner organizations;
- Expanding the use of the Online Corral platform to reach more potential adopters nationwide;
- Increasing domestic and international sales to organizations known to offer animals good homes;
- Promoting transfers to other Federal, State, and local agencies for use as work animals; and
- Developing innovative partnerships to highlight the value and versatility of wild horses and burros to the public.

For animals placed into private care through adoption – including the Adoption Incentive Program – mandatory compliance inspections will be conducted to ensure they are receiving proper care.

Program Overview

The BLM is responsible for implementing the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971. As directed by Congress under the Act, the BLM protects and manages wild horses and burros on 26.9 million acres of western public rangelands as part of its multiple-use mission. The primary legal obligation under the Act is to achieve and maintain populations of WH&Bs on public lands at Appropriate Management Levels (AML).

The Act requires the BLM to “manage wild free-roaming horses and burros in a manner that is designed to achieve and maintain a thriving natural ecological balance on the public lands.” Further, if the BLM determines that an overpopulation exists and action is necessary to remove the excess animals, the agency is required to “immediately remove [them] from the range so as to achieve appropriate management levels.” The population estimates in FY 2022 (82,384) are three times the AML (26,770) and indicate overpopulations of wild horses and burros exist in 80 percent of the 177 Herd Management Areas (HMAs) located in 10 western States. Wild horse and burro populations double approximately every four years for several reasons, including equid longevity, the ability to survive harsh weather conditions, and the lack of natural predators. This overpopulation adversely impacts rangelands and wildlife habitat, and often leads to the migration of wild horses and burros onto private lands or along highways, resulting in property destruction and safety issues for the animals and humans alike, and in some cases the displacement of wildlife populations due to habitat degradation. The BLM continues to strive for healthy ecosystems through habitat restoration efforts in programs outside of the wild horse and burro program; however, the rapid growth of wild horse and burro population impedes the effectiveness of these efforts and undermines these investments.

The management of wild horses and burros includes various actions of on-range management and off-range management. While these actions can be individual activities, a systematic look at the WH&B Program

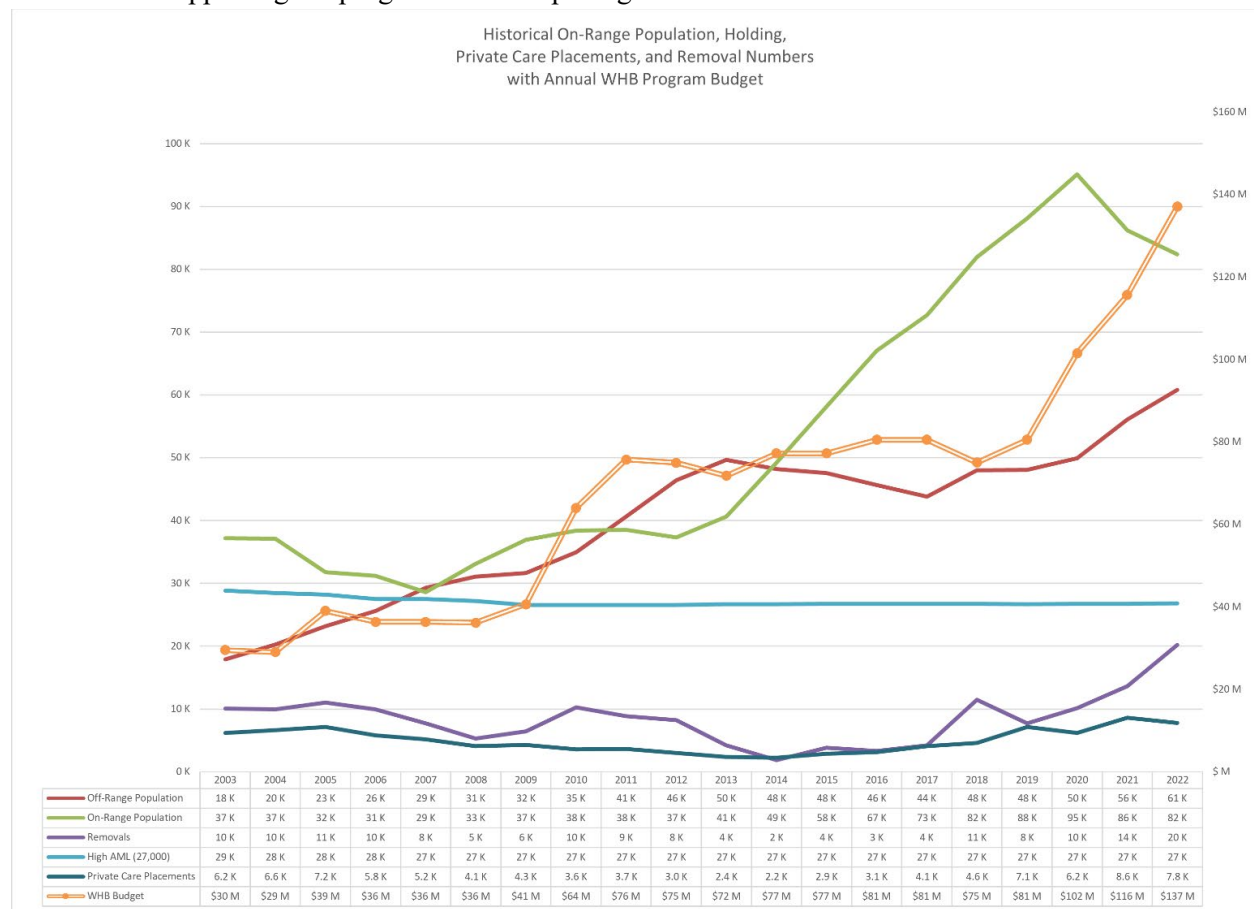
reveals how these actions can also be a series of activities that occur one after another. The following are a good representation of management activities within the WH&B Program.

On-Range Management

On-range program components include developing HMA Plans; establishing AML; conducting population surveys; applying population growth suppression methods in areas that are at or near AML; achieving or maintaining AML by removing excess animals from the range; conducting rangeland and herd monitoring; and facilitating adoptions, transfers, and sales. The BLM, through its partners, continues to do extensive scientific research to develop more effective and longer lasting population growth suppression methods and better management tools. The BLM also establishes relationships with individuals and organizations to assist with monitoring and fertility control treatments.

Off-Range Management

Off-range components include humanely caring for excess animals removed from public lands in off-range corral and pasture facilities where much of the Program’s budget is focused; placing excess animals into private care through adoptions, sales, and transfers; conducting compliance inspections for adopted, untitled animals; offering training programs that provide gentled animals to the public for private care; conducting outreach, education, and communication efforts; and partnering with individuals and organizations interested in supporting the program to accomplish goals.



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Activity: Wildlife Habitat Management and Aquatic Resources

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023 Enacted
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Aquatic Resources	<i>\$000</i>	56,922	58,247	+2,130	0	+13,063	73,440	+15,193
	<i>FTE</i>	269	291		0	+21	312	+21
Wildlife Habitat Management	<i>\$000</i>	140,747	148,938	+3,523	0	+9,522	161,983	+13,045
	<i>FTE</i>	494	499		0	+20	519	+20
Total, Wildlife Habitat Management and Aquatic Resources	<i>\$000</i>	197,669	207,185	+5,653	0	+22,585	235,423	+28,238
	<i>FTE</i>	763	790		0	+41	831	+41

Activity Description

Programs under the Wildlife Habitat Management and Aquatic Resources Activity tackle the effects of climate change through their goals of sustaining and enhancing biologically diverse and climate-resilient ecosystems across public lands. The BLM does this by protecting, conserving, and restoring habitats supporting fish, wildlife, plants, invertebrates, and threatened and endangered species by implementing actions that benefit habitats, inventorying and monitoring fish and wildlife resources, and supporting recreational opportunities such as wildlife viewing, hunting, and fishing. Management actions emphasize on-the-ground and in-the-water efforts that conserve biodiversity, increase resilience to the impacts of climate change, measurably increase the health of fish and wildlife populations, minimize or avoid impacts from permitted activities, sustain recreational and subsistence uses, and enhance or maintain local economies. These efforts are conducted in coordination and collaboration with State fish and game agencies, in addition to other Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments, and non-governmental partners.

BLM-managed lands include numerous wildlife, aquatic habitat types, and water resources across a large part of western landscapes, including major portions of American deserts, tundra, and sagebrush rangelands. The BLM is also responsible for managing 30 million acres of prairies and nearly 30 million acres of forest and woodland habitats. The BLM's diverse land base includes over 132,000 miles of fishable streams and rivers, over 3 million acres of lakes and reservoirs, and an abundance of wetlands. The BLM collects water quality data to monitor compliance with the Clean Water Act, conducts actions to maintain and improve water quality, and manages BLM-administered water rights and uses in compliance with Federal and State water laws and regulations. Healthy BLM-managed lands are vital to thousands of species of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates, and aquatic organisms, and the BLM uses the best science and data available to make decisions to bolster the resiliency of a variety of species and habitats.

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Activity: Wildlife Habitat Management and Aquatic Resources

Subactivity: Aquatic Resources

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023 Enacted
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Aquatic Resources	<i>\$000</i>	56,922	58,247	+2,130	0	+13,063	73,440	+15,193
	<i>FTE</i>	269	291		0	+21	312	+21

Summary of 2024 Program Changes for Aquatic Resources		(\$000)	FTE
	Youth Corps Programs	+3,000	+2
	Improve Habitat Health and Resiliency	+9,063	+19
	Subsistence Management	1,000	+0
Total		+13,063	+21

Justification of 2024 Program Change

The 2024 budget request for Aquatic Resources is \$73,440,000 and 312 FTE, a program change of +\$13,063,000 and +21 FTE from the 2023 Enacted level, which includes:

Youth Corps Programs (+\$3,000,000; +2 FTE) – The BLM will prioritize work in partnership with Tribes, States, and local governments to advance locally designed projects that improve climate-driven economic opportunities in rural communities. Working with youth corps programs, BLM will create opportunities to advance natural and cultural resource conservation and protection through maintenance, research, resilience, and mitigation. Participants with youth corps programs will implement aquatic restoration, as well as assessment and monitoring activities to assess project success. Such work is critical to achieving initiatives to prevent invasive species establishment and spread; restore landscape connectivity and function to combat climate change; and improve water resources. Partnerships with youth corps programs will provide young Americans an opportunity for civil service, to develop professional skills, and improve conditions on the ground.

Improve Habitat Health and Resiliency (+\$9,063,000; +19 FTE) – The BLM will increase actions, in coordination and cooperation with State, Federal, and Tribal agencies and other partners, to conserve, restore, and manage aquatic resources. Efforts will concentrate on managing for healthy ecosystems and healthy communities by increasing ecosystem resilience to drought and wildfire, ensuring supplies of clean, reliable drinking water, and stemming the loss of biodiversity by restoring ecosystem structure and function. As the largest land management agency in the United States, the BLM's conservation and restoration needs are significant, and the agency can lead in the use of nature-based solutions to address this challenge. The agency will increase capacity to restore, as feasible, degraded aquatic resources and maintain or increase their resistance and resilience to the impacts of climate change. The BLM will continue to inventory, assess,

and monitor aquatic resources and drought conditions to inform the BLM's use authorizations, implement adaptive management, and improve the effectiveness of restoration activities. The BLM will ensure water of sufficient quantity and quality is physically and legally available to sustain resistant and resilient aquatic resources on public lands by increasing assessments of instream flow, water level, and water quality requirements. The BLM will continue to coordinate with the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum to improve water quality in the Colorado River. Collectively, these efforts will assist in managing aquatic resources to provide resource values and ecosystem services necessary to achieve BLM's multiple-use and sustained-yield mandate.

Subsistence Management (+\$1,000,000; 0 FTE) – The BLM will help strengthen DOI's Alaska Subsistence Program by building vital partnerships that perform critical work that is key to the success of the program. The program provides a direct benefit to rural subsistence users on more than 237 million acres of Federal lands, encompassing 66 percent of Alaska's land area and 52 percent of Alaska's rivers and lakes. Increased operational funding will position BLM-Alaska to better support co-management opportunities with subsistence users. These opportunities include monitoring habitat and population conditions and trends as well as monitoring priority species beyond what is provided by the Federal Subsistence Management Program. Emphasizing landscape level, co-management oriented inventory and monitoring enhances Indigenous leadership and voice while also improving overall responsiveness to all subsistence users under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.

Program Overview

The BLM's Aquatic Resource program supports the conservation, restoration, and management of functioning riparian and wetland areas, aquatic habitat, and water resources (collectively referred to as aquatic resources). The Bureau's aquatic resources and issues are diverse and include watersheds; riparian-wetland systems; springs, streams, and rivers; ponds and lakes; fisheries; water quality; water rights and uses; and aquatic invasive species. These systems also support myriad ecosystem services such as drinking water, flood attenuation, drought resilience, carbon sequestration, pollination, and nutrient cycling. The BLM works to conserve, restore, and manage aquatic resources and supports the thoughtful implementation of other aspects of the BLM's mission (e.g., locatable minerals, fluid minerals, range health, forestry, recreation, renewable energy) that could either impact aquatic resources or require restoration of such resources to achieve multiple-use and sustained-yield management objectives.

To achieve the Aquatic Resources Program's objectives in an era of rapid ecological change, the program is focusing on:

Conservation and Restoration – As the largest land management agency in the country, the BLM has a critical role to play combating climate change and habitat loss while managing for resistant and resilient aquatic resources. The program works with other BLM programs and coordinates with Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments and non-governmental partners to implement projects that conserve or restore watershed health, water quality and quantity, native and recreational fisheries, ecosystem services, and healthy stream and riparian habitat. A significant focus of this work is the use of process-based restoration to increase the resistance and resilience of aquatic systems to climate change, drought, diversions, wildfire,

invasive species, and other stressors. This includes implementing projects that focus on the hydrologic, geomorphic, and biological processes that create and maintain diverse, functioning watersheds and systems and habitat connectivity. Restoration investments are comprehensive in nature where possible, and address causes of impairment, local community values, and priorities for aquatic systems, and the BLM's broader resource management plan objectives and authorized activities. In 2024, the BLM will invest in technical capacity to support restoration and apply treatments to 12,000 acres of lake and wetland habitat and 290 miles of stream and riparian areas; undertake 600 lake, wetland, stream, and riparian construction projects; and undertake 270 conservation actions for non-ESA-listed species.

Water Availability – Ensuring water of sufficient quality and quantity is physically and legally available to sustain healthy aquatic resources and the ecosystem services they provide requires informed and sustained engagement in Federal and State procedures that guide the allocation and administration of water. The program protects the agency's water rights and uses by acquiring and managing Federal and State water rights, participating in State water right adjudications, negotiating water right settlement agreements, providing water rights training, and developing sustainability goals that identify the rate, volume, timing, and quality of water required to protect the specific values for which aquatic resources are managed. The BLM will develop new drought assessment tools with a focus on areas experiencing increased drought risk and basins involved in water rights adjudications. In addition, the BLM will build drought resilience by protecting instream uses and groundwater storage on public lands, with an emphasis on public water reserves, wild and scenic rivers, and national riparian conservation areas. The BLM will continue to participate on Federal teams to support the settlement of Indian water right claims and improve collaboration between Tribes and Federal and State agencies on water issues across western States. Finally, the agency will continue to implement best-management practices to maintain and improve water quality and to participate in the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum to reduce salt and sediment pollution in the Colorado River. In 2024, the BLM will process over 6,000 water rights, inventory over 150,300 water parameters, monitor over 150,000 water parameters, and assess nearly 900,000 watershed acres.

Inventory, Assessment and Monitoring – A cornerstone of the Aquatic Resources Program and BLM decision making is inventory, assessment, and monitoring information. Such data is required to characterize what resources exist and where they are located, what condition they are in, and how they are changing through time in response to natural and anthropogenic drivers. The BLM is focused on developing and maintaining corporate data systems to protect its investment in data collection and ensure the best available science informs the BLM's decisions. All information used to inform decisions shall be robust, repeatable, transparent, and adhere to DOI scientific integrity standards. The BLM will improve the efficiency of its inventory, assessment, and monitoring efforts by partnering with Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments, and non-governmental partners, to conduct collaborative assessment and monitoring activities. In 2024, the BLM will inventory more than 4,000 acres of wetlands and 2,100 miles of stream and riparian areas; monitor 3,700 riparian and stream miles, and 18,000 acres of lake and wetland habitat; and monitor over 1,700 species populations. This data will ensure the Bureau considers, supplements, and supports plans for forming evidence-based policies and decision making.

Aquatic Invasive Species – The prevention and control of aquatic invasive species (AIS) is critical to conserving aquatic resources, protecting sensitive species, and mitigating economic losses. Successful AIS prevention and management requires dedicated and coordinated efforts among multiple agencies and

sustained funding. In partnership with Federal, State, and regional efforts, the BLM will work to prevent and contain the spread of AIS through outreach and education, early detection and rapid response monitoring, interdiction, and control measures. These and other efforts will follow guidance issued in the Department of the Interior's Invasive Species Strategic Plan. In 2024, the BLM will provide education and outreach for 200 programs and conduct 3,700 inventories for the presence of AIS.

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Activity: Wildlife Habitat Management and Aquatic Resources
Subactivity: Wildlife Habitat Management

	2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023 Enacted
			Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Wildlife Habitat Management <i>\$000</i>	140,747	148,938	+3,523	0	+9,522	161,983	+13,045
<i>FTE</i>	494	499		0	+20	519	+20

Summary of 2024 Program Changes for Wildlife Habitat Management		(\$000)	FTE
Wildlife Conservation		+5,522	+12
Youth Corps Program		+2,000	+5
Tribal Co-Stewardship		+2,000	+3
Total		+9,522	+20

Justification of 2024 Program Change

The 2024 budget request for Wildlife Habitat Management is \$161,983,000 and 519 FTE, a program increase of +\$9,522,000 and +20 FTE from the 2023 Enacted level, which includes:

Wildlife Conservation (+\$5,522,000; +12 FTE) – The Wildlife Habitat Management Program supports staff that develop and implement program policy for species conservation/recovery, habitat protection, and habitat restoration. The Wildlife Habitat Management Program includes four distinct program components: Wildlife Conservation, Threatened and Endangered Species, Sage Grouse Conservation, and Plant Conservation and Restoration. The budget proposes critical funding and staff increases in the Wildlife Conservation program component to restore program capacity lost as a result of recent shifts of base funding to the other program components. The increase in program capacity and funding for wildlife biologists is critical to BLM’s ability to support habitat connectivity initiatives, on-the-ground wildlife conservation projects, and conservation for pollinators, bats, and migratory birds.

Building capacity in the Wildlife Conservation program component will allow support for ongoing conservation that identifies, develops, and implements on-the-ground-landscape level habitat conservation and restoration efforts. The BLM will work with State, Tribal, and other Federal agencies to focus efforts on wildlife corridors and habitat connectivity, drought response, and effects of climate change on priority wildlife and plant species and habitats. In addition, the BLM will increase efforts to identify, protect, and restore large landscapes that are necessary to support the long-term resilience of wildlife and plant populations, especially with respect to the impacts of climate change.

To do this, the BLM will advance efforts to identify, protect, and restore functional, landscape-level wildlife migration, dispersal, and daily movement corridors for big game, migratory birds, pollinators, and at-risk

species. The BLM will also identify and protect important seasonal habitats to improve connectivity, protect intactness, and address habitat fragmentation. The BLM will identify post-fire and post-reclamation areas that need additional resources to achieve desired habitat conditions. In doing so, the agency will identify wildlife habitat areas to be restored that will strengthen the agency's ability to address climate resiliency and support increased terrestrial carbon sequestration. The BLM will also seek to remove barriers to species movement and assess and maintain critical infrastructure to mitigate the impacts of drought. The BLM will invest in scientific products and decision support tools to help identify and prioritize landscapes, and to develop tools to increase the effectiveness of restoration efforts. To help support the implementation of restoration projects, the BLM will increase efforts to restore resilient ecosystems and landscapes.

Youth Corps Programs (+\$2,000,000; +5 FTE) – The BLM will prioritize work in partnership with Tribes, States, and local governments to advance locally designed projects that improve climate-driven economic opportunities in urban and rural communities. Working with youth corps programs, BLM will create opportunities to advance natural and cultural resource conservation and protection through maintenance, research, resilience, and mitigation. By working with youth corps programs, BLM will increase capacity to assess, maintain and restore wildlife and plant populations, habitat restoration, and wildlife infrastructure. This work will advance the Wildlife Habitat Management program by the inventory and maintenance of wildlife habitat infrastructure; the implementation of wildlife habitat treatments (e.g., invasive species treatments, seedling planting); the collection of data on condition and trends; the removal of barriers for wildlife movement; and supporting the collection of native seeds.

Tribal Co-Stewardship (+\$2,000,000; +3 FTE) – The budget will enable the BLM to support Tribal co-stewardship of lands and waters that contain cultural and natural resources of significance and value to Indian Tribes and their citizens. The BLM will expand meaningful partnerships with Tribes to better leverage Tribal expertise and Indigenous knowledge and ensure Tribal governments play an integral role in the co-management of DOI lands and resources where appropriate. The funds will support consultation and planning with Tribes to identify and implement co-stewardship opportunities. The BLM will focus on increased collaboration with Tribes to identify co-stewardship opportunities in wildlife conservation on public lands, including habitat connectivity.

Program Overview

Within the Wildlife Habitat Management Program there are four distinct program areas: Wildlife Conservation, Threatened and Endangered Species, Sage Grouse/Sagebrush Conservation, and Plant Conservation and Restoration. Together, these programs make up the Wildlife Habitat Management Program and will focus on proactive conservation and recovery; the identification and management of intact habitats and habitat connectivity; and increasing our understanding of how climate change and multiple uses influence the ability to meet objectives for wildlife and native plants in land use plans, conservation plans, and strategies. The BLM is responsible for protecting and restoring habitat to support the thousands of species that depend on public lands for all or part of their lifecycle, including recreationally important game and non-game species, special status species, and migratory birds, to species that fulfill important niches such as bats and pollinators. These efforts are conducted in coordination and collaboration with State fish and game agencies, Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments, and non-governmental partners. The

BLM conducts wildlife and habitat inventories and monitoring to set science-based objectives that identify and inform short- and long-term trends, migration corridors and habitat connectivity areas, and other habitats important for the resiliency of the landscape. The BLM uses the inventory and monitoring data to inform assessments, address land health, and guide development and implementation of conservation actions and habitat restoration projects to improve the achievement of desired habitat objectives and improve wildlife and plant population status. The BLM supports initiatives that improve conservation successes, build on existing conservation investments, and/or maintain current information on the status and trend of priority species and habitats on public lands.

Wildlife Conservation (\$35,627)

BLM-administered public lands are home to thousands of mammal, reptile, avian, amphibian, and invertebrate species, which inhabit some of our Nation's most ecologically diverse and essential habitat on public lands. For example, through the planning process, the BLM has identified priority habitats for 92 million acres of big game habitats and 223 key raptor areas that cover 13.6 million acres. The Wildlife program is focused on gathering information on the distribution, condition, and utilization of wildlife resources to promote self-sustaining populations and a natural abundance and diversity of wildlife on public lands for the enjoyment of present and future generations. The program is responsible for the condition for wildlife habitat improvement projects; currently over 3,000 projects have been completed on public lands. The Wildlife Habitat Management program is responsible for coordination and collaboration with State fish and game agencies, in addition to other Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments, and non-governmental partners. The BLM is also focused on advancing collaboration with communities of color, low-income families, and rural and Indigenous communities that have not typically been included in identification of wildlife habitat priorities and have often missed opportunities to enhance local economic prospects related to wildlife habitat management.

In 2024, the BLM will aim to conduct treatments to maintain and improve 312,000 acres of wildlife habitat, and inventory and monitor 12,400 wildlife populations in support of State wildlife agency populations objectives. The BLM uses the latest geospatial data technologies to share wildlife information within the BLM and with partners to facilitate a collaborative and efficient work environment. The Wildlife Habitat Management program leverages funds with other BLM and DOI programs and partners to develop and maintain plant material for restoration to improve wildlife habitat, improve water quality, increase resistance to invasive weed species, and reduce the threat of wildfires. This funding complements and supports DOI hazardous fuels management efforts, including those under the BIL.

In addition to sagebrush restoration (discussed below), additional focus of the program will be on identification and management of habitat that supports wildlife migrations for other priority species and habitat—such as for pollinators, bats, and migratory birds. The BLM will continue to improve hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities on public lands by working with other BLM programs and partners to maintain existing public access and provide improved public access.

Sage Grouse (\$71,000,000)

Sagebrush provides essential habitat for more than 350 species including sage-grouse, migratory birds, pollinators, and big game. The importance of maintaining and restoring this ecosystem is evident in the value it provides for wildlife habitat, climate resilience, recreation, hunting, grazing, soil stability, and

social and economic benefits to local communities. The BLM will maintain partnerships with Federal, State, and Tribal governments, local working groups and communities, and other non-governmental entities that maintain or enhance sagebrush habitats. The BLM will continue to coordinate with States, Tribes, and other partners on sage-grouse and sagebrush conservation activities and will continue to invest in the collaborative conservation and restoration of this vital ecosystem.

The conservation of the sagebrush biome warrants a landscape-scale approach to protection, restoration, and management, as guided by the best available science and current data. The BLM will maintain its focus on collaboration with Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments, and non-governmental partners, to collectively ensure the long-term resilience of this iconic ecosystem, focusing on collaborative, integrated, and strategic restoration and protection efforts across the sagebrush biome. These projects will be designed and implemented with our partners to comprehensively address the threats to this ecosystem, leverage funding, and advance multiple objectives. These focused efforts will help to restore native ecosystems, create and maintain climate resilient landscapes, and contribute to preventing further sage-grouse population declines. In 2024, the BLM will work with these partners to conserve and, where appropriate, treat 675,000 acres of sagebrush habitat through this sub-activity, in addition to several hundred thousand additional acres treated through funding in other BLM programs. The BLM will also continue to emphasize investment in inventory and monitoring of sagebrush habitat, in addition to maintaining data sets and geospatial information and coordinating with our partners, in order to focus investments in the areas of greatest need and to ensure effectiveness of our conservation efforts. Additionally, the BLM is revisiting previous sage-grouse plan amendments, updating them with current data, science, and consideration for climate change factors, as well as completing NEPA analyses and considering withdrawal for some lands from mineral entry. These efforts will consider the extensive scientific literature published in the past eight years, and are being carefully coordinated with States, Federal agencies, and stakeholders. An administrative Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is anticipated to be shared with cooperators in 2023, with a public Draft EIS release later in the year. A final EIS is expected for release in 2024.

Threatened and Endangered Species (\$34,756)

The Threatened and Endangered Species (T&E) program provides for the BLM's management and recovery of federally protected species listed under the ESA. Consistent with the tenets of the ESA, the T&E Program's primary goal is to achieve species' recovery so that protection under the ESA is no longer required. Conservation efforts for proposed, candidate, and sensitive plants and animals are also important so that listing under the ESA is unnecessary. The BLM works closely with Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments, and non-governmental partners in shared conservation stewardship of these important species and habitats.

The T&E Species program's focus is on conserving biodiversity, recovering listed species and precluding the need to list sensitive species; slowing extinction rates, increasing resilience to climate change, and using the best science and data available to make decisions. The agency will increase its emphasis on the implementation of proactive conservation and recovery under section 7(a)(1) of the ESA by focusing on multi-species, ecosystem-level, on-the-ground conservation projects (e.g., habitat restoration, seed collection, propagation, disease control, invasive species control, wildlife and plant translocations/population establishment) to improve habitats, increase species population viability, and help achieve species conservation and recovery. The program will focus on the identification, protection,

conservation, and restoration of large landscape areas and connectivity corridors for species' long-term viability and resilience. Science-related activities, such as research, inventory, monitoring, and habitat models, will be used to improve understanding of species, their habitat, and associated threats so that the BLM's recovery actions can be well-designed and effectively implemented. The BLM will strategically direct an emphasis toward priority species, habitats, and landscapes where the BLM manages substantial portions of the species' ranges, or where BLM can restore populations, improve connectivity, and/or enhance resilience to prevent extinction and achieve recovery.

The T&E program will collaborate with partners organizations to cost share and maximize resource dollars to conserve and recover wildlife and plants. To ensure the use of best available science and gain new conservation partners, the T&E Program will participate on species' recovery teams, climate change work groups, pollinator conservation efforts, and other relevant team efforts. In addition, the T&E program values the ability to engage, train, and support a new generation of Americans working to further conservation.

The BLM will implement up to 1,500 recovery actions in 2024, including on-the-ground efforts such as habitat protection, restoration, seed collection, and population establishment, and science activities including research, surveys, and monitoring, where they contribute directly to conservation or recovery. The actual number of projects will depend on the scale of those projects.

Plant Conservation and Restoration (\$20,600,000)

The Plant Conservation and Restoration program (PCRP) provides leadership in identifying, maintaining, and restoring Western native plant communities and rare plants on public land. The majority of the program funding comes through the Wildlife Habitat Management subactivity. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) provided \$70 million for revegetation efforts, including to implement the National Seed Strategy. The interagency BIL implementation team has agreed to focus its work on seed collection, seed production, and ecoregional collaboration, which are the main priorities and work of PCRP. The program plays a critical role in BLM habitat restoration within the other Wildlife Habitat Management program (Wildlife, T&E, Greater sage grouse conservation and Bureau special status species management). Additionally, the program is working with 18 other Federal agencies and 20 Tribes to effectively implement the National Seed Strategy across the country. The program plays an active leadership role in implementing the BIL funding for the National Seed Strategy, as overall co-chair (with USFWS), as co-chair of the Plant Conservation Alliance National Seed Strategy Federal Implementation Working Group, and in the Plant Conservation Alliance Federal Committee. Native plant communities are the green infrastructure the Nation must rely on for healthy, biodiverse landscapes. Healthy native plant communities protect against catastrophic natural disasters; create wildlife, pollinator, and rare species habitats; and are vital for terrestrial carbon sequestration. Native seeds provide the BLM with the ability to restore functional ecosystems after natural disasters and mitigate the effects of climate change. Implementing the National Seed Strategy—a coordinated, research-driven native seed production effort—is an efficient and cost-effective risk management strategy. The program works with over 150 different entities, such as other federal agencies, state agencies, Tribal nations, non-government organizations and the private sector to implement the strategy and to develop the genetically appropriate native seed. The BLM is collaborating to increase the supply of native seeds for restoration through the National Seed Strategy to get the right seed in the right place at the right time. Public lands contain a diversity of wildlife and other uses that rely on healthy plant communities spanning over 50 ecoregions. Each ecoregion contains plant communities that

have adapted to those environments. Actions in the National Seed Strategy include wildland seed collection, seed conservation, seed procurement and storage, and seed use for restoration. A coordinated approach that actively works with the private sector can help assure a ready supply chain of native seed, as is emphasized in the recommendations of the 2023 National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine’s National Native Seed Assessment. The National Academy of Sciences report made 10 recommendations for action to address “the challenges facing our natural landscapes, and to the responsibility for public sector leadership of a coordinated public-private effort to build a national native seed supply.” Of the ten, three recommendations pertain to the BLM addressing a national seed warehouse system, identification and conservation of native reservoirs of seeds, and the capacity needed to build and oversee native seed stocks. BLM will continue a leadership role engaging with the other agencies and organizations described in the report to address all the recommendations made.

In 2024, the BLM will implement those science-based recommendations that will increase the availability of native seed. Seed collection and production depend upon a number of variables, including precipitation, drought, and human capacity.

The Plant Conservation and Restoration program will focus funding on increasing the botanical expertise through the expanded hiring of botanists within BLM. Additionally, the program will focus on training the next generation of public land stewards through efforts like the recently developed Arid and Semi-arid Lands Seed Technology and Restoration Course and the Seeds of Success Course, both offered through BLM’s National Training Center.

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Activity: Recreation Management

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Wilderness Management	<i>\$000</i>	18,686	19,216	+930		+5,555	25,701	+6,485
	<i>FTE</i>	112	117			+6	123	+6
Recreation Resources Management	<i>\$000</i>	60,242	55,550	+2,673		+7,152	65,375	+9,825
	<i>FTE</i>	342	297			+6	303	+6
Total, Recreation Management	<i>\$000</i>	78,928	74,766	+3,603		+12,707	91,076	+16,310
	<i>FTE</i>	454	414			+12	426	+12

Activity Description

The Recreation Management Activity plays a prominent role in achieving the Department's priorities to build healthy communities and economies, advance environmental justice, address the climate crisis, and provide safe and equitable access to outdoor recreation opportunities for all Americans. Growing populations in Western states, coupled with America's increased need for outdoor recreation during the COVID-19 pandemic, has led to increased visitation to public lands.

The Recreation Management programs include activities that address the needs of visitors to our public land. Among those activities are visitor planning and monitoring; ensuring and maintaining access and overall transportation management; providing visitor information and services including recreational and primitive caving opportunities; and promoting weather resistant design, operation, and maintenance of recreation facilities and infrastructure, including visitor centers. Recreation Management also oversees trails and rivers, including administration for specially designated National Wild and Scenic Rivers, National Recreation Trails, and National Water Trails. Beginning in FY 2023, National Scenic and Historic Trails (NSHT) are funded in the National Conservation Lands (NCL) program. In addition, Recreation Management staff engages with diverse groups of stakeholders to ensure equitable access to public lands, and engages with local communities and partners about tourism opportunities that support local economies. The Recreation Management program also manages Wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas, including the responsibility of inventorying lands for Wilderness characteristics through the land use planning process and monitoring and managing visual resources. Because of the ready access of BLM lands to many communities, the BLM works with a variety of partners, volunteers, and youth programs. Recreation Management also works to streamline and improve permitting processes and collection of use fees where they apply.

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Activity: Recreation Management

Subactivity: Wilderness Management

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Wilderness Management	<i>\$000</i>	18,686	19,216	+930		+5,555	25,701	+6,485
	<i>FTE</i>	112	117			+6	123	+6

Summary of 2024 Program Changes for Wilderness Management		(\$000)	FTE
Youth Corps Programs		+1,960	+2
Restore and Conserve Wilderness and WSAs		+3,595	+4
Total		+5,555	+6

Justification of 2024 Program Change

The 2024 budget request for Wilderness Management is \$25,701,000 and 123 FTE, a program change of +\$5,555,000 and +6 FTE from the 2023 level, which includes:

Youth Corps Programs (+\$1,960,000; +2 FTE) – The BLM will prioritize partnerships with Tribes, States, and local governments to advance locally designed projects that improve climate-driven economic opportunities in urban and rural communities. Working with youth corps programs, BLM will create opportunities to advance natural and cultural resource conservation and protection through maintenance, research, resilience, and mitigation. The BLM will accelerate wilderness character monitoring baseline assessments for approximately 160 Wilderness Areas that still need to be assessed. This can be accomplished with the help of youth organizations and hiring early career professionals trained in wilderness monitoring protocols. Also, organizations can update inventories of lands with wilderness characteristics to ensure this resource is considered and protected where appropriate in land use planning decisions. Finally, youth corps programs will help install and maintain sustainable infrastructure features near and along Wilderness and Wilderness Study Area boundaries to improve the visitor experience and identify appropriate recreation opportunities (e.g., portal signs, trailhead information kiosks, final maps, etc.).

Restore and Conserve Wilderness and WSAs (+\$3,595,000; +4 FTE) –The requested funds will increase program capacity, such as staffing, to address the increased workload that has accompanied program expansion over the past decade to maintain standards associated with mission operations in FY 2024. Funding would allow the BLM to ensure it is preserving wilderness character at selected areas per the 2020 Vision, Interagency stewardship priorities for America’s National Wilderness Preservation System, and as required by the Wilderness Act of 1964. Work in wilderness areas and WSAs addresses the Administration’s priorities of restoring landscape connectivity and supporting the America the Beautiful

Initiative. Examples of work that will be performed by BLM and its partners in wilderness areas and WSAs include reclaiming and restoring degraded areas, eradicating invasive species, building and maintaining trails, and educating and informing visitors on Leave No Trace etiquette and visitor safety. The additional funds may also be used to conduct wilderness character monitoring baseline assessments per the BLM implementation guide that includes 25 standard indicators. These assessments are updated on a routine basis. Additional efforts will also include initiation of new priority wilderness management plans and transmittal of completed high priority maps and legal boundary descriptions to Congress.

Program Overview

Wilderness areas are Federal lands designated by law to be managed to preserve their wilderness character as defined by the Wilderness Act of 1964. Specific wilderness-designating laws also guide wilderness management. Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) are managed so as not to impair their suitability for preservation as wilderness.

The BLM, National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service manage designated Wilderness and work cooperatively with partner organizations and stakeholders. These agencies cooperate in administering and protecting the National Wilderness Preservation System through a collaborative Interagency Wilderness Policy Council and Interagency Wilderness Steering Committee.

As part of the BLM's National Conservation Lands, the BLM manages Wilderness areas according to the Wilderness Act of 1964 and other public laws that designate Wilderness. The program also manages WSAs under FLPMA. Managing these lands includes collaborating with local, State, and Tribal governments and other Federal partners; enhancing and maintaining recreational access to Wilderness and WSAs; and engaging diverse communities through inclusive methods to foster shared stewardship efforts.

Currently the BLM manages 263 Wilderness areas, comprising over 10.1 million acres in 10 western States, or 4 percent of the total surface acreage that the BLM administers. In addition, the BLM continues to manage 487 Wilderness Study Areas (almost 11.1 million acres in 11 western States and Alaska, or 4.5 percent of BLM's total surface acreage) until Congress either designates these areas as Wilderness or releases them for other uses.

Programs managing recreation, wildlife, wildland fire, weeds and invasive species, and rangeland resources routinely benefit from the wilderness resource and assist the BLM in meeting its legal requirements to manage Wilderness areas. Working collaboratively across boundaries with other Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments as well as private landowners helps support the BLM's management of Wilderness areas and WSAs.

Some of the work of the Wilderness Management program is achieved through strong networks of conservation corps and volunteers providing thousands of hours of service. Typical examples of work performed by partners in Wilderness areas and WSAs include building and maintaining trails, eradicating invasive species, educating and informing visitors on Leave No Trace etiquette, visitor safety, monitoring Wilderness character, and reclaiming and restoring degraded areas. These collaborative relationships advance the Bureau's efforts to be a good neighbor to surrounding communities.

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Activity: Recreation Management
Subactivity: Recreation Resources Management

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	Change from 2023
Recreation Resources Management	\$000	60,242	55,550	+2,673		+7,152	65,375	+9,825
	FTE	342	297			+6	303	+6

Other Resources Supporting Recreation Resources Management:					
		2022 Actual	2023 Estimate	2024 Estimate	Change from 2023
Recreation Fees	\$000	31,115	29,959	30,984	+1,025
	FTE	168	168	168	+0
California Off-Highway Vehicle	\$000	7,143	9,444	9,444	+0
	FTE	41	41	41	+0
Recreation Cost Recovery	\$000	4,491	700	3,600	+2,900
	FTE	12	10	10	+0

Notes:

- Recreation Fee amounts are shown as new budget authority derived from recreation fee revenues (nearly all recreation fees are kept at the site where they are collected); the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. Ch.87) reauthorizes these funds on a regular basis. More information on Recreation Fees is found in the Permanent Operating Funds chapter.
- California Off-Highway Vehicle amounts are shown as new budget authority derived from a written commitment by a State government to provide an identified amount of money in support of a project on a reimbursable basis; the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act appropriates these funds on a current basis. More information on California Off-Highway Vehicle resources is found in the Miscellaneous Trust Funds chapter.
- Recreation Cost Recovery amounts are shown as new budget authority derived from revenue from Special Recreation Permits to authorize group activities or recreation events; the annual Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriation Act appropriates these funds on a current basis. More information on Recreation Cost Recovery is found in the Service Charges, Deposits, and Forfeitures account.

Summary of 2024 Program Changes for Recreation Resources Management	(\$000)	FTE
Youth Corps Programs	+385	+2
Enhance Access and Resiliency	+6,767	+4
Total	+7,152	+6

Justification of 2024 Program Change

The 2024 budget request for Recreation Resources Management is \$65,375,000 and 303 FTE, a program change of +\$7,152,000 and +6 FTE from the 2023 level, which includes:

Youth Corps Programs (+\$385,000; +2 FTE) – The BLM will prioritize work in partnership with Tribes, States, and local governments to advance locally designed projects that improve climate-driven economic opportunities in urban and rural communities. Working with youth corps programs, BLM will create opportunities to advance natural and cultural resource conservation and protection through maintenance, research, resilience, and mitigation. The BLM will utilize youth corps programs to augment and supplement traditional means of conserving and restoring public lands and waters, improving access to outdoor recreation opportunities, addressing public lands maintenance backlogs, and increasing climate resiliency through “nature-based” solutions. BLM public lands are in high demand, both for outdoor recreation and for mitigating the effects of climate change through meaningful and immediate climate action. Use of youth corps programs will provide job opportunities to participants wishing to gain skills in outdoor recreation management while contributing to national climate and sustainability goals.

Enhance Access and Resiliency (+\$6,767,000; +4 FTE) – Since the beginning of the pandemic in early 2020, visitation to exceptional outdoor recreation opportunities on the public lands managed by the BLM continues to set records. In 2020, 73 million visitors were counted visiting the public lands managed by the BLM, and at the close of 2022, public visitation climbed 11% to 81 million visitors. New technologies and information sharing are changing visitor use patterns constantly, creating dynamic management challenges. In response, the BLM is developing a bold new strategy to address these challenges head on. This strategy, “BLM’s 21st Century Recreation Strategy,” employs five systems to transform recreation management across the agency to better invest in recreation, devote resources to underserved communities, embrace 21st century reach and values, deliver equitable and increased access, and meet public demand while protecting resources.

At the requested funding level, the BLM will improve recreational access for all Americans, to encourage enjoyment of public lands managed by the BLM. The \$6.8 million budget increase will support development and implementation of enhancements for underserved community access and use to their nearby BLM sites and help make all Americans feel welcome and invited to their public lands. The program will also allow the BLM to increase partnerships to remove barriers and provide long lasting access through initiatives such as outdoor recreational gear lending, resilient biking and hiking trail design, construction projects, refreshed interpretive and education programming, volunteer events, and site improvements.

Program Overview

The Recreation Management Activity includes recreation planning, accessibility, visitor safety, scenic resources, travel and transportation management, tourism, interpretation and education, cave management, recreation infrastructure, and maintenance. Together, these programs work to enhance access to the outdoors and to promote exceptional outdoor recreation opportunities on public lands. The work of these programs is guided by Administration, Department, and Bureau policy. This program strengthens

relationships with sovereign Tribal Nations and neighboring communities, supports the creation of recreation-related jobs, promotes restoration and conservation, equity, and environmental justice, and provides greater access to all.

Recreation use on the public lands managed by the BLM is increasing every year, as are the challenges and impacts of the increased activity. New technologies and information sharing are changing visitor use patterns constantly. In response, the BLM is developing a bold new strategy to address these challenges head on. This strategy, “BLM’s 21st Century Recreation Strategy,” employs five systems to transform recreation management across the agency to better invest in recreation, devote resources to underserved communities, embrace 21st century reach and values, deliver equitable and increased access, and meet public demand while protecting resources.

Public lands managed by the BLM provide exceptional outdoor recreation opportunities primarily in the western United States, including many located near urban centers and towns. These lands draw more than 80 million visitors annually. Currently, the BLM manages a variety of developed and dispersed recreation opportunities at low cost to the public. These include over 3,400 developed recreation sites and areas, including nearly 180 sites that take online payments or reservations through Recreation.gov, greatly improving public access. The BLM also administers nearly 5,000 permits for commercial and organized group activities and provides the public with 1,000 miles of motorized and non-motorized trails. As a result, over 96 percent of visitors surveyed report satisfaction with BLM staff, services, and programs.¹

In 2024, guided by BLM’s 21st Century Recreation Strategy, the Bureau will:

- establish meaningful opportunities to connect with underserved communities and diverse populations;
- enhance access to quality recreation opportunities for nature-deprived communities;
- identify and remove outdoor recreation barriers and expand recreation opportunities for all;
- provide an enhanced, more sustainable recreational experience by delivering up-to-date and engaging visitor information online and in person;
- conduct recreation facility condition assessments on approximately 20 percent of recreation sites;
- improve recreation permitting process by integrating Field Office use of the online system known as RAPTOR; and
- enhance online trip planning services and expand use of electronic recreation fee payment methods.

Please see <https://www.blm.gov/programs/recreation/recreation-programs> for a complete description of the BLM’s Recreation Programs.

¹ “Bureau of Land Management, 2022 National Report” Social and Economic Sciences Research Center, Washington State University, January 2023. <https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/3019/2022/12/blm-blm22.pdf>

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Activity: Energy and Minerals Management

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	Change from 2023 Enacted
Oil & Gas Management	<i>\$000</i>	106,135	112,873	+6,165		+4,469	123,507	+10,634
	<i>FTE</i>	405	381			+0	381	+0
Onshore Oil & Gas Inspection Activities	<i>\$000</i>	50,402	50,402			+618	51,020	+618
	<i>FTE</i>	329	364			+0	364	+0
Coal Management	<i>\$000</i>	16,079	16,609	+581		0	17,190	+581
	<i>FTE</i>	79	77			+0	77	+0
Other Mineral Resources	<i>\$000</i>	12,936	13,466	+659		+3,075	17,200	+3,734
	<i>FTE</i>	76	79			+3	82	+3
Renewable Energy	<i>\$000</i>	30,983	40,983	+849		+30,708	72,540	+31,557
	<i>FTE</i>	138	146			+81	227	+81
Total, Energy & Minerals Management	<i>\$000</i>	216,535	234,333	+8,254		+38,870	281,457	+47,124
	<i>FTE</i>	1,027	1,047			+84	1,131	+84
Oil & Gas Inspection Fee Offsetting Collections	<i>\$000</i>					-51,020	-51,020	-51,020
	<i>FTE</i>					+0	+0	+0
Net Total Energy and Minerals Management	<i>\$000</i>	216,535	234,333	+8,254		-12,150	230,437	-3,896
	<i>FTE</i>	1,0127	1,047			+84+	1,131	+84

In addition to the requested current appropriations, permanent funds are also available to support the Oil and Gas Management program as authorized by the *National Defense Authorization Act for 2015*. These are shown and discussed in the Permanent Operating Funds chapter, as well as in the Oil and Gas Management subactivity.

Activity Description

The 2024 BLM budget request supports a balanced, responsible energy development approach to fulfill the Administration's commitments to facilitate domestic energy production, generate revenue, and support good paying union jobs in the energy sector, and to meet the Administration's goal of permitting 25 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy on public lands by 2025. In FY 2022, sales volumes from Federal onshore lands accounted for approximately 45 percent of the Nation's coal, 69 percent of the Nation's installed geothermal capacity, 9 percent of domestic natural gas, and 11 percent of domestically produced oil.²

² Information is derived from a combination of Energy Information Administration (EIA) and Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR) data.

The goals of the Oil and Gas and the Coal Programs are to provide access to fossil fuel resources where suitable, to manage exploration and development activities in an environmentally sound way, and to provide a fair return to taxpayers from the development of these Federal resources.

In response to direction in EO 14008 and in light of the Secretary of the Interior's broad stewardship responsibilities, the Department conducted a review of its oil and gas programs and published a report of its findings in November 2021. The report identified key reforms necessary to ensure that the programs provide a fair return to taxpayers, discourage speculation, reduce environmental impacts, hold operators responsible for remediation, and create a more inclusive and just approach to managing public lands and waters. The Department's report made a number of specific recommendations to restore balance to these programs, including adjusting royalty rates, pursuing adequate financial assurance for decommissioning liabilities, and prioritizing leasing in areas with known resource potential while avoiding conflicts with other uses. The Department is in the process of implementing administrative changes consistent with the report's findings and recommendations, as well as implementing the IRA, including, where necessary, updating regulations and agency policy guidance documents that apply to oil and gas leases. The Administration is committed to the responsible and sustainable development of Federal energy resources as the Nation transitions to a low-carbon economy, and such reforms are a critical component of this effort.

The Renewable Energy Management Program is charged with ensuring the responsible development of renewable energy on BLM-managed lands. It administers right-of-way (ROW) applications and leases for wind and solar energy, geothermal energy leasing and development, and transmission permits associated with renewable energy generation. Geothermal energy leasing and development is managed similar to oil and gas leasing and development. The BLM has the authority for leasing geothermal resources on 245 million acres of public lands, including 104 million acres of national forest lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service.

The BLM provides other minerals needed to support local infrastructure and economic development. Demand is increasing globally for non-energy solid minerals such as potassium, phosphate, sodium, and potash. Other important mineral resources produced from public lands include lithium, copper, silver, gypsum, building stone, sand, and gravel. The BLM processes sales and issues permits for mineral materials such as sand, gravel, stone, and clays, which are essential to maintenance and construction of roads and buildings. This includes those used by the BLM to fulfill its land management objectives.

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Activity: Energy and Minerals Management

Subactivity: Oil and Gas Management

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2023 President's Budget				Change from 2023 Enacted
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Oil & Gas Management	\$000	106,135	112,873	+6,165		+4,469	123,507	+10,634
	FTE	405	381			+0	381	+0
Oil & Gas Inspection Activities Appropriations	\$000	50,402	50,402	+0		+618	51,020	+618
	FTE	329	364			+0	364	+0
Total, Oil & Gas	\$000	156,537	163,275	+6,165		+5,087	174,527	+11,252
	FTE	734	745			+0	745	+0
Oil & Gas Inspection Fee Offsetting Collections						-51,020	-51,020	-51,020
Net Total, Oil & Gas	\$000	156,537	163,275	+6,165		-45,933	123,507	-39,768
	FTE	734	745			+0	745	+0

Summary of 2024 Program Changes for Oil & Gas	(\$000)	FTE
Enhance Base Capacity	+1,969	+0
IRA Implementation	+2,500	+0
Enhance Inspection Capacity	+618	+0
Total	+5,087	+0
<i>Oil and Gas Fee Offsetting Collections</i>	<i>-51,020</i>	<i>+0</i>
Net Total	-45,933	+0

Other Resources Supporting Oil & Gas Management:					
		2022 Actual	2023 Estimate	2024 Estimate	Change from 2023
Permit Processing Improvement Fund (PPIF)	\$000	46,159	48,823	50,758	+1,935
	FTE	236	225	236	+11
Energy and Minerals Cost Recovery	\$000	1,681	2,900	3,417	+517
	FTE	6	17	18	+1
Subtotal, Other Oil & Gas Funding	\$000	47,840	51,723	54,175	2,452
	FTE	242	242	54	+12
Total, Oil & Gas (Disc Approps, I&E Fees, and Other Resources)	\$000	204,377	214,998	177,682	-37,316

Notes:

- BLM mandatory amounts for Permit Processing Improvement Fund reflect the impact of both previously unavailable authority and sequestration.
- Permit Processing Improvement Fund (PPIF) amounts are shown as new budget authority derived from 50 percent of rents from onshore mineral leases for oil and gas, coal, and oil shale on Federal lands; Section 365 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (P.L.

109-58) appropriates these funds on a permanent basis. Beginning in 2016, PPIF also includes APD fees authorized by the National Defense Authorization Act. More information on the PPIF is found in the Permanent Operating Funds chapter.

- Energy and Minerals Cost Recovery amounts are shown as new budget authority derived from fees that include costs of actions such as environmental studies performed by the BLM, lease applications, and other processing related costs; the Independent Offices Appropriations Act (IOAA), as amended (31 USC 9701), and Section 304(a) of FLPMA (43 USC 1734), appropriates these funds on a current basis. More information on Energy and Minerals Cost Recovery is found in the Service Charges, Deposits, & Forfeitures chapter.

Justification of 2024 Program Changes

The 2024 budget request for Oil and Gas, which includes both Oil and Gas Management and Oil and Gas Inspection Activities, is \$174,527,000 and 745 FTE, a program change of +\$5,087,000 and 0 FTE from the 2023 Enacted level. As indicated below, the 2024 budget proposes to shift the cost of the Oil and Gas Inspection Activities program from appropriations to inspection fees, which would reduce the Oil and Gas request by \$51,020,000, for a net total of \$123,507,000.

Oil and Gas Management

Enhance Baseline Capacity (+\$1,969,000 / +0 FTE) – The requested increase will better ensure BLM capacity to address the workload involved with continued implementation of Administration initiatives to address impacts from energy development on public lands, including:

- Developing and implementing regulatory updates with regard to oil and gas waste prevention, production subject to royalties, and resource conservation, as well as regulations that govern fossil fuel leases and the leasing process.
- Ensuring that oil and gas operations on Federal and Indian lands are conducted in a manner that protects human health, worker safety, and the environment, while ensuring proper accountability for the American taxpayer's share of revenue from the development of resources extracted from public lands.
- Ensuring timely processing of sundry notices.
- Remediating the Topagoruk, East Topagoruk, and Cape Halkett Alaska Legacy wells and addressing residual issues at the Fish Creek site.

Additionally, in coordination with funding received through the BIL and the Department's Orphaned Well Program, the BLM will continue to develop its comprehensive inventory and assessment of idled, orphaned, and abandoned oil and gas wells on public lands, and will remediate priority orphaned wells and well sites.

IRA Implementation (+\$2,500,000 / +0 FTE) With the FY 2024 budget, the BLM will continue its implementation of the IRA and associated impacts by:

- Developing regulatory updates with regard to oil and gas leasing and the changes to lease terms and expressions of interest included within Section 50262 of the IRA. This will require additional funds to ensure the regulatory updates can occur in a timely manner.

- Implementing the revised regulatory updates by updating the BLM’s policies related to oil and gas leasing, including updating an estimated 12 handbooks and manuals.
- Creating a public report to query data in the BLM’s National Fluid Lease Sale System and tracking the acres of expressions of interest received for oil and gas to support the issuance of wind or solar energy rights of way as specified in Section 50265(b)(1) of the IRA.
- Supporting BLM’s efforts to account for royalties on methane under Section 50263 of the IRA by properly identifying all areas where methane royalties could be collected.
- Supporting the training of BLM staff and developing and standardizing documents related to oil and gas operations.

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Activity: Energy and Minerals Management

Subactivity: Oil and Gas Inspection Activities

Enhance Inspection Capacity (+\$618,000/+0 FTE) – With the FY 2024 budget, the BLM will:

- Conduct production, drilling, abandonment, workover, environmental, record verification, undesirable event, alleged theft, and idle well inspections, including:
 - Inspecting 100 percent of producing cases and drilling and abandonment operations rated as high priority/high risk inspections.
 - Conducting approximately 5,800 total production inspections (including high risk and other production inspections).
 - Conducting approximately 15,000 environmental inspections.
 - Conducting a total of nearly 31,000 inspections (all types).
- Continue its review of operators' financial assurances, with a review of risk factors to weigh potential liability and evaluate well inventories in the field to address inactive wells.
- Continue its Petroleum Engineering Technician certification and refresher training to build and maintain required certification standards.

Oil and Gas Inspection Fees (-\$51,020,000/+0 FTE) – The 2024 budget proposes to institute new onshore oil and gas inspection fees to cover the costs of BLM's inspection activities and reduce the net cost to taxpayers of operating BLM's oil and gas program. The fees are similar to those already in place for offshore operations and will shift the burden of the inspection program from taxpayers to industry, which most directly benefits from the program. The proposal supports efforts to reduce fossil fuel subsidies that may slow our Nation's movement to clean energy. Proposed appropriations language to implement the fees is included in the Title I General Provisions for the Department of the Interior.

Program Overview

The BLM is responsible for providing access to onshore energy resources in a sustainable and environmentally responsible manner. The BLM currently has more than 26.6 million acres of land, from the eastern United States to the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska, leased for oil and gas production. In FY 2022, the BLM offered 162 parcels covering more than 128,000 acres for leasing. Federal onshore oil production increased to 428 million barrels during FY 2022, approximately 11 percent of total U.S. oil production, compared to 376 million barrels in FY 2021.³

The BLM manages approximately 34,400 Federal onshore leases and more than 95,000 well completions across 32 States. Federal leases generated approximately \$7.6 billion in bonus bids, royalties, rents, and other revenues in FY 2022, of which nearly half was distributed to States in accordance with revenue sharing provisions in law. In addition, the BLM manages operations on roughly 4,500 oil and gas leases on behalf of Native American Tribes and individual Native American mineral owners. The BLM works with

³ <https://revenue.data.doi.gov/>

its lessees, operators, State and field offices, and other Federal surface management agencies, including the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and USFS, to reduce the inventory of non-operational (idled) wells and to prevent wells from becoming orphaned. Additionally, the BLM manages an inventory of 14 Alaskan legacy wells with the goal of remediation and reduction of environmental impacts.

The BLM's authority to manage the public's oil and gas resources in the 48 contiguous States and parts of Alaska comes from two laws: the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, and the Mineral Leasing for Acquired Lands Act of 1947, as amended. Leasing authority in Alaska comes largely from the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976. Regulations derived from these statutes and FLPMA are located in Title 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations, parts 3000 and 3100. While the BLM provides technical assistance to Native American Tribes and mineral owners, the BLM does not lease those minerals. Mineral leasing on Tribal lands is governed by the Indian Mineral Leasing Act of 1938 and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is the authorized agent to lease the minerals on these lands. The Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Leasing Reform Act of 1987 grants the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) the authority to make decisions and implement regulations concerning the leasing of public domain minerals on lands under USFS management. The Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act directs the BLM to inspect oil and gas production activities on Federal and Native American lands. Section 365 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, as amended by the National Defense Authorization Act of 2015, established the Oil and Gas Permit Processing Improvement Fund (PPIF), a permanent funding source that provides significant support to BLM's Oil and Gas Program. For all fluid mineral activities, the BLM carries out NEPA analyses to identify environmental consequences, engage the public, and consider alternatives. The recently enacted IRA requires the Bureau to update its oil and gas leasing regulations, forms, policies, and electronic systems based upon the following changes:

- Increasing the royalty rate for new oil and gas leases from 12.5 percent to 16.67 percent.
- Increasing the minimum royalty rate for reinstated oil and gas leases from 16.67 percent to 20 percent.
- Increasing the minimum bonus bids for oil and gas lease sales from \$2 per acre to \$10 per acre.
- Increasing the rental rate for oil and gas leases from \$1.50 per acre for years 1-5 and \$2 per acre for years 6-10 to \$3 per acre for years 1-2, \$5 per acre for years 3-8, and \$15 per acre thereafter.
- Increasing the minimum rental rate for reinstated oil and gas leases from \$10 per acre to \$20 per acre.
- Implementing an expression of interest filing fee of \$5 per acre.
- Eliminating noncompetitive leasing.
- Implementing a requirement that in order for the Bureau to issue a wind or solar ROW, the Bureau must have (1) held an oil and gas lease sale in the past 120 days and (2) offered the lesser of 2 million acres or 50 percent of the expressions of interest received in the previous year. This is resulting in the Bureau needing to develop new tracking systems for expressions of interest and to conduct required calculations before issuing wind or solar ROWs.
- Requiring royalty on all vented or flared gas, except for emergencies (48-hours) or unavoidably lost gas, for all new leases.

Tables and Charts

The following table illustrates the recent trends for APDs pending, received, approved, and processed, as well as short term future estimates.

APDs: Pending, Received, Approved and Processed

	FY2017 Actual	FY2018 Actual	FY2019 Actual	FY2020 Actuals	FY2021 Actuals	FY2022 Actuals	FY2023 Estimated	FY2024 Estimated
Total APDs pending at start of year	2,552	2,504	2,298	3,201	4,598	4,499	4,832	4,991
New APDs received	3,274	4,154	5,071	6,234	5,277	3,729	3,729	3,750
APDs approved	2,887	3,991	3,741	4,631	5,145	3,010	3,160	3,300
Total APDs processed	3,322	4,527	4,217	4,948	5,254	3,400	3,570	3,700
APDs pending at year end	2,504	2,298	3,201	4,598	4,499	4,832	4,991	5,041

APD numbers for FY 2017 - FY 2022 are actuals. FY 2023 and FY 2024 are estimated based on data from the Automated Fluid Minerals Support System.

The following table shows a breakout of inspections completed in FYs 2018 - 2022, and those estimated to be completed for FYs 2023 and 2024.

Inspections Completed and Estimated¹

	FY2018 Completed	FY2019 Completed	FY2020 Completed	FY2021 Completed	FY2022 Completed	FY2023 Estimated	FY2024 Estimated
Production Inspections							
1. High-Risk Cases ²	1,871	1,378	1,901	1,885	1,294	1,562	1,500
2. Other Production	5,976	3,763	3,940	3,328	3,239	4,838	4,300
Total Production Inspections	7,847	5,141	5,841	5,213	4,533	6,400	5,800
1. Drilling Inspections	858	1,051	655	593	819	810	800
2. Abandonment Inspections	868	1,302	1,281	1,280	1,522	1,512	1,500
3. Workover Inspections	161	134	265	232	195	258	200
4. Environmental Inspections	18,909	16,346	19,518	17,345	17,298	14,123	15,000
5. Record Verification Inspections	5,346	5,252	5,085	3,718	3,539	3,906	3,800
6. Undesirable Event Inspections	417	0	0	185	196	278	200
7. Alleged Theft Inspections	1	3	3	0	2	0	0
8. Idle Well Inspections	1,423	1,139	1,279	1,006	2,536	3,493	3,500
Total Other Inspections	27,983	25,227	28,086	24,359	26,107	24,380	25,000
Total Inspections	35,830	30,368	33,927	29,572	30,640	30,780	30,800

¹This table combines inspections on cases and inspections on individual wells.

²In 2013, the BLM instituted a risk-based strategy for production inspections. This category consists of wells and leases that meet BLM's high-risk criteria. Based on this strategy, each year's list of required high-risk cases is determined based on the previous year's history. For this reason, the actual quantity of required high-risk inspections cannot be determined until the previous year is complete.

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Activity: Energy and Minerals Management

Subactivity: Coal Management

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	Change from 2023
Coal	<i>\$000</i>	16,079	16,609	+581		0	17,190	+581
Management	<i>FTE</i>	79	77			+0	77	+0

Justification of 2024 Program Changes

The 2024 budget request for Coal Management is \$17,190,000 and 77 FTEs, no program change from the 2023 level.

Program Overview

The BLM is responsible for the administration of the Federal mineral estate, including coal, on approximately 700 million acres. The goal of the coal management program is to provide fair market value for the American taxpayer while allowing responsible energy development. In 2022, Federal coal leases accounted for approximately 20 percent of the Nation's electricity generation, and Federal lands supplied approximately 45 percent of all U.S. coal production.

The BLM administers coal leases encompassing 433,264 acres in 11 States. In fiscal year 2022, coal production from Federal lands increased to a total of 270.3 million tons, an increase of 7 percent from the 2021 total of 252.9 million tons.

During the last decade (FY 2013-2022), approximately 3.2 billion short tons of coal were produced from Federal leases with a total market value of approximately \$53.2 billion. During this period, approximately \$9.3 billion in bonus payments, royalties, rents, and other revenues were collected on BLM-administered coal leases. In addition, the BLM fulfills trust responsibilities by managing BIA-issued coal leases in Arizona, New Mexico, and Montana on behalf of Native Tribes and individual Native American mineral owners.

When Congress passed the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, the former U.S. Bureau of Mines was given full responsibility for managing coal leasing operations. In 1925, that function was transferred to the USGS. In 1982, the USGS Conservation Division was merged into the former Minerals Management Service (MMS), and shortly thereafter MMS's onshore functions were transferred to the BLM, creating what is now known as the BLM's Coal Management program.

The BLM's authority to manage the public's coal resources comes from two laws: the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended; and the Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands of 1947, as amended. Regulations

derived from these statutes and from the Federal Coal Leasing Amendments Act of 1976 (FCLAA) and FLPMA are located in Title 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations, groups 3000 and 3400. The FCLAA was passed to provide the Secretary of the Interior authority to offer Federal lands for leasing by competitive bidding process and to prohibit the issuance of coal leases that have not been included in a comprehensive land-use plan. The FLPMA established public land policy supporting the administration, management, protection, development, and enhancement of the public lands. Prior to development of Federal coal resources, a lessee must obtain from the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement or the appropriate State Regulatory Agency a permit required by the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977. The BLM provides technical assistance to the BIA, Native American Tribes, and individual Native American mineral owners regarding the leasing of minerals on Native American lands.

Components

The Coal Management program conducts competitive coal lease sales and ensures the public receives fair market value for coal by determining the pre-sale estimate of the value of coal and by considering both domestic and export markets, transportation costs to markets, and operational costs to develop the resources. In addition, the Coal Management program determines pre-offer fair market value, administers, and approves modifications to existing coal leases, and ensures the lessee is compliant with the terms and conditions of the lease. The Coal Management program also processes and approves Federal exploration licenses, Native American permit exploration plans, and Federal resource recovery and protection plans. In addition, the program approves and processes Native American mining plans, and monitors compliance with the terms of Federal and Native American coal use authorizations. The Coal Management program provides pre-lease evaluations of mineral tracts when requested by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for Native American Tribes and individual Native American mineral owners.

Other program components include monitoring/inspecting Federal and Native American coal operations to ensure compliance with established requirements and independently verifying the coal production reported to the Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR) by the operator for calculating royalty is accurate. The Coal Management program takes appropriate action when Federal coal has been mined without approval (coal trespass actions) and uses enforcement actions to ensure compliance with terms and conditions of licenses, leases, and other BLM coal authorizations.

Other Funding Sources

The Coal Management program is primarily funded through appropriations. Other funding sources include cost recovery fees for processing coal lease applications, lease modifications, royalty rate reductions, and logical mining unit applications. The BLM will continue to charge users appropriate cost recovery fees according to regulation.

Improving the Program

The DOI has worked to implement improvements to the Federal coal leasing and permitting programs but recognizes more work is needed. In August 2021, the BLM published a Notice of Intent (NOI) (86 FR 46873) informing the public of the BLM's intent to conduct a review of the Federal coal leasing program

and soliciting comments. The NOI asked whether the current regulatory framework should be changed to provide better mechanisms to decide which coal resources should be made available and how the leasing process should work. The public responded with over 77,000 comment letters, the results of which were published on BLM's E-planning system. Government-to-government Tribal consultations were also initiated with affected Tribes. The BLM is currently evaluating the comments received to help inform a path forward in conducting the program review.

Further, in August of 2022, the U.S. District Court for the District of Montana, Great Falls Division, reinstated a moratorium on new coal leasing "until the completion of sufficient NEPA review analyzing [the previous] revocation of the moratorium." Currently, the BLM is deciding a path forward to remedy the NEPA.

The BLM will also assess changes to the Federal coal leasing program that may be needed to address climate change. These efforts will help ensure that American taxpayers receive a fair return from the sale of Federal coal resources, that impacts to the environment and disadvantaged communities are minimized, and that the program is aligned with Administration's broader effort to transition to a clean energy future.

The Coal Management program also supports the Mineral & Land Records System that will be used to support the automation and tracking of licenses, leases, permitting, and inspection capabilities of the solid minerals program. The budget request supports these and other initiatives to adapt to climate change and create good paying jobs as the Nation transitions to a clean energy future.

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Activity: Energy and Minerals Management

Subactivity: Other Mineral Resources

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Other Mineral Resources	<i>\$000</i>	12,936	13,466	+659	0	+3,075	17,200	+3,734
	<i>FTE</i>	76	79	0	0	+3	82	+3

Summary of 2024 Program Changes for Other Mineral Resources		(\$000)	FTE
Restore Legacy Disturbances		+3,075	+3
Total		+3,075	+3

Justification of 2024 Program Changes

The 2024 budget request for Other Minerals Resources is \$17,200,000 and 82 FTEs, a program change of +\$3,075,000 and +3 FTE from the 2023 level, which includes:

Restore Legacy Disturbances (+\$3,075,000; +3 FTE) – The requested funding will support restoration of mineral material trespass sites and other related disturbances where the BLM Other Mineral Resources program has remediation responsibilities. The funding will also support mineral actions in the implementation of the Administration’s America the Beautiful goals and related projects or initiatives, and assemble the appropriate level of staffing in the National Mineral Examination Team that will be involved in the conduct of critical mineral examination functions for future projects.

Program Overview

The overall goal of the Bureau’s Other Mineral Resources program is to meet the demand for leases, contracts, and permits on Federal lands for certain non-energy minerals, and to ensure that operations are conducted in accordance with the terms of the lease, contract, or permit, as well as applicable laws and regulations.

The Other Mineral Resources Program funds two distinct activities: Mineral Materials and Non-Energy Solid Leasable Minerals. The public lands are an important source of both types of these mineral commodities.

The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended and supplemented, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to establish rules and regulations necessary to offer any qualified applicant a permit or lease for phosphate, potassium, gilsonite, and sodium mineral deposits on public domain lands. Lands known to contain a valuable mineral deposit are leased competitively. The Act also allows sulphur to be leased from public lands in Louisiana and New Mexico. The Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands of 1947, as amended,

provides for the leasing of the same minerals listed above, plus hardrock minerals, from Federal acquired lands. The Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1946 transferred the responsibilities of the Department of Agriculture for hardrock mineral leasing to the Secretary of the Interior in acquired lands. Royalties are collected on minerals produced from a lease.

In 1982, all onshore minerals management functions, except on Indian lands under Federal superintendency, were transferred to the BLM. The BLM is responsible for all aspects of the Non-Energy Solid Leasable Minerals program, including offering and administering leases, permits, and licenses. The BLM is also responsible for approving mine plans, bonding, verifying production, inspecting operations, and enforcing applicable laws, regulations, and stipulations on mine plans. The only function the BLM does not perform is the collection of royalties and other mineral revenues, which is performed by ONRR.

The general authority for the Mineral Materials program is the Materials Act of 1947, as amended, complemented by the Multiple Surface Use Act of 1955. The two Acts authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish rules and regulations and to grant any qualified applicant, by sale or free use, disposal of common variety mineral and vegetative materials from public lands.

The BLM Indian Trust responsibilities for Non-Energy Solid Leasable Minerals is defined in the memorandum “Onshore Federal and Indian Energy and Mineral Lease Management Standard Operating Procedures-Effective October 1, 2013.”

Other Funding Sources

Certain elements of both programs are subject to mandatory case-by-case cost recovery fees. The Mineral Materials program is subject to cost recovery from a material sales applicant to offset the BLM’s processing costs in return for the benefit provided to the applicant. Appropriated funds are directed to performing inspection, enforcement, and production verification activities. Only a few actions require mandatory cost recovery under the Non-Energy Solid Leasable Minerals program. However, in some offices with large and complicated minerals workloads, lessees voluntarily contribute funds to ensure the BLM is able to keep pace with their mining plans.

Critical Factors and Trends

The cost of mineral materials disposals, inspections, and production verification processed each year varies due to the size and complexity of the disposals and number of discovered trespasses. Increasing demand due to urban interface expansion toward public lands and increased development of renewable energy has led to complex issues regarding ownership and disposal of the Federal surface and mineral estates as well as increasing levels of complexity in environmental impacts and mitigation. Split estate lands (private surface, Federal mineral) are points of some confusion regarding the use of mineral materials, resulting in unintended trespass. Policy is in place defining allowable uses, and the BLM continues providing education of those uses.

The cost of processing new non-energy applications and post-lease authorizations has also risen due to the increasing complexity of environmental analysis, mitigation requirements, litigation, and appeals. Based

on the complexities in environmental analysis, some lessees contribute funds so the BLM can hire a project manager to better ensure more timely approval of mine plans. Once the plan is approved, compliance becomes the responsibility of the Bureau, so these costs also continue to grow.

Improving the Program

The BLM is reviewing strategies to improve program execution and efficiency, including development of an MOU with the USFS. The Other Mineral Resources program has also implemented the findings of recent OIG audits. Continuing to implement these recommendations will further improve the program. The program will also provide funding and positions to the National Mineral Examination Team to assist in needed evaluations of Mineral Materials and Non-energy Leasable resources in conjunction with the Mining Law Program. For hardrock or locatable minerals such as lithium and cobalt, the BLM is working with the Mining IWG to review relevant laws, regulations, and permitting policies and procedures, and expects to begin implementing recommendations of the Mining IWG in FY 2023.

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Activity: Energy and Minerals Management

Subactivity: Renewable Energy Management

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023 Enacted
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Renewable	<i>\$000</i>	30,983	40,983	+849		+30,708	72,540	+31,557
Energy Mgmt.	<i>FTE</i>	138	146			+81	227	+81

Summary of 2023 Program Changes for Renewable Energy Mgmt		(\$000)	FTE
Accelerate Clean Energy Planning and Permitting		+20,708	+56
Permitting Related to IRA Implementation.		+10,000	+25
Total		+30,708	+81

Justification of 2024 Program Changes

The 2024 budget request for Renewable Energy Management is \$72,540,000 and 227 FTE, a program change of +\$30,708,000 and +81 FTE from the 2023 enacted level, which includes:

Accelerate Clean Energy Planning, Permitting, and Reviews (\$20,708,000; +56 FTE) – The budget proposes adding appropriate RECO personnel in BLM headquarters, State, and field offices to address the increasing number of renewable energy project site proposals on public land. New staff will receive robust training to accelerate environmental review and permitting of solar, wind, and geothermal energy applications and leases. The proposed budget will enable BLM to perform essential activities and studies needed to develop programmatic biological assessments and engage with FWS under Section 7(a)(1) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) to review ecological regions for appropriate renewable energy deployment scenarios in key ecological regions where substantial renewable energy development interest exists and in priority locations identified by the bureau. The budget proposal also provides funding for dedicated interagency RECO support staff (FTEs from EPA, FWS, NPS, BOR, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and USFS) to expedite coordination for environmental review and compliance requirements on renewable energy projects.

The budget supports accelerating lease nomination processing and holding regular lease sales or geothermal, solar, and wind energy. It will also increase automation for a public user-interface for submitting nominations and applications and automation to provide permit processing status and reporting. In addition, BLM will prioritize solar, wind, and geothermal land use planning to identify, analyze, and designate priority areas for renewable energy deployment, and execute environmental service contracting to perform extensive resource (natural and cultural) surveys to comprehensively evaluate priority areas for responsible energy deployment to minimize subsequent project-level environmental analyses under NEPA.

The budget also supports establishing a geothermal regional project support team. The BLM has coordinated with DOE's Geothermal Technology Office and recommends the expansion of one of the

BLM's RECOs to include additional subject matter experts to support geothermal nomination and parcel review, hold lease sale offerings and environmental analyses for permitting across all western state offices. The geothermal project office would function as a regional asset to support geothermal project work and technical development of field staff.

Critical to the success of this program is maintaining regular engagement with State and county governments to coordinate on land management planning priorities, including the multi-year effort for the Solar Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) launched in December 2022, and proactively assessing local environmental justice concerns for potential energy infrastructure deployment scenarios. In addition, the BLM will enhance ongoing and meaningful Tribal consultation.

Permitting Related to IRA implementation (+\$10,000,000: +25 FTE) – The requested funding will establish a project management office (PMO) to serve as a center of excellence to support technical development of BLM field staff for the review and permitting of geothermal, solar, wind, and related transmission and battery storage infrastructure. The PMO team will travel regularly to provide training and have responsibility to relieve processing capacity bottlenecks, resolve cross-agency review challenges, and establish best practices.

The PMO will foster robust coordination with Department of Energy (DOE) regarding its \$400 billion in federal funding to advance clean energy. The BLM PMO will be positioned to rapidly respond to energy infrastructure and transmission permitting needs where DOE Federal funding is invested. The PMO will acquire contracted environmental support services and develop an indexed catalog of energy infrastructure environmental reviews to utilize and expedite similar infrastructure permitting.

The work plan for this activity includes finalizing plans for solar energy priority areas and initiating lease offerings and planning updates for wind energy priority areas. Staff will also accelerate geothermal lease nomination processing and implementing annual lease sales, improve processing times for ROW processing and permitting for wind and solar energy, and expediting renewable energy transmission and battery storage processing.

To do this work, the budget also funds hiring additional permanent RECO staff to streamline permitting coordination, establishing a nationwide taskforce of interdisciplinary experts to relieve permitting bottlenecks and challenges, and providing for additional temporary and contracted support to augment RECO capabilities. It would also provide for project management and environmental review training and upgrade information systems to enhance the public interface for submission of nominations, applications, leases, and permits and to monitor progress and compliance.

The work cannot be completed without engagement with external parties. The budget will fund State cost-share positions to support State Historic Preservation Offices, remove review bottlenecks, pay for dedicated interagency staff from other Federal agencies to support BLM RECOs, and facilitate expedited review and permitting of renewable energy projects. Staff will also hold quarterly engagement sessions with States, counties, and Tribes to share project milestone information and improve review coordination, as well as conduct semi-annual engagement sessions with the wind, solar, and geothermal industries.

As this program evolves, updates to appropriate policies, manuals, guidance, and regulations and their implementation will also be undertaken.

Program Overview

The BLM's Renewable Energy Program is critical to advancing the Administration's goal to achieve 25 GW of renewable energy on public lands by 2025, and the goal of a carbon pollution-free power sector by 2035. The BLM authorizes renewable energy generation on public lands from three primary energy sources: solar, wind, and geothermal. Consistent with requirements under the Energy Act of 2020 (P.L. 116-260), the BLM continues to improve permitting coordination to accelerate responsible permitting of renewable energy projects on public lands. The complexities involved with authorizing bulk energy generation and transmission line facilities requires extensive stakeholder engagement, coordination, and environmental review. The IRA specifies when solar and wind ROWs can be issued and directs nearly \$400 billion in Federal funding to clean energy, with the goal of substantially lowering the nation's carbon emissions by the end of this decade. This funding is available through DOE, and the BLM is already in receipt of substantially increased interest by renewable energy developers and must prepare for the likely increase in permitting and monitoring workloads.

The BLM's administration of renewable energy includes maintaining appropriate inspection and enforcement oversight on all authorized project operations, with several geothermal and wind projects dating back to the 1970s and 1980s. Since that time, developer interest in siting wind, solar, and geothermal projects on public lands has grown steadily, and the BLM has continued to ramp up its capacity to process permit applications. To date the BLM has approved more than 126 renewable energy projects, including 42 solar projects with an approved capacity of over 9,000 MW, 36 wind projects with an approved capacity of over 3,000 MW, and 48 operating geothermal power plants with Federal interest that have an installed capacity of over 2,500 MW.

The BLM established RECOs in May 2022 and is increasing internal staffing capacity to prioritize and improve permitting coordination on dozens of large-scale renewable energy projects and transmission lines. The BLM also transfers funding to key Federal agencies for dedicated staffing support to expedite permitting and environmental compliance. Staff are focused on using the best available science and practices in the decision-making process, while engaging with Tribal authorities during formal consultations and regarding the development and management of energy resources on Tribal lands, and enhancing opportunities for environmental justice community engagement.

The BLM's Renewable Energy Program operates under statutory authorities including FLPMA, NEPA, the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970, as amended (P.L. 91-581), the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-58), the Energy Act of 2020, the IRA, as well as Federal regulations and various Executive and Secretarial Orders.

Solar Energy: Solar energy potential in the southwestern U.S. is excellent, and technical advancements and reduced costs of photovoltaic solar panels has substantially expanded the opportunities for solar deployment on public lands across the continental U.S. Currently, the BLM has identified roughly 870,000

acres of priority areas for solar development through several land use planning efforts. New projections suggest that potential demand on public lands for renewable energy may require as much as 6.5 million acres. As a result, the BLM is currently undertaking a new PEIS to identify more priority areas for solar energy. This effort will establish a landscape-level plan to help facilitate improved siting of utility-scale solar projects. The BLM has been active in offering solar leasing areas through competitive auctions and anticipates designating additional solar leasing priority areas by FY 2024.

Wind Energy: The BLM is actively managing more than 20 million acres of public lands with viable wind energy potential. To date, the BLM has approved over 40 wind testing and energy development projects. It also completed a programmatic wind energy planning effort in 2005 that provided a macro-level analysis for development of wind energy projects across the West. In October 2016, the BLM released the West-wide Wind Mapping Project for agency and industry users to better identify the public lands with the best wind energy development potential. Due to increasing interest from wind developers, the BLM is prioritizing land use planning updates on energy corridors to facilitate needed transmission potential for new wind energy. The BLM is updating wind energy deployment areas as land use planning updates occur.

Geothermal Energy: The BLM has the delegated authority for leasing geothermal resources on more than 245 million acres of public lands, including 104 million acres managed by the USFS, with geothermal potential in 11 western States and Alaska. In May 2007, DOI published final regulations on geothermal energy production on public lands requiring more competitive leasing and offering simplified royalty calculations. A PEIS to assess geothermal leasing on public lands was completed in October 2008. The subsequent Record of Decision amended 114 BLM resource management plans and allocated about 111 million acres of Bureau-managed public lands as open for geothermal leasing. Of the 104 million acres managed by the USFS, 79 million acres are also open for leasing. Currently, the BLM has 48 operating geothermal power plants with Federal interest that have an installed capacity of approximately 2,500 MW with an additional 630 MW approved since 2009 not yet in operation. The PEIS is functioning well and not currently in need of updating. Priority efforts currently underway to expedite geothermal leasing and development include developing training materials and developing and updating guidance documents. The BLM is also engaged in a rulemaking that will update and incorporate the BLM's Geothermal Resource Orders into regulation, including common geothermal standard practices, inspection requirements, and procedures. The BLM engages with DOE's National Renewable Energy Laboratory to assist with the development of varying work products including guidance documents, training materials, and white papers. Additionally, the BLM engages with the United States Geological Survey to conduct surveys that can assist in future geothermal resource discoveries.

Other Funding Sources

The BLM utilizes cost recovery authority provided under FLPMA to fund processing and monitoring costs associated with wind, solar, and transmission line ROW applications and ongoing administration of authorized solar and wind energy grants and leases. These activities account for approximately 70 percent of FTE staff costs. However, other critical staff needs and certain overhead agency costs, such as staff training and general program administrative costs, are not covered by cost-recovery funding. Additionally, the geothermal program does not have cost-recovery authority. As such, all project review for geothermal projects must be entirely covered by appropriated funding. Appropriated funding will remain essential for robust renewable energy program functions.

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Activity: Realty and Ownership Management

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Alaska	<i>\$000</i>	26,219	31,654	+697		+0	32,351	+697
Conveyance and Lands	<i>FTE</i>	100	97			+0	97	+0
Cadastral, Lands & Realty Management	<i>\$000</i>	55,805	58,160	+2,595		+4,446	65,201	+7,041
	<i>FTE</i>	314	344			+14	358	+14
Total, Realty & Ownership Management	<i>\$000</i>	82,024	89,814	+3,292		+4,446	97,552	+7,738
	<i>FTE</i>	414	441			+14	455	+14

Activity Description

The Realty and Ownership Management activity has two programs that are focused on the use of lands and transfer of BLM-managed lands:

- The Alaska Conveyance Program transfers land title from the Federal Government to individual Alaska Natives, Alaska Native Corporations, and the State of Alaska pursuant to the *1906 Native Allotment Act*, the *Alaska Native Veterans Allotment Act of 1998*, the *Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971*, and the *Alaska Statehood Act of 1959*. Conveyance work has been ongoing since the 1960s. In 2004, the *Alaska Land Transfer Acceleration Act* resolved conflicts between these laws and established deadlines for Alaska Native corporations and the State of Alaska to file final selection priorities.
- The Cadastral, Lands, and Realty Management Program provides cadastral survey services that are an important component to managing both Federal and private lands and authorized uses of the land for rights-of-way for pipelines, transmission lines, and other uses. This program also authorizes uses of the public lands for commercial filming and other purposes and implements changes to land ownership by exchanging and purchasing lands, and by selling lands no longer needed for Federal purposes.

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Activity: Realty and Ownership Management Subactivity: Alaska Conveyance and Lands

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Alaska Conveyance and Lands	<i>\$000</i>	26,219	31,654	+697		+0	32,351	+697
	<i>FTE</i>	100	97			+0	97	+0

Justification of 2024 Program Changes

The 2024 budget request for Alaska Conveyance and Lands is \$32,351,000 and 97 FTE, representing no change from the 2023 level.

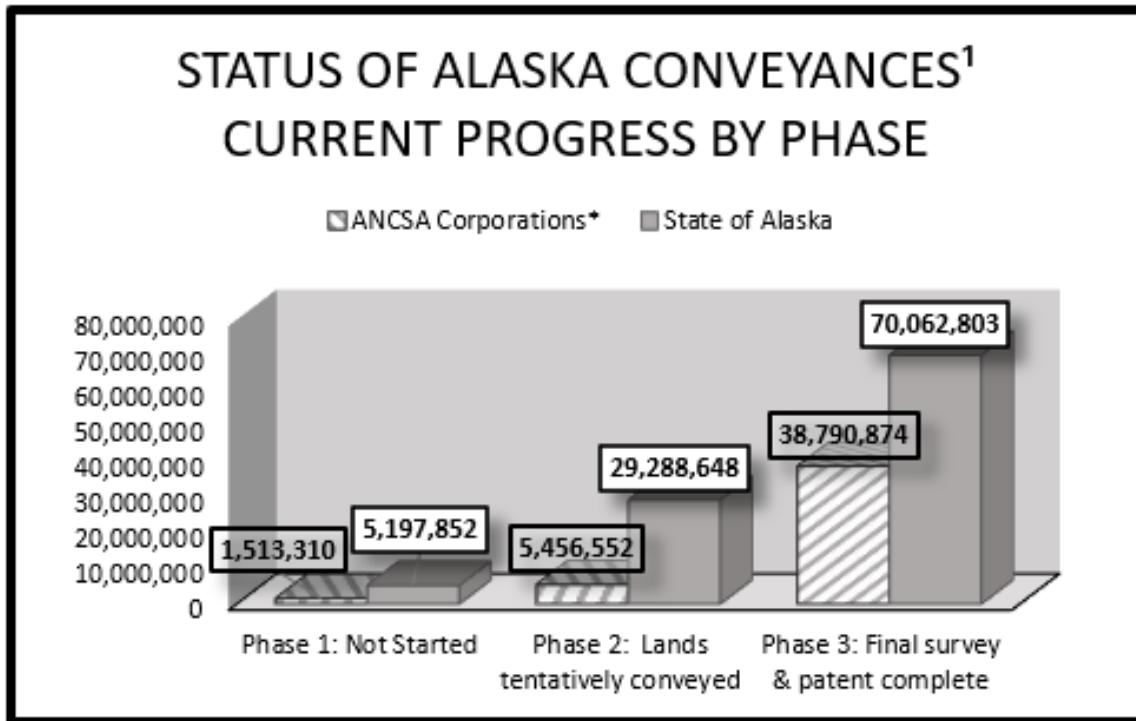
Program Overview

The Alaska Conveyance and Lands Program transfers land title from the Federal Government to individual Alaska Natives, Alaska Native Corporations, and the State of Alaska, and performs adjudication, cadastral survey, easement identification, land examination, land record review to complete the land patent process, and establishes the standards for boundary evidence risk assessment for Federal land, Indian land, and Native Corporation land managers.

In 2024, the BLM plans to complete 1,500 miles of new field survey and approve 2,000 miles of prior field survey. The BLM will also process 20 Native allotment certificates, approximately 400,000 acres of aboriginal entitlements, and 750,000 acres of Alaska statehood entitlements. Additionally, the BLM will continue to implement Native allotment programs including the Alaska Native Vietnam Era Veterans Land Allotment Program of 2019 as authorized by Public Law 116-9, Sec. 1119.

Although the entitlements for the Alaska Native Corporations and the State stand at 96.8 percent and 95 percent respectively, all the straightforward conveyances have been completed and remaining entitlement work is increasingly complex, with issues involving easements, contaminated site cleanup, isolated parcels, navigability, title recovery, and more.

The chart below displays the status of all conveyances as of February 2023. Through this period, the BLM has surveyed and patented 108.9 million acres, or 72.5 percent of the original 150.2 million acres (Phase 3, below). Approximately 34.7 million acres, or 23.1 percent, have had all right and title transferred yet require confirmatory acreage through survey and final adjudication (Phase 2, below). Additionally, 6.7 million acres, or 4.5 percent, of the lands have yet to be both surveyed and conveyed.



¹Data are current as of February 2023
*Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act

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Activity: Realty and Ownership Management

Subactivity: Cadastral, Lands and Realty Management

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	Change from 2023
Cadastral, Lands & Realty Mgmt.	<i>\$000</i>	55,805	58,160	+2,595		+4,446	65,201	+7,041
	<i>FTE</i>	314	344			+14	358	+14

Summary of 2024 Program Changes for Cadastral, Lands, and Realty Management:

	(\$000)	FTE
Carbon Sequestration	+3,446	+14
Enhance Realty Capacity	+1,000	+0
Total	+4,446	+14

Justification of Program Change

The 2024 budget request for Cadastral, Lands and Realty Management is \$65,201,000 and 358 FTE, a program change of +\$4,446,000 and +14 FTE from the 2023 level, which includes:

Carbon Sequestration (+\$3,446,000; +14 FTE) – The BLM has received applications from industry proponents for the use of public lands for geologic carbon sequestration projects and is currently working on several project authorizations. These projects are being addressed as right of way (ROW) authorizations. To address the current interest and future workloads associated with carbon sequestration projects, the BLM will establish a core team for these projects. The BLM will continue its work with DOI’s Appraisal and Valuation Services Office to develop appropriate methods for determining rental values associated with the use of the public lands for this purpose. These efforts support the recently issued BLM policy directive “National Policy for the Right-of-Way Authorizations Necessary for Site Characterization, Capture, Transportation, Injection, and Permanent Geologic Sequestration of Carbon Dioxide in Connection with Carbon Sequestration Projects.”

Enhance Realty Capacity (+\$1,000,000; +0 FTE) –The BLM will use this funding increase to facilitate review and approval ROW applications and will be used to recruit and maintain the strong, talented workforce needed to continue to fulfill the BLM mission. This funding will support existing vacancies and provide training to ensure new and existing staff have the skills to perform various types of realty work, including review and approval of ROW applications.

Other Resources Supporting Cadastral, Lands & Realty Mgmt.:					
		2022 Actual	2023 Estimate	2024 Estimate	Change from 2023
Public Survey	\$000	230	384	384	+0
	FTE	3	3	3	+0
Reimbursable Cadastral Survey	\$000	6,152	6,500	6,500	+0
	FTE	62	62	62	+0
Rights of Way Processing	\$000	23,052	21,100	21,100	+0
	FTE	92	57	57	+0
Cost-Recovery Realty Cases	\$000	946	1,000	1,000	+0
	FTE	5	4	4	+0

Notes:

- Public Survey amounts are shown as new budget authority derived from non-Federal sources (advances made by private individuals to pay the costs incidental to land surveys requested by them); 43 U.S.C. 759 provides for accomplishment of public surveys of whole townships through a trust fund and deposits for expenses deemed appropriated, 43 U.S.C. 761 provides for refunds from trust funds established in 43 U.S.C. 759 of costs in excess of expenses, and 31 U.S.C. 1321(a) classifies the activities of "expenses, public survey work, general" and "expenses, public survey work, Alaska" as trust funds; These funds are appropriated on a permanent basis. More information on Public Survey is found in the Miscellaneous Trust Funds chapter.

- 2023 and 2024 Reimbursable Cadastral Survey amounts are shown as estimated transfers from the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and other Agencies (including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service).

- Rights of Way Processing amounts are shown as new budget authority derived from fees charged to recover certain costs of processing rights-of-way. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended (43 USC 1735) and the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended by the Trans-Alaska Pipeline Act of 1973, Section 101 (30 USC 185), appropriates these funds on a current basis. More information on Rights of Way Processing is found in the Service Charges, Deposits, & Forfeitures chapter.

- Cost-Recovery Realty Cases amounts are shown as new budget authority derived from fees from applicants to cover administrative costs for the conveyance of federally owned mineral interests, recordable disclaimers of interest, and leases, permits, and easements. The Federal Land Policy Management Act of 1976, as amended (43 USC 1735) appropriates these funds on a current basis. More information on Cost-Recovery Realty Cases is found in the Service Charges, Deposits, & Forfeitures chapter.

Program Overview

The Cadastral, Lands, and Realty Management subactivity is foundational to the BLM's entire land and resource management portfolio of approximately 245 million surface acres and 700 million subsurface acres of land. This critical work includes a wide range of activities inherited in 1946 from the General Land Office and subsequently expanded in 1976 by the multiple-use mandate under FLPMA. This includes the day-to-day activities of the cadastral survey, land tenure, rights-of-way, and energy corridor programs as well as managing land records and the data systems that help administer these programs.

Cadastral Survey Program

The BLM Cadastral Survey program conducts official Federal Authority Surveys that are the foundation for all land title records in large sectors of the United States, and provides Federal, American Indian, Alaska Native, Hawaiian Homeland, Indian Trust and Tribal land managers, and their adjoining non-Federal landowners, with information necessary for land management. Several statutes and delegations vest authority in the BLM to provide cadastral services for itself and the other Federal land management agencies, including the National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of

Reclamation, the U.S. Forest Service, and other Federal and Tribal entities. The BLM Cadastral Survey program uses the Standards for Boundary Evidence to analyze the condition of parcel boundaries and summarizes associated risks to inform decision makers before management activities occur. This information is also used to prioritize official cadastral survey resources.

The BLM is the official keeper of land title records for the Federal government. Records of each authorization are stored and tracked for effective land management. Title records and use authorizations are compiled into official land status records, the Tract Books, Master Title Plats, and Historical Indexes. Accurate land status records help minimize destruction or damage to land and resources by unauthorized uses. These responsibilities as well as the other resource programs within the BLM create a substantial amount of useful geospatial information. The BLM provides a centralized location that allows the public to discover and access BLM's public geospatial data from project, State, and national levels. The BLM also coordinates Federal cadastral survey and land status data standards and geospatial information publication through the Federal Geographic Data Committee, which publishes National Geospatial Data Assets via GeoPlatform.gov.

The BLM Public Land Survey System Dataset is the base layer for most of the GIS information maintained across BLM. Companies, non-profit organizations, and State and local governments use the Public Land Survey System Dataset to map land title and use information at the parcel level. The BLM uses these records to process ROWs, manage land and resources, and for land tenure adjustments. Accurate land boundaries and survey records play an essential role in the cost-effective management of land and resources by providing certainty of location and title.

In addition, the Cadastral Survey program manages the Surface Management Area (SMA) Dataset. The SMA depicts Federal land for the United States and classifies it by Federal managing agency. The SMA Dataset covers the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Current efforts focus on standardizing the BLM SMA by coordinating with BLM offices, other Federal agencies, and State organizations.

Rights-of-Way (ROW) Program

The BLM manages a total of 118,000 ROW grants. A ROW is an authorization to use a specific piece of public land for a certain project. Under regulations under FLPMA at 43 CFR 2800, ROWs are issued for a variety of uses, including electrical power generation, transmission and distribution systems, communications towers, highways, railroads, pipelines (other than oil and gas pipelines), and other facilities or systems which are in the public interest. Mineral Leasing Act ROWs (43 CFR 2880) are issued for oil and natural gas gathering and distribution pipelines and related facilities that are not included in the mineral lease and for oil and natural gas transmission pipelines and related facilities.

The BLM seeks to streamline ROW processing by processing national ROW applications more efficiently. The BLM will prioritize ROW actions and cadastral services that support and advance the Administration's renewable energy and broadband goals, promote economic development, provide for recovery of undiscovered or lost revenues, assist in national security, and promote public health and safety. The Bureau will continue transmission corridor efforts to respond to developmental pressures on the electric grid

throughout the West. To support the Administration's efforts to develop renewable energy and provide the transmission infrastructure needed to move renewable energy from the point of generation to areas it is needed, the program will implement efficiencies to resolve the backlog of pending and expired energy infrastructure-related ROWs in a timely manner.

As the largest Federal land manager in the West, the BLM plays a leadership role in planning for broadband development and energy corridors, as well as siting transmission facilities. The BLM will strengthen its environmental review and permitting procedures and improve the designation of existing and future energy corridors in land use plans. Based on recent applications and general industry input, the BLM anticipates that stakeholders will continue to pursue new multi-jurisdictional projects across the West for distributed generation and transmission line upgrades and expansions, and implementation of a national broadband system.

The BLM manages applications for interstate transmission line projects using highly trained professional teams of senior realty and support staff. Processing and monitoring ROW projects is funded using cost recovery provisions in the regulations. General program functions such as staff support, training, program coordination, and integration of ROW management into land use planning are supported by program funding. Cost recovery from project proponents is collected where practicable under laws and regulations.

Land Tenure Program

The BLM processes land sales, land acquisitions, land exchanges, Recreation and Public Purposes Act leases and conveyances, and land withdrawals to ensure efficient and effective management of the public lands. The BLM has the authority to dispose of isolated parcels of land with low resource values that are difficult to manage and acquire lands with high resource values that contribute to the conservation values of the BLM mission. These actions support the America the Beautiful initiative and contribute to the goal of conserving 30 percent of America's lands and waters by 2030. The BLM works closely with the Department of Defense to manage new and existing military land withdrawals. The Recreation and Public Purposes Act authorizes the BLM to lease and convey land to local governments and non-profit organizations for specific public purposes at a discounted rate.

Other Funding Sources

Approximately 45 percent of all work completed by the Cadastral Survey program is funded by other BLM subactivities and other agencies that benefit from the work.

The BLM also recovers costs for processing applications and monitoring ROW grants on public lands. Although the BLM is authorized to collect cost recovery in certain circumstances, some customers, such as State and local governments, are not subject to cost recovery. Cost recovery for cadastral services is also collected as appropriate.

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Activity: Communication Site Management

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	Change from 2023
Communication Site Management	<i>\$000</i>	2,000	2,000	+0	+0	+0	2,000	+0
	<i>Offset</i>	-2,000	-2,000	+0	+0	+0	-2,000	+0
	<i>FTE</i>	11	11			+0	11	+0

Program Overview

Program Responsibilities

The BLM authorizes and administers right-of-way (ROW) grants and leases for individual communications uses and develops and maintains communications site management plans for strategic mountaintops to proactively support orderly deployment of new or additional wireless broadband and other communications uses across the western United States. The BLM currently administers over 3,800 facilities authorized for separate communication use ROWs located on approximately 1,500 multi-facility communications sites. Prior to 1996, each site user was required to have a separate authorization, even when users shared the same building and tower. In addition, fees were established by appraisal for each authorization. In response to the *Telecommunications Act of 1996*, the BLM and the U.S. Forest Service implemented new regulations and policies that greatly simplified and streamlined the authorization and administration of these sites. The BLM now requires only the owners of the towers, equipment structures, or improvements such as generators and propane tanks to have a ROW authorization, while other users may co-locate in the holder's facilities (as tenants or customers) without further BLM approval, if these entities do not own their own facilities or improvements.⁴

Communications site management functions are carried out within this program. This includes development and management of communications site management plans, policy development, permitting guidance, program related training, the acquisition of administrative access to sites, and processing of those applications where the holder is rent exempt. In FY 1996, rent receipts from communications use authorizations totaled about \$2.0 million, and Congress appropriated up to \$2.0 million of communications site rental received to be returned to the BLM for the administration and management of communication uses on public lands. On average over the past five years, the BLM has collected about \$9 million in receipts from communications use authorizations, indicative of the significant expansion of the program. The program continues to receive \$2.0 million annually in program funding.

Accomplishing program priority work opens opportunities for broadband providers to locate, co-locate, or construct new facilities rapidly. This effort assists President Biden's American Jobs Plan to bring

⁴ 43 CFR 2806.36(b)

affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband to every American, including the more than 35 percent of rural Americans who lack access to broadband at minimally acceptable speeds.

In accordance with Section 6 of the *Mobile Now Act of 2018*, Federal agencies are required to issue a decision to approve or deny a duly filed broadband application within 270 days. In FY 2022, BLM had an 83.2% rate of approval for projects under the 270-day time frame.

The BLM will continue to prioritize and work with the FirstNet Authority to facilitate projects on public lands. The FirstNet mission is to deploy, operate, maintain, and improve the first high-speed, nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety. This reliable, highly secure, interoperable, and innovative public safety communications platform will bring 21st century tools to public safety agencies and first responders, allowing them to get more information quickly and helping them to make faster and better decisions.

The BLM will continue to respond to wireless broadband requests in a timely manner in order to help bring affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband to the western United States and Alaska. This effort will support the President's agenda and serve rural and Native American communities.

The BLM is currently working on several measures to facilitate the deployment of broadband on public lands managed by the BLM. On November 7, 2022, BLM published a proposed rule to enhance the communication uses program. The BLM is currently analyzing the comments received.

Additionally, this request supports: (1) the development and management of communications site management plans; (2) training of staff for processing and administration of communications use ROWs; (3) the acquisition of easements for access to communications sites on public lands; and (4) processing applications for entities that are exempt from cost recovery and monitoring fees.

Components

The BLM works to prevent unnecessary degradation of public lands by promoting co-location of communication site ROWs considering engineering and technological compatibility, national security, and land use plans. The BLM also coordinates, to the fullest extent possible, all actions under the program with State and local governments, interested individuals, and appropriate quasi-public entities.

Other Funding Sources

Work associated with any communications use authorization is subject to cost recovery, unless the authorization is to a local or State government entity, which is at no cost (43 CFR 2804.16). Cost recovery funds are for work performed to process an application, whereas the funding authorized in this subactivity supports the management of the entire program.

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Activity: Resource Protection and Maintenance

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	Change from 2023
Resource Mgmt.	\$000	67,969	69,029	+1,545	0	+27,185	97,759	+28,730
Planning, Assessment and Monitoring	FTE	241	258	0	0	+15	273	+15
Law Enforcement	\$000	28,038	28,568	+734	0	0	29,302	+734
	FTE	117	122	0	0	0	122	0
Abandoned Mine Lands and Hazardous Materials Mgmt.	\$000	40,133	57,166	+968	0	+4,664	62,798	+5,632
	FTE	123	143	0	0	0	143	0
Total, Resource Protection and Maintenance	\$000	136,140	154,763	+3,247	0	+31,849	189,859	+35,096
	FTE	481	523	0	0	+15	538	+15

Activity Description

The Resource Protection and Maintenance activity supports the protection and safety of public land users and environmentally sensitive resources on BLM lands.

- 1) *Resource Management Planning, Assessment, and Monitoring* – The land use planning function is based on collaboration with local communities and State and Tribal governments, as well as on science-based analysis.
- 2) *Resource Protection and Law Enforcement* – Provides for the protection of public lands and for protection of the people who use them.
- 3) *Abandoned Mine Lands (AMLs) and Hazardous Materials Management (HMM)* – The remediation of AML supports human health, the environment, and core programs by cleaning up mine waste that has been contaminated by acid mine drainage and heavy metals (such as zinc, lead, arsenic, mercury, and cadmium), remediating other environmental impacts on or affecting waters and public lands, and mitigating physical safety issues. The AML and HMM program also provides for the prevention, mitigation, and remediation of the effects of hazardous material releases and other dangers on the public lands.

The Resource Protection and Maintenance activity funds land use planning and compliance processes required by the NEPA and FLPMA.

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Activity: Resource Protection and Maintenance
Subactivity: Resource Management Planning, Assessment and Monitoring

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	Change from 2023
Resource Mgmt., Planning, Assessment and Monitoring	\$000	67,969	69,029	+1,545	0	+27,185	97,759	+28,730
	FTE	241	258		0	+15	273	+15

Summary of 2024 Program Changes for Resource Mgmt., Planning, Assessment and Monitoring	(\$000)	FTE
Modernize Assessment, Inventory and Monitoring	+10,000	+6
RMP – Application of Natural Resource Data Planning to Support Siting	+11,000	+7
Improving Water Resources	+6,185	+2
Total	+27,185	+15

Justification of 2024 Program Changes

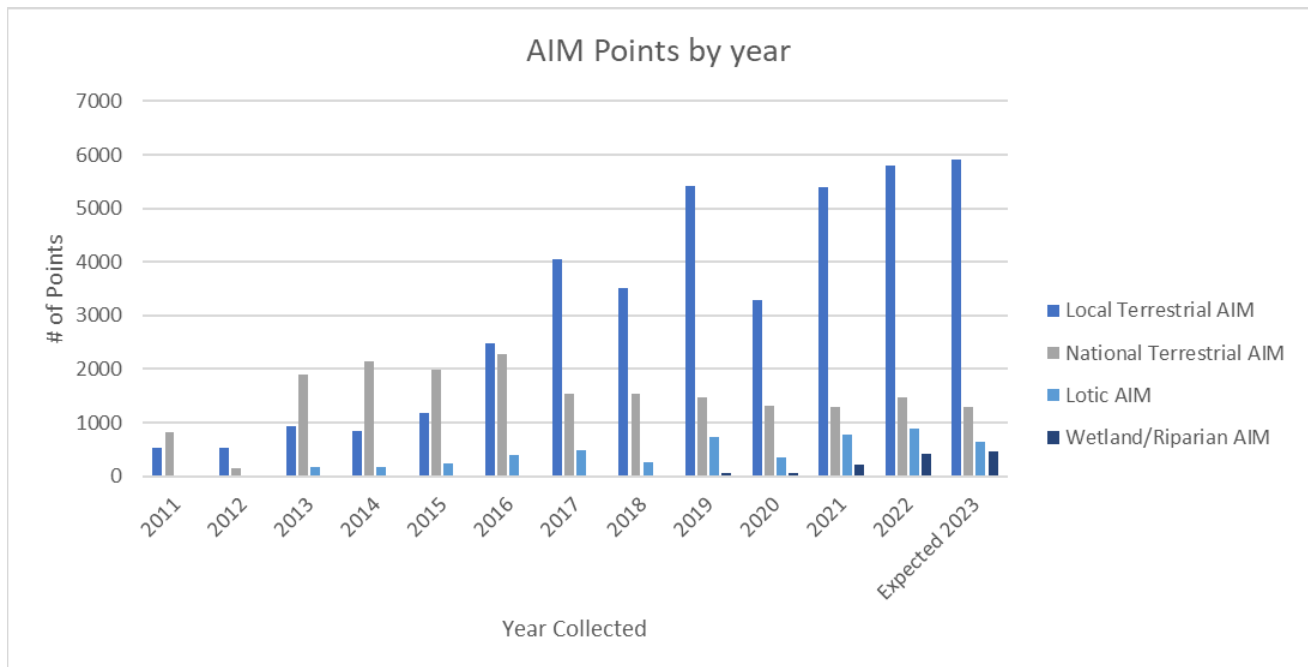
The 2024 budget request for Resource Management Planning, Assessment and Monitoring is \$97,759,000 and 273 FTE, a program change of +\$27,185,000 and +15 FTE from the 2023 enacted level which includes:

Modernize Assessment, Inventory and Monitoring (Climate Science) (+\$10,000,000: +6 FTE) – The Assessment, Inventory, and Monitoring (AIM) program enables the agency to prepare and maintain on a continuing basis an inventory of all public lands and their resource and other values, as required by section 201(a) of FLPMA. The AIM program provides natural resource information that is foundational for an effective land use planning process (FLPMA Sec. 102), including planning, evaluation, and adaptive management. An increase in inventory, monitoring, and analysis is critical for reporting on landscape health and trends as ecological systems are adapting to a changing environment. BLM utilizes AIM information along with modern analytical tools for evidence-based decision-making. AIM data inform land use plan activities as well as restoration projects, drought adaptation techniques, conservation strategies, and mitigation to enhance resilience to climate change.

The increase in FTEs will expand BLM’s capacity to interpret AIM and other available data, to incorporate data into evidence-based decisions, and to complete land use authorizations and restoration actions. The program funding increase will bolster national and field-level monitoring efforts in areas outside of Greater Sage-Grouse habitat. This information is critical to understanding ecological changes and adaptation options on the most vulnerable BLM-managed ecosystems, especially Alaska and the Desert Southwest. Together, FTE and funding increases support:

- the presidential mandate to address climate change through monitoring and reporting on landscape biodiversity,
- providing data for evidence-based decision making that contributes to ensuring responsible development,
- detecting changing conditions and trends related to climate change on the resources the Bureau manages,
- monitoring ecological outcomes across communities, and
- engaging communities of place and communities of interest in public lands stewardship.

These increases will also support modernization of evidence-based decision-making across BLM programs including Rangeland Management, Wildlife Habitat Management (including Greater Sage-Grouse), Aquatic Habitat Management, Wild Horse and Burro Management, National Conservation Lands, Forest Management, Energy and Mineral Development, and Fire and Aviation.



AIM points by year by resource type (terrestrial, lotic, and wetland/riparian ecosystems). In 2020, due to COVID, point collection did not occur in some areas. The Wetland/Riparian program started in 2019 and is expanding each year. Lotic (rivers and streams) and Wetland/Riparian AIM is also funded by the Aquatic Resources Program.

RMP – Application of Natural Resource Data Planning to Support Siting (+\$11,000,000: + 7 FTE) – Revise and amend resource management plans (RMPs) to allow for the management, permitting, and siting of renewable energy and infrastructure projects. The BLM will focus on beginning new resource management plans; continuing the on-going development of plans that best meet the Administration's goal of deploying clean energy solutions by supporting those efforts that are guided by the best available science and data, increase resilience to the impacts of climate change, protect public health, deliver environmental justice, and conserve lands and waters; evaluating land use plan effectiveness; and determining the status of resource conditions. The BLM will also develop training, tools, and capacity to improve engagement

with the public, Tribes, and other interested parties. Specific efforts will target environmental justice communities and underserved populations.

Improving Water Resources (+\$6,185,000: + 2 FTE) – Increase monitoring and data analysis of water resources (rivers, streams, and wetlands) and uses, identifying potential watershed and water source threats and abatements from climate impacts to all communities, with a focus on underserved/underrepresented users and populations and opportunities for water quality improvement and protection strategies. New data points will be collected in wetland areas with a newly developed protocol, as wetlands are expected to be significantly impacted by changing environments and land use authorizations.

Program Overview

The Resource Management Planning, Assessment and Monitoring program supports the formulation and implementation of RMPs, which provide a foundation for public land management. Resource management land use planning and plan implementation decisions describe desired resource conditions on the ground and methods to achieve desired conditions across the more than 245 million acres of public lands managed by the BLM. Through its plan assessment, inventory, and monitoring efforts, the Bureau collects data, which is stored in geospatially enabled databases, to determine whether the BLM is meeting its goals. The land use planning process encourages collaboration and partnerships with local communities and State and Tribal governments, which helps the BLM determine how to manage public lands and associated resources to balance its multiple-use mission and advance the President’s priorities of protecting public lands, the environment, and all Americans’ lives and future, while also emphasizing the interconnection among people, the public lands, and the local economies the BLM supports.

In the 1970s, with the passage of FLPMA and NEPA, systematic land use planning, resource assessment, inventorying, monitoring, public collaboration, and mitigation activities were implemented by the BLM. As required by NEPA, the BLM evaluates the environmental effects of proposed actions and alternatives to make informed decisions. It also helps ensure that Federal agencies promote public engagement in the environmental analysis process. All management decisions for the development and revision of land use plans must meet the multiple use and sustained yield principles in FLPMA. In addition, numerous other statutes intrinsically link and guide decisions within the land use planning process, such as the *Taylor Grazing Act of 1934*, *Mineral Leasing Act of 1920*, and the *Wilderness Act of 1964*.

Planning

Approximately 134 of the BLM’s existing 169 RMPs are outdated, and an additional four RMPs need to be developed for newly designated National Monuments. The BLM estimates an average cost of \$3.5 million per plan to complete RMPs.

The BLM will prioritize support to new and on-going planning efforts that align with the Administration’s commitment to accelerate responsible development of renewable energy, address climate change, and promote opportunities for economic growth in underserved communities while protecting public health and the environment. The BLM will focus on continuing ongoing development of issue-based NEPA documents, updating the agency’s planning and NEPA policies and procedures, and using a review process

to ensure adequate funding is provided for successful completion of multi-year land use planning efforts. By the end of FY 2023, the BLM anticipates completing approximately ten RMP and RMP amendments.

The BLM's planning process for the development of RMPs includes collaboration with the AIM Program, Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution (CADR) Program, the Geospatial Program, the Mitigation Program, the NEPA Program, and the Socioeconomics Program.

Assessment, Inventory, and Monitoring

AIM data and analysis products address the health of upland rangelands (terrestrial), rivers and streams (lotic), and wetlands and riparian areas and how they are changing over time. AIM indicators provide information about soil health, fish and wildlife habitat, water quality, site stability, biodiversity, plant invasions, fire risk, and more. AIM indicators are also used to generate satellite-derived map products that extend insights across landscapes. AIM information is distributed across all States and field offices. AIM national monitoring and reporting are accomplished using designs that cover all BLM-managed ecosystems in the thirteen Western States, one for uplands, and one for streams and rivers. District and field office AIM efforts focus on evaluating effectiveness of land use plans and addressing management questions related to specific program areas. AIM information is especially critical for managing sage-grouse habitat, from broad-scale planning (e.g., [Greater Sage-Grouse Five-Year Implementation Monitoring Report](#) and new planning starts) to local habitat assessments that inform implementation actions. The landscapes that are most vulnerable to drought and climate change, including Alaska and the Desert Southwest, are priorities for increasing AIM efforts.

AIM information, analysis tools, and capacity facilitate land health assessments and related use authorizations. AIM information is critical for planning and evaluating effectiveness of conservation and restoration efforts including those arising from BLM Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation, Fuels, and Aquatic Resources programs as well as the BIL and IRA. To accelerate responsible development of renewable energy, AIM data informs issue-driven NEPA analysis to support evidence-based decision-making. To meet the goals of the Administration's America the Beautiful initiative and conserve at least 30 percent of our lands and waters by 2030, the AIM program provides data collection and analysis capacity to support evidence-based decision-making processes for conservation at the landscape and project levels. To support the Administration's goal of creating millions of good-paying jobs, AIM provides job opportunities and training for hundreds of natural resource specialists each year who gain skills in land stewardship and an appreciation for public lands. AIM is fostering the next generation of adaptive land managers who will lead natural resource management into the future.

For more information on the AIM program, please see www.blm.gov/AIM.

Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution (CADR)

The BLM works to build a culture of collaborative practices and skills to support successful stakeholder relationships, public lands stewardship, and strengthen government-to-government relationships with sovereign Tribal Nations. Recognizing public investment and demonstrating transparency in agency processes builds community trust and understanding at the project level and creates a foundation of support

for the BLM, leading to more durable planning decisions. Through training, mentoring, program assistance, and third-party facilitation, the CADR program enhances the agency's capacity for more successful engagement with external partnerships, with an enhanced commitment to collaboration and negotiation competencies.

Geospatial

Working collaboratively with other agencies and partners, the BLM is committed to the consistent and effective use of geospatial data and tools in support of land management actions. The BLM invests in resources key to the successful use of geospatial technologies, including staffing, training, and systems. Priority initiatives include modernizing the geospatial system, field data collection, enterprise data management, and integration with other technology systems.

Mitigation

Working collaboratively with other agencies and partners, the BLM will develop regional and land use plan level mitigation strategies for important, scarce, and sensitive resources and resources protected by law. The BLM is committed to making investments in sustaining infrastructure in collaboration with other agencies, partners, programs, and mitigation sponsors to establish consolidated compensatory mitigation programs and projects, track mitigation efforts, develop policy, and provide mitigation guidance and expertise.

NEPA

The BLM will advance transparent and effective NEPA environmental reviews and implementation in collaboration with DOI's Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance and the Council on Environmental Quality and by conducting issue-driven NEPA analysis to support evidence-based decision making and to accelerate the responsible development of renewable energy on public lands. The BLM will continue to prioritize making investments in people, training, and systems to track NEPA process timeframes in the ePlanning application and to modernize NEPA analysis workflows.

Socioeconomics

The BLM will develop priorities and processes for assessment, inventory, and monitoring of how public lands management affects and is affected by people, centering equity and environmental justice communities. Key metrics, guidance, best practices for data collection, and strategic planning for this long-term initiative will be included with a focus on social and economic data related to BLM visitors, resource users, and communities dependent on or impacted by public lands. These data are essential to understanding vulnerability and resilience to climate change and optimizing mitigation and adaptation investments.

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Activity: Resource Protection and Maintenance

Subactivity: Resource Protection and Law Enforcement

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Law	<i>\$000</i>	28,038	28,568	+734		0	29,302	+734
Enforcement	<i>FTE</i>	117	122			0	122	+0

Justification of 2024 Program Changes

The 2024 budget request for Resource Protection and Law Enforcement is \$29,302,000 and 122 FTE, no program change from the 2023 enacted level.

Program Overview

The BLM manages the law enforcement presence at special events and high-use recreation areas, and establishes interagency agreements, partnerships, and service contracts with numerous State and local law enforcement agencies to secure supplemental support in the form of dispatch services, patrols of high use recreation areas, and assistance in the eradication of marijuana grown on public lands. The BLM also conducts law enforcement activities in efforts to reduce the resource and public safety impacts generated by smuggling activities on public lands near the Southwest border, and emphasizes patrol, enforcement for public safety, and investigation actions to reduce damage and theft of public land resources, including mineral materials; archeological, paleontological, and historic objects; and timber and forest products; as well as to improve production accountability and reduce theft of oil and gas resources.

The Resource Protection and Law Enforcement activities support the Bureau's priorities of conservation and recreation through the enforcement of Federal laws and regulations related to the use, management, and development of public lands and resources. The overall objectives are to provide a safe environment for public land users and employees; to deter, detect, and investigate illegal activities; to resolve or refer such matters to appropriate officials; and to ensure revenues owed to the government for authorized or unauthorized uses are paid.

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Activity: Resource Protection and Maintenance

Subactivity: Abandoned Mine Lands and Hazardous Materials Management

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Abandoned Mine Lands & Hazardous Materials Mgmt.	\$000	40,133	57,166	+968	0	+4,664	62,798	+5,632
	FTE	123	143		0	0	143	0

Summary of 2024 Program Changes for Abandoned Mine Lands & Hazardous Materials Management	(\$000)	FTE
Youth Corps Programs	+264	+0
Abandoned Mine Land Sites	+4,400	+0
Total	+4,664	+0

Justification of 2024 Program Changes

The 2024 budget request for Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) and Hazardous Materials Management (HMM) is \$62,798,000 and 143 FTE, a program change of +\$4,664,000 and 0 FTE from the 2023 enacted level which includes:

Youth Corps Programs (+\$264,000: +0 FTE) – The BLM will prioritize work in partnership with Tribes, States, and local governments to advance locally designed projects that improve climate-driven economic opportunities in urban and rural communities. Working with youth corps programs, BLM will create opportunities to advance natural and cultural resource conservation and protection through maintenance, research, resilience, and mitigation.

The BLM will work with youth corps programs to improve the identification, inventory, and validation of contaminated sites and features tracked in the abandoned mine and site cleanup module database and advance protection, conservation, and restoration of impacted natural and cultural resources through maintenance, research, resilience, and mitigation activities. The requested funds will enable BLM to leverage the skills of young adults and veterans as it expands and accelerates the pace of the AML remediation program, an effort that will build a new generation of land and resource managers and provide a pathway to good-paying jobs.

Abandoned Mine Land Sites (+\$4,400,000: +0 FTE) – The requested increase will enable BLM to accelerate its efforts to address hardrock AML sites on BLM lands. In FY 2024 the BLM will continue to prioritize efforts to address the hundreds of thousands of abandoned mines that pose serious safety hazards and cause ongoing air, water, and other environmental damage, much of which is in rural communities that

have suffered from years of disinvestment.

The BLM will continue efforts to complete remediation efforts and improve environmental quality and compliance. The agency will continue efforts to ensure the highest priority contaminated sites on public lands, or acquired/transferring sites, are identified, inventoried, assessed, ranked, prioritized, resourced, and included in the State Environmental Cleanup Action Plans (SECAPs). The BLM will continue its efforts to employ procedures and utilize innovative/best available scientific investigative techniques, such as Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR), to expedite the identification, inventory, and remediation of contaminated sites and AML physical safety sites and features. The BLM will also develop monitoring plans to evaluate and maintain existing corrective measures taken at contaminated and physical safety sites to ensure the effectiveness and sustainability of the remedies. The improvements to data collection and integrity, and the use of best available science, will ensure evidence-based policy and decision making to prioritize the activities of the Bureau.

Program Overview

The BLM's AML and HMM program is responsible for the management of the physical and environmental impacts of legacy AMLs on public lands and the prevention, mitigation, and remediation of the effects of hazardous substance, waste, and material releases at contaminated sites including AML physical safety hazard closures and enhancing bat habitat on the public lands. The AML and HMM program promotes public health and safety by mitigating AML physical safety hazards and ensuring compliant oversight of remedial actions at all contaminated sites on BLM-managed lands. (Note that this program operates in tandem with the Department's Energy Community Revitalization Program, which includes a nation-wide hardrock AML program established in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.)

The AML and HMM Program focuses efforts in the following areas: 1) identification, inventory, cleanup, and remediation and restoration of legacy contaminated sites; 2) inventory and mitigation of AML physical safety sites and features; 3) emergency response to releases of hazardous substances, wastes, and materials onto public lands; 4) environmental compliance related to the treatment, storage, handling, marking, transporting, and disposal of BLM-generated solid and hazardous waste; 5) assessment of real property environmental conditions prior to acquisition, lease, or disposal of property; 6) improvement for all BLM environmental programs via an environmental management system, including environmental audits; 7) maintenance of data and plans to support evidence-based policies and decision making; 8) monitoring, operation, and maintenance of in-place remedial/restored cleanup sites; and 9) development and delivery of program training and awareness campaigns.

The agency is strategic with its investments in this program through the development of SECAPs that provide multi-year remedial cost estimates and prioritize the identification, assessment, cleanup, and long-term maintenance and operation of in-place remedies associated with all significantly contaminated sites and AML physical safety features on our public lands. This work helps to ensure the highest priority sites are addressed in a timely manner. Through this program, the BLM is ready to take bold action to ensure fair treatment and meaningful engagement with environmental justice and disadvantaged communities and Tribal Nations during the remedial planning and cleanup process. The agency is committed to building on

this program's history of effective coordination, cooperation, and consultation with Federal, Tribal, State, and local agencies, private landowners, and stakeholder organizations.

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Activity: Transportation and Facilities Maintenance

		2022 Enacted	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023 Enacted
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Annual Maint. & Operations	<i>\$000</i>	44,055	44,180	+1,666	+0	+0	45,846	+1,666
	<i>FTE</i>	218	223		+0	+0	223	+0
Def. Maint. & Cap. Improvements	<i>\$000</i>	34,980	32,007	+308	+0	+6,842	39,157	+7,150
	<i>FTE</i>	49	73		+0	+0	73	+0
Total, Transportation & Facilities	<i>\$000</i>	79,035	76,187	+1,974	+0	+6,842	85,003	+8,816
	<i>FTE</i>	267	296		+0	+0	296	+0

Activity Description

The goals of the Transportation and Facilities Maintenance Programs are to protect employee and visitor safety, resource values, and public investments, as well as to provide facilities management and public lands stewardship. These goals align with the Administration and Departmental goals of addressing safety issues and expanding recreation opportunities and public access. To accomplish this, the BLM focuses on:

- Operating clean, safe, and fully functional facilities at recreation sites;
- Performing annual maintenance and lifecycle investments on highest priority facilities;
- Conducting comprehensive assessments on the physical condition and regulatory compliance for all facilities;
- Implementing the Five-Year Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvement Plans;
- Improving capabilities to manage facilities maintenance through development of an automated facility asset management system; and
- Implementing property and asset management planning to accurately inventory and describe assets, establish appropriate levels of investment, and adopt public or commercial benchmarks and best practices.

Within the Transportation and Facilities Maintenance Activity, two subactivities contribute to the stewardship of the BLM facilities:

- 1) Annual Maintenance and Operational Costs
- 2) Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvements

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Activity: Transportation and Facilities Maintenance
Subactivity: Annual Maintenance and Operational Costs

		2022 Enacted	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023 Enacted
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Annual	<i>\$000</i>	44,055	44,180	+1,666	+0	+0	45,846	+1,666
Maint. & Operations	<i>FTE</i>	218	223		+0	+0	223	+0

Other Resources Supporting Annual Maintenance & Operational Costs:					
		2022 Actual	2023 Estimate	2024 Estimate	Change from 2023
Quarters Maintenance	<i>\$000</i>	996	850	850	+0
	<i>FTE</i>	3	1	1	+0

Notes:

- Quarters Maintenance amounts are shown as new budget authority derived from rent on BLM employee-occupied quarters; Section 320 of the 1985 Interior and Related Appropriations Act (Public Law 98-473) appropriates these funds on a permanent basis. More information on Quarters Maintenance is found in the Permanent Operating Funds chapter.

Justification of 2024 Program Changes

The 2024 budget request for Annual Maintenance & Operational Costs is \$45,846,000 and 223 FTE, a program change of +\$0 and +0 FTE from the 2023 level.

Program Overview

The goals of the program are to provide visitor and employee safety and ensure proper facilities management. These goals align with the Administration and Departmental priorities of addressing safety issues and optimizing annual operating costs.

Funding provides for emergency, preventive, and cyclical maintenance, and baseline facility condition assessments. The program also manages recreation site operations maintenance.

In conducting program work, the BLM adheres to the requirements of Executive Order 13327, “Federal Real Property Asset Management.” This includes:

- Using public and commercial benchmarks and best practices;
- Employing life-cycle cost-benefit analysis;
- Providing appropriate levels of investment;

- Accurately inventorying and describing all assets; and
- Providing safe, secure, and productive workplaces.

The BLM uses two industry standard performance measures to assess facilities, bridges, dams, and trails: the Asset Priority Index and the Facilities Condition Index (FCI), which assist in identifying the condition of constructed assets and targeting assets that can be disposed of or require additional annual maintenance. For roads, the BLM uses the industry standard University of Wisconsin Pavement Surface Evaluation Rating (PASER) method to identify road condition. Based on the PASER condition, the BLM can identify roads that require additional annual maintenance.

Assessment Process

The BLM conducts baseline condition assessments of recreation sites and administrative sites, including on-site buildings and structures, and high maintenance level identified bridges, dams, and major trails. The condition assessment identifies deferred maintenance needs and determines the current replacement value of constructed assets. Knowing the estimated cost of deferred maintenance and the replacement value of recreation and administrative sites allows the BLM to use the industry standard FCI as a method of measuring the condition and change of condition of facilities.

The FCI is the ratio of accumulated deferred maintenance to the current replacement value ($FCI = \text{Deferred Maintenance} / \text{Current Replacement Value}$). It is an indicator of the overall condition of capital assets. The general guideline is that FCI should be below 0.15 for a facility to be considered in acceptable condition. FCI is a major tool used for management decisions on the disposal of assets.

For roads, the BLM uses the PASER methodology to determine the condition of the roads ranging from Excellent to Impassible. The corresponding deferred maintenance is determined based on the road condition and is quantified as a percent of the Current Replacement Value.

The BLM is implementing a new National Quality Control and Internal Control Review Program for the Facility Asset Management System (FAMS). FAMS is the system of record for reporting current replacement value and deferred maintenance on owned assets to the Federal Real Property Profile. The robust Quality Control and Internal Control Review Programs are vital to the accuracy and completion of this reporting requirement.

In addition to funding for the Annual Maintenance and Recreation Operations Maintenance Costs program, the following funding sources are available to augment annual maintenance activities for certain facility types:

- Quarters Maintenance funds maintain and repair all employee-occupied quarters from which rental charges are collected.
- Recreation Fee Collection funds augment the annual maintenance of the recreation sites where fees are collected.

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Activity: Transportation and Facilities Maintenance

Subactivity: Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvements

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023 Enacted
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Def. Maint. & Cap. Improvements	<i>\$000</i>	34,980	32,007	+308	+0	+6,842	39,157	+7,150
	<i>FTE</i>	49	73		+0	+0	73	+0

Summary of 2024 Program Changes for Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvements

	(\$000)	FTE
ZEV Charging Infrastructure	+4,102	+0
DOI Field Communications Modernization (DIFCOM)	+2,740	+0
Total	+6,842	+0

Justification of 2024 Program Changes

The 2024 budget request for Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvements is \$39,157,000 and 73 FTE, a program change of +\$6,842 and +0 FTE from the 2023 level which includes:

Zero Emission Vehicles and Charging Infrastructure (+\$4,102,000; +0 FTE) – The BLM request includes a total of \$7,015,000 for Zero Emission Fleet Modernization, including \$4,102,000 in Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvements, to fully transition the Department’s light duty fleet acquisitions to zero emission vehicles. This funding will provide critical planning and coordination capabilities, utility build-out and charging infrastructure, and zero emission vehicles. The planning includes prioritizing locations for deployment, determining infrastructure needs such as increased electrical supply and access for electric vehicle supply equipment, and coordinating installation to ensure Interior can maximize the use of these charging stations. By leveraging the buying power of the Federal Government and transforming its fleet of more than 600,000 cars and trucks to an all-electric fleet, the Administration can both save money for American taxpayers and accelerate the Nation’s industrial capacity to supply domestically produced zero emission vehicles and electric batteries to create new good-paying jobs and address the climate crisis.

DOI Field Communications Modernization (DIFCOM) (+\$2,740,000; +0 FTE) – The BLM request of \$2.7 million is part of a coordinated request across multiple bureaus and builds on funding included in the 2023 appropriation for DOI. The DOI DIFCOM effort will support communications modernization in Alaska, Hawaii and the insular areas, and the Southeastern contiguous United States; the BLM funding will be targeted to Alaska. Modernization enhances capabilities being implemented across DOI communities of practice. Across the geography targeted for modernization in 2024, initial planning and design work will

identify solutions that are standardized and consistent by leveraging existing systems such as the FirstNet network, including identification of potential sites for infrastructure-sharing with commercial entities and partners where it would be beneficial to all parties. The assessments will identify where Interior can consolidate sites or replace obsolete land mobile radio sites with lower cost options where it makes sense.

Program Overview

The Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvement (DM/CI) program consists of repairs, renovations, replacements, and other maintenance of buildings, recreation sites, administrative sites, roads, and other constructed assets. Additional related efforts in the DM/CI program include professional engineering services, program oversight, database management, management of environmental and structural risks of facilities, and dam and bridge inspections.

The Five-Year Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvement Plan is updated annually using the DOI Lifecycle Investment Planning Guidance. The DOI Lifecycle Investment Planning Guidance uses four categories in assessing a project's funding priority and provides instructions on how to evaluate projects using DOI, BLM, and Administration priorities to target funding to the projects with the highest priority and assets in the worst condition. Recently, the BLM expanded planning for each new project to include the impacts of expected life cycle costs on the BLM's total budget. Project submissions include the estimated operational expenses, energy cost savings and sustainability actions, and the improvement in facility condition as a result of the project. The BLM prioritizes health and safety work and mission critical assets, followed by resource protection benefits, energy efficiency and sustainability advancements, and code compliance. Typical projects include replacing and reconstructing existing roads, trails, bridges, recreation and administrative facilities, buildings, and dam repair. The BLM will continue planned deferred maintenance, recapitalization, replacement, and capital improvements projects that are focused on modernizing infrastructure, mission critical projects, and public access.

The DM/CI program has three overarching standard investment categories that cover the wide variety of project types within the program: Maintenance, Modernization and Renewal, and Divestiture. Each category aligns to lifecycle investment requirements across the bureau. The infrastructure projects funded in the DM/CI program support the Administration's priorities by providing good paying jobs in the construction sector as well as job opportunities in rural and indigenous communities.

2024 Program Performance

BLM's planned FY 2024 performance and accomplishments for DM/CI are presented in the following table. The projects include corrective actions, sustainability improvements, and accessibility projects. The planned projects in FY 2024 will continue to target mission critical assets in dire need of repair and improve the condition of bridges, recreation sites, and administrative sites. In addition to the discretionary appropriations requested in the DM/CI subactivity, the BLM is also allocated \$95.0 million from the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) Legacy Restoration Fund, which will further address BLM's deferred maintenance backlog. Leveraging the two programs provides a more comprehensive approach to addressing

the total lifecycle management requirements of BLM's real property portfolio. For more information, please see the GAOA Legacy Restoration Fund section of the BLM Budget Justification.

Project Title	State	Funding (\$000)
Inigok Runway Repairs (Phase 1 of 2)	AK	350
Security Fence	AK	250
Wickersham Dome Trailhead Improvements (Phase 3 of 3)	AK	753
Black Hills Back Country By Way Road Repairs (Phase 1 of 2)	AZ	188
Boulders Recreation Site Repairs and Improvements (Phase 1 of 3)	AZ	190
Virgin River Canyon Recreational Area - Camp Site Improvements (Phase 1 of 2)	AZ	370
TK Jones Recreation Site, Repave Parking Lot (Phase 2 of 2)	CA	400
Hobo Camp Day Use Area Maintenance and Remote Toilet	CA	115
Amboy Crater Surface Treatment and Improvement	CA	100
Osborne Overlook Driveway Shoulders Stabilization (Phase 1 of 2)	CA	260
Grays Well Road Shoulders Repair and Slope Stabilization	CA	80
Prosper Ridge Road Culvert Replacement	CA	385
Dos Palmas Roadway Infrastructure Improvements (Phase 2 of 3)	CA	220
Fort Ord National Monument Road Repairs	CA	100
Long Valley Loop Road Repair (Phase 1 of 2)	CA	320
Juan Bautista De Anza National Historic Trail Reroute and Toro Creek Bank Stabilization	CA	696
Juniper Radio Site Repair and Upgrade (Phase 1 of 2)	CO	400

North Sand Dunes Repair and Upgrade (Phase 2 of 2)	CO	202
Gunnison Repair and Upgrade Recreation Sites (Phase 1 of 4)	CO	425
Royal Gorge Repair and Upgrade Recreation Sites (Phase 1 of 2)	CO	367
Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area Housing Unit Shed Replacement	FL	35
Challis Field Office Building Improvements (Phase 2 of 2)	ID	1,000
300-Jack Wilson Headquarters Flooring, Painting, Repairs (Phase 2 of 2)	ID	349
Blackwell Island Lift Station & Lighting Replacement	ID	200
Mineral Ridge Dock Replacement (Phase 1 of 2)	ID	37
Boise District Road Maintenance (Phase 3 of 5)	ID	100
Twin Falls District Road Maintenance (Phase 2 of 5)	ID	100
Mud Flat Building Repairs	ID	80
Statewide Radio Infrastructure - Compliance Audit for Safety, Health, and Environment Upgrades	MT	873
Henneberry Roof Replacement	MT	92
South Dakota Recreation Project - Alkali Creek Campground	MT	300
Sacagawea River Crossings	MT	200
BR-45 Dam Reconstruction Title III (Phase 3 of 3)	MT	93
Fort Stanton - Snowy River National Conservation Area Recreation Site Upgrades (Phase 2 of 3)	NM	274
Sand Ranch Area of Critical Environmental Concern Administrative Site Upgrades (Phase 1 of 4)	NM	98
Sierra Vista Trail Access Roads and Parking Areas (Phase 1 of 2)	NM	410
Flanders Detention Dam Breach Repair	NM	448

Elko District Office Replacement (Phase 2 of 2)	NV	1,394
Roseburg District Warehouse and Facility Repairs (Phase 1 of 2)	OR	320
Salem Office HVAC/Facility Improvements	OR	1,110
Wagontire Radio Tower and Fire Lookout Repairs (Phase 1 of 2)	OR	314
Medford District Radio Sites Infrastructure Repairs (Phase 1 of 3)	OR	862
South Fork Walla Walla Road Repairs (Phase 2 of 2)	OR	848
Umpqua Field Office Recreation Site Repairs	OR	260
South River and Swiftwater Road Repairs (Phase 1 of 3)	OR	250
East Beatty Butte Road Surfacing	OR	376
Northwest Oregon District Road Repairs (Phase 1 of 2)	OR	130
Myrtlewood Road Hazard Repairs	OR	200
Clarno Road Relocation (Phase 2 of 2)	OR	356
North and South Otter Creek Bridges (Phase 2 of 2)	UT	548
Randolph Warehouse Replacement (Phase 1 of 2)	UT	81
Moab Recreation Sites Repairs (Phase 1 of 2)	UT	75
Quarry Shelter Building Replacement	UT	957
Meadowood Vandalized Fence Repair	VA	25
Big Pines Camp Ground and Split Rock Day Use Slurry Seals (Phase 1 of 2)	WA	202
Smith's Fork Road (Phase 1 of 3)	WY	500
LaBarge Watershed Project (Phase 2 of 2)	WY	833

DOI Field Communications Modernization	Bureauwide	2,740
ZEV Charging Infrastructure	Bureauwide	4,102
CASHE, Accessibility, Sustainability, Energy Efficiency and Bureauwide Corrective Actions	Bureauwide	4,745
Program Management, Asset Management, A/E Services, Engineering Services	Bureauwide	7,069
		39,157

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Activity: National Conservation Lands

Subactivity: National Conservation Lands

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	Change from 2023
National Conservation Lands	<i>\$000</i>	49,274	61,599	+1,899		+9,405	72,903	+11,304
	<i>FTE</i>	261	303			+9	312	+9

Summary of 2024 Program Changes for National Conservation Lands		(\$000)	FTE
Youth Corps Programs		+1,058	+1
Enhance Management and Operational Capacity		+5,347	+8
Increasing Representation in our Public Lands		+3,000	+0
Total		+9,405	+9

Justification of 2024 Program Change

The 2024 budget request for the National Conservation Lands budget subactivity is \$72,903,000 and 312 FTEs, a program change of +\$9,405,000 and +9 FTEs from the 2023 level, which includes:

Youth Corps Programs (+\$1,058,000; +1 FTE) – The BLM will prioritize work in partnership with Tribes, States, and local governments to advance locally designed projects. Working with youth corps programs, BLM will create opportunities to advance natural and cultural resource conservation and protection through maintenance, research, resilience, and mitigation. The BLM will fund environmentally sustainable projects related to stewardship, conservation, maintenance, restoration, infrastructure, and enhancing diversity within the units. The BLM, working with youth corps programs, will also conduct inventories and establish baseline data for the Resources, Objects, and Values (ROVs) identified for protection in proclamations and legislation establishing National Monuments and National Conservation Areas (NMs/NCAs). In addition, Indigenous knowledge will be included in inventories as appropriate. The BLM and youth corps programs will assess and monitor existing ROVs for changing conditions to support climate resiliency and plan and lead Citizen Science projects in coordination with local BLM staff (related projects may include both large and small-scale restoration and thinning). The requested funds will also enable BLM, working with youth corps programs to improve signage; carry out trail maintenance and construction; enhance visitor services, including providing information and developing and leading educational programs and fee collection; enhance native and pollinator species via seeding and planting; conduct invasive species removal and restoration; and conduct restoration efforts for high potential areas related to terrestrial carbon sequestration.

Enhance Management and Operational Capacity (+\$5,347,000; +8 FTE) – The requested increase is targeted to National Monuments and National Conservation Areas (NMs/NCAs). The NM/NCA units of

BLM's National Conservation Lands hold thousands of years of culture, preserve the paleontological wonders of the past, and provide habitat for native plant and wildlife populations. They attract millions of visitors each year. The working landscapes also provide for other uses such as grazing. With the requested increase, the BLM will provide improved protection and management of national monuments, national conservation areas, and similar designations. Priority will be placed on public safety and law enforcement. The BLM and volunteer staff will also enhance key visitor services at areas with the highest visitation, offering the American people exceptional opportunities for hunting, fishing, and other recreational opportunities. The BLM will offer improved interpretive and educational programs in these areas and address basic maintenance amenities. With the requested increase, the BLM can prioritize facility upgrades at existing infrastructure. In addition, funding will support the statutory requirements associated with implementing *John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act* (P.L. 116-9) as it relates to the three new sites.

Increasing Representation in Our Public Lands Initiative (+\$3,000,000; +0 FTE) – Reflecting the Administration's commitment to accessibility and inclusion, the DOI budget includes an additional \$10.0 million, including \$3.0 million in the BLM budget, as part of an "Increasing Representation in our Public Lands initiative. The initiative will provide support for recent or potential new designations that preserve important places and tell the stories of those that have been historically underrepresented.

Program Overview

The National Conservation Lands budget activity includes National Monuments and National Conservation Areas, and beginning in 2023, National Scenic and Historic Trails (whose funding was previously dispersed across six other budget subactivities), designated by Congress or the President. These components of the BLM's National Conservation Lands represent some of the Nation's most spectacular landscapes. They provide abundant recreational opportunities, important scientific research grounds, and outstanding ecological and cultural resources. They also work as a unifying and essential link for critical habitat, animal migrations, and public access across the West, pathways that are crucial to the nation's efforts to conserve and restore our critical natural resources.

National Monuments, National Conservation Areas and Similar Designations (NMs/NCAs):

The BLM's National Monuments, National Conservation Areas, and Similar Designations Program encompasses over 13 million acres, and includes 28 BLM National Monuments, 19 National Conservation Areas, 3 Outstanding Natural Areas, 1 Cooperative Management and Protection Area, 1 Forest Reserve, and 1 National Scenic Area. Designated by Congress or Presidential Proclamation, these sites are managed to conserve, protect, restore, and enhance America's natural and cultural heritage while providing for compatible multiple uses including numerous recreation opportunities. They are places where families connect to the outdoors through recreation, self-exploration, and participation in visitor programs.

An estimated 11 million visitors each year come to NMs/NCAs, providing significant economic benefits to surrounding communities by promoting multiple-use activities, tourism, the service industry, and long-term jobs. The BLM is improving visitor use data collection and analysis methods to evaluate the demand, impacts, and benefits of the NMs/NCAs on tourism, the service industry, and job creation in the surrounding

communities. The BLM is also implementing the provisions of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (P.L. 116-9) related to national monuments, national conservation areas and similar designations.

In FY 2024, the BLM will continue to improve the visitor experience to public lands by addressing infrastructure and maintenance needs. The BLM will prioritize implementation of the Great American Outdoors Act, which will enable the BLM to address and restructure its deferred maintenance backlog to support public safety, visitor access, and enjoyment more effectively for both current and future generations. The BLM is committed to fulfilling the agency's trust responsibilities and modernizing the organization to reduce or eliminate duplicative activities while maintaining rigorous environmental standards.

National Scenic and Historic Trails:

The National Scenic and Historic Trails Program is responsible for the management or administration of 6,000 miles of 19 designated trails with an appropriation of \$11.0 million enacted for FY 2023. The establishment of a budgetary program component for the NSHT Program in FY 2023 will improve the Bureau's ability to track, manage, and report on NSHT Program expenditures. This funding will also enhance the program's ability to adhere to the National Trail System Act requirements and BLM policy.

In FY 2024, the BLM will continue to implement the National Trail System Act, Manuals 6250/6280 and 8353, National Scenic and Historic Trails training, and corporate database planning & improvements. The program will focus agency and partnership work to increase public awareness and stewardship of the system and provide resource protection through inventory and monitoring of the entire system, while offering outstanding recreational opportunities and ensuring diversity, equity, and inclusion in the educational programming that will ultimately result in a high-quality visitor experience for all on national trails. Establishing National Scenic and Historic Trail corridors through the Assessment, Inventory, and Monitoring Methodology to protect the natural, scenic, cultural/historic, and recreational resources for each designated trail is also a priority.

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Activity: Workforce and Organizational Support

		2022 Enacted	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023 Enacted
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Administrative Support	<i>\$000</i>	53,330	56,305	+2,016	+0	+3,746	62,067	+5,762
	<i>FTE</i>	212	235			+0	236	+1
Bureauwide Fixed Costs	<i>\$000</i>	86,046	92,515	+7,425	+0	+0	99,940	+7,425
	<i>FTE</i>	0	0		+0	+0	0	+0
IT Management	<i>\$000</i>	26,499	26,934	+931	+0	+653	28,518	+1,584
	<i>FTE</i>	33	107		+0	+0	107	+0
Total, Workforce & Organizational Support	<i>\$000</i>	165,875	175,754	+10,372	0	+4,399	190,525	+14,771
	<i>FTE</i>	245	342		0	+0	343	+1

Activity Description

Workforce and Organizational Support funds services related to general-use automated systems and specified business practices not directly tied to a specific program, such as Human Resources management, equal employment opportunity, financial management, property and acquisition management, and information technology management.

Estimated Workforce and Organizational Support Costs – Section 403 of the *Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023* (P.L. 117-328) requires that the amount and basis of estimated overhead charges, deductions, reserves, or holdbacks, including working capital fund and cost pool charges, from programs, projects, activities and subactivities to support government-wide, departmental, agency, or bureau administrative functions or headquarters, regional, or central operations be presented in annual budget justifications and subject to approval by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

The BLM funds the costs described in Section 403 through a combination of direct appropriations in this activity (Workforce and Organizational Support) and program assessments. For 2024, the BLM estimates these requirements will be approximately \$377.6 million, an increase of \$22.1 million from the FY 2023 enacted level, as shown in the table below.

Administrative Costs (Section 403)[†]				
<i>\$000</i>	2022 Enacted	2023 Enacted	2024 Request	Change from 2023 Enacted
Administrative Support	53,330	56,305	62,067	+5,762
Bureau-wide Fixed Costs	86,046	92,515	99,940	+7,425
IT Management	26,499	26,934	28,518	+1,584
Subtotal, Direct Appropriations	165,875	175,754	190,525	+14,771
National Assessments	55,194	51,263	53,119	+1,856
State/Regional Assessments	119,763	128,363	133,912	+5,549
Subtotal, Assessments	174,957	179,626	187,031	+7,405
Total, Administrative Costs (Sec. 403)	340,832	355,380	377,556	+22,176

[†]Shown as estimated amounts for fiscal years 2023 and 2024

Direct Appropriations – In 2024, the BLM requests \$190.5 million in direct appropriations for activities described in Section 403 in three subactivities: Administrative Support, Bureau wide Fixed Costs, and Information Technology Management.

Program Assessments – In addition to direct appropriations, and in order to provide the level of funding needed to support operations, the BLM assesses its programs at both the national and State-office levels. These assessments provide about 50 percent of the BLM’s total Section 403 costs. The estimated program assessments in 2024 are \$187.0 million. These program assessments are conducted with the oversight and administrative management of the BLM Director, BLM’s Executive Leadership Team, and the Information Technology Investment Board.

National Assessments pay for administrative support, Bureau wide program activities, and information technology programs, many of which are mandated, and fixed costs assessed by the Department through the DOI Working Capital Fund. These initiatives benefit all programs or all employees and cannot be identified as benefiting any one program. In most cases, national program assessments are prorated to program areas based upon funding levels and include approximately \$1.0 million for the Bureau’s Priority Fund, which is used to assist field offices and programs with high-priority, unplanned, or unfunded needs that arise during the fiscal year.

State (Regional) Assessments pay costs at the State level that are not identifiable to a specific program output. In this way, for example, all programs within a State fund staff salaries for support services. These costs are prorated to program areas based upon funding levels, historical costs, and FTE usage.

DOI Working Capital Fund – The DOI manages a Departmental Working Capital Fund (WCF) to provide services to the BLM and other DOI bureaus and offices. The BLM pays for these services with a combination of direct appropriations and program assessments. Program assessments are typically used for services that benefit the entire organization and support the DOI Strategic Plan, BLM focus areas, and DOI

requirements. Many of these services are standard and reoccur on an annual basis, but some are fee-for-service based. The DOI and the BLM have reimbursable service agreements for these services.

Working Capital Fund			
<i>\$000</i>	2022 Actual	2023 Estimate	2024 Estimate
Central Bill	32,535	34,967	41,222
Direct Bill	18,344	21,233	21,622
Subtotal, Working Capital Fund	50,879	56,200	62,844

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Activity: Workforce and Organizational Support
Subactivity: Administrative Support

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	Change from 2023 Enacted
Administrative Support	<i>\$000</i>	53,330	56,305	+2,016	+0	+3,746	62,067	+5,762
	<i>FTE</i>	212	235		+0	+1	236	+1

Summary of 2024 Program Changes for Administrative Support.		(\$000)	FTE
Zero Emission Fleet Modernization		+2,913	+1
Enhance Core Capacity		+833	
Total		+3,746	+1

Justification of 2024 Program Changes

The 2024 budget request for Administrative Support is \$62,067,000 and 236 FTE, a program change of +\$3,746,00 and +1 FTE from the 2023 level, which includes:

Zero Emission Fleet Modernization (+\$2,913,000; +1 FTE) – The BLM request includes a total of \$7,015,000, including \$2,913,000 in Administrative Support, to fully transition the Department’s light duty fleet acquisitions to zero emission vehicles. This funding will provide critical planning and coordination capabilities, utility build-out and charging infrastructure, and zero emission vehicles. The planning includes prioritizing locations for deployment, determining infrastructure needs such as increased electrical supply and access for electric vehicle supply equipment, and coordinating installation to ensure Interior can maximize the use of these charging stations. By leveraging the buying power of the Federal Government and transforming its fleet of more than 600,000 cars and trucks to an all-electric fleet, the Administration can both save money for American taxpayers and accelerate the Nation’s industrial capacity to supply domestically produced zero emission vehicles and electric batteries to create new good-paying jobs and address the climate crisis.

Enhance Core Capacity (+\$833,000; +0 FTE) – This request includes funding to support the implementation of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). Increased funding will allow the bureau additional capacity to fund contracts or financial assistance support needed to administer this once-in-a-generation funding.

Program Overview

This program funds administrative programs and business services that aim to support the overall mission of the BLM efficiently and effectively. Business services provided include communications, including legislative affairs, public affairs, and regulatory affairs; human capital, diversity, and Equal Employment Opportunity; budget development and execution; performance management; financial and internal controls; facilities management; audit follow up; procurement and contracting services; and records management, among others. It broadly supports the entire organization in the accomplishment of the Administration’s priorities and objectives.

The functions of this program are vitally important to optimize operations for the Bureau for increased efficiency. The BLM continues to work diligently to ensure the Bureau has employees with appropriate skills in the right places at the right times. Funding supports various human capital and resource programs, which are viable tools for recruiting and filling entry-level positions and for meeting future skill requirements.

The BLM measures the satisfaction of external customers, partners, stakeholders, and employees to adhere to the requirements of Executive Order 12862 and the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), and regularly evaluates performance measurements and analysis to ensure these measurements are in alignment with Interior's Strategic Plan.

These funds also support important workplace services to support an agile and effective workforce. Funds provided in this program do not fully cover many of the services it supports. Funds from other program activities that benefit from this work are often used to supplement Administrative Support funding. In addition, these funds are used to support the overhead cost of States, Centers, and the Headquarter Offices.

The BLM continues to maintain its outstanding record of financial management with unqualified (clean) financial audit opinions. The ability to link budget and performance through cost management and access to financial data in real time has fostered BLM-wide fiscal accountability. The Bureau also continues to meet or exceed its GPRA goal of audit closures. Improved processes and communications with program offices has resulted in successful audit and internal control programs. The BLM has placed greater emphasis on hiring veterans, veterans with disabilities, individuals with disabilities, underserved communities, and Tribal communities through available special hiring authorities.

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Activity: Workforce and Organizational Support
Subactivity: Bureau wide Fixed Costs

		2022 Enacted	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	Change from 2023
Bureau wide Fixed	<i>\$000</i>	86,046	92,515	+7,425	+0	+0	99,940	+7,425
Costs	<i>FTE</i>	0	0		+0	+0	0	+0

Justification of 2024 Program Changes

The 2024 budget request for Bureau wide Fixed Costs is \$99,940,000 and 0 FTE, a program change of +\$0 and 0 FTE from 2023.

Program Overview

The Bureau wide Fixed Costs subactivity supports a variety of Working Capital Fund bills administered by the Department as well as covering space leasing needs. These funds also support response to security needs, fires, hurricanes, and other emergencies that affect BLM facilities. The Space Management program promotes and encourages sustainability and co-locations by identifying efficiencies. The BLM is continuing its efforts to reduce its building footprint and uses these funds to support co-location of facilities and moves to newer, more energy efficient buildings.

The Departmental Working Capital Funds are fixed costs billed by the Interior’s Office of the Secretary and the Interior Business Center, and categorized as two separate bills:

- *Central Bill* – Mandatory shared services provided by the DOI Office of the Secretary and the Interior Business Center to BLM and other DOI bureaus and offices.
- *Direct Bill* – Primarily a fee-for-service bill. These are services provided under reimbursable agreements between the BLM and DOI.

The Space Management program portion of the Bureau wide Fixed Costs focuses primarily on general purpose and warehouse space acquired through direct lease and General Services Administration-provided space in Federally owned or leased buildings.

The Land Mobile Radio Program provides two-way radio voice services for the BLM. The primary customers are wildland fire, law enforcement, and resources staff. The radio systems are used jointly with other Federal, State, and local agencies in support of wildland fire and law enforcement operations. The Federal Personnel Payroll System is used to monitor the costs of using and maintaining BLM’s personnel management systems. The Mail and Postal Costs component of this program is used to assess and monitor BLM’s mail and postal service utilization, which includes base metered postage machines, next day postage, and other express mail services.

The Unemployment Insurance Costs are based upon historical data, paid through the Department's Federal Employees Compensation Account of the Unemployment Trust Fund to the Department of Labor, pursuant to the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1980. The Workers Compensation amount requested covers costs for a 12-month period and is paid to the Department of Labor through the Department's Employee Compensation Fund, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 8147(b) as amended by P.L. 94-273.

The FY 2024 funding supports Bureau wide Fixed Costs, Working Capital Fund bills, and Space Management initiatives including emergency facility requirements. FTEs are not associated with this activity.

Bureauwide Fixed Costs			
<i>\$000</i>	2022 Actual	2023 Estimate	2024 President's Budget
Space Rental - GSA	36,925	43,033	43,684
Space Rental - Non-GSA	26,492	31,162	31,634
<i>Subtotal, Rental</i>	63,417	74,195	75,318
Workers' Compensation	6,171	5,918	5,847
Unemployment Compensation	5,868	5,867	6,316
DOI Working Capital Fund Centralized Bill	32,535	34,967	41,222
DOI Working Capital Fund Direct Bill	18,344	21,233	21,622
<i>Total</i>	126,335	142,180	150,325
Fixed Costs Funded Through Program Assessments	-40,289	-49,665	-50,385
Total, Bureau wide Fixed Costs	86,046	92,515	99,940

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Activity: Workforce and Organizational Support
Subactivity: Information Technology Management

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	Change from 2023 Enacted
IT Management	<i>\$000</i>	26,499	26,934	+931	+0	+653	28,518	+1,584
	<i>FTE</i>	33	107		+0	+0	107	+0

Summary of 2024 Program Changes for IT Management		(\$000)	FTE
IT Modernization Investments		+653	+0
Total		+653	+0

Justification of 2024 Program Changes

The 2024 budget request for IT Management is \$28,518,000 and 107 FTEs, a program change of +\$653,000 and +0 FTE from the 2023 level, which includes:

IT Modernization Investments (+\$653,000; +0 FTE) - The BLM budget request includes an increase of \$653,000 to invest in IT modernization, IT workforce, and critical IT infrastructure needs. This funding will support key Department and Bureau-specific cybersecurity requirements and priorities such as Zero-Trust implementation, FISMA compliance, and effective oversight.

Program Overview

The Information Technology (IT) Management Program supports the BLM’s investments in information management and IT planning, policy, operations, IT infrastructure, records management, IT security, enterprise data management, enterprise architecture, and IT asset management. This subactivity is also used to assist the management of BLM’s Capital Planning and Investment Control process. This includes Departmental and government-wide policy and implementation for priorities such as IT Security, Zero Trust Architecture (ZTA) and more.

The BLM operates its programs and services in accordance with the Clinger Cohen Act of 1996, the Federal IT Acquisition Reform Act, and the policies and guidance established by the DOI Chief Information Officer. The BLM uses internal collaborative management and dynamic approaches to respond to national needs and priorities while lowering costs. In 2024, the Bureau will continue implementation of its internal information management strategy with the goal of providing the most efficient services to all stakeholders to suit situational needs.

While each subactivity within the BLM contributes funds to the IT Management program, all projects and expenditures receive oversight from the internal BLM information management and investment board and are planned and executed in full compliance with statutory requirements, OMB guidance, and best practices. The BLM has achieved success in lowering the overall costs of IT by implementing dynamic approaches to respond to national priorities. Managing data as a corporate asset will ensure the BLM has greater consistency and integration while reducing redundancies. The BLM will continue its commitment to ensuring that information technology efforts align with Departmental initiatives focused on consolidation, shared services, and improving IT cost efficiency. The Bureau will continue to seek further centralization efforts internally, while expanding consolidation efforts by working with other Bureaus to share services in the areas of Data Center Consolidation, Geospatial, IT Acquisitions, and Application Consolidation to achieve greater cost efficiency.

Activity: Mining Law Administration

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023 Enacted
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Mining Law Administration	<i>\$000</i>	39,696	39,696			+3,000	42,696	+3,000
	<i>Offset</i>	-39,696	-39,696			-3,000	-42,696	-3,000
	<i>FTE</i>	358	236			+25	261	+25

Justification of 2024 Program Changes

The 2024 budget request for Mining Law Administration is \$42,696,000 and 261 FTE, a program change of +\$3,000,000 and +25 FTE from the 2023 enacted level. The budget assumes the program’s operating costs will be fully offset by revenue from mining claim maintenance and location fees.

Enhance Program Capacity (+\$3,000,000; +25 FTE) – The requested funding will support BLM’s implementation of the Biden-Harris Administration’s priorities regarding critical mineral sourcing and supply chains, specifically:

- Executive Order 14017 (February 24, 2021), *America’s Supply Chains*, and
- Section 40206 of the BIL, on Critical Minerals Supply Chains and Reliability.

The BLM proposes to support responsible domestic mining and improve permitting efficiency by hiring up to 25 new minerals staff and Mining Law adjudicators. Funding would also provide additional training for mining law adjudicators, minerals staff, and managers in the Mining Law Administration program to ensure uniform application of the regulations and laws to prevent the unnecessary or undue degradation of BLM-managed lands. The additional funds will enhance BLM’s capacity for reviewing and approving mining plans of operations and enable the BLM to expedite this process while also increasing inspection capacity.

Program Overview

The Mining Law Administration program is responsible for facilitating public access to locatable mineral resources in an environmentally responsible manner. Locatable minerals are those governed by the General Mining Act of 1872, which consist of those minerals whose development is not specifically addressed by other legislation. Locatable mineral deposits include metallic minerals (precious and base) and certain nonmetallic minerals (industrial minerals, gemstones, and uncommon variety of stone). The most common minerals mined from public land include gold, silver, copper, and various industrial minerals including gypsum (used in wallboard) and bentonite (used for its absorptive qualities). In addition, many critical minerals needed for renewable energy development, such as cobalt and lithium, could be mined from public lands. To provide access to these mineral resources, the BLM records mining claims, collects location and annual maintenance fees, and

processes notices and plans of operations for exploration and mining. Reclamation plans and financial guarantees are required to ensure operators properly reclaim mine sites in compliance with mining plans and the requirements of applicable laws. The BLM inspects operations to ensure compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. The BLM also takes enforcement actions when the terms and conditions of an operation have been violated. Finally, the BLM is responsible for conducting mineral examinations to determine valid existing rights under the mining laws.

The Biden-Harris Administration is committed to the responsible and sustainable development of America's public resources. Consistent with the need to develop a domestic critical minerals supply chain, and in response to recommendations from the 100-day reviews directed by E.O. 14017, *America's Supply Chains*, and Section 40206 of the BIL, the Department established the Interagency Working Group on Mining Reform to comprehensively review hardrock mineral laws, regulations, permitting, and oversight on Federal lands to help ensure that mining operations adhere to strong social, environmental, labor, Tribal consultation, and public engagement standards. As part of this whole-of-government effort, the IWG hosted extensive public input and comment sessions on potential hardrock mining reforms in FY 2022, and intends to publish a report with legislative, regulatory, and policy recommendations during FY 2023. The Administration looks forward to working with Congress to implement comprehensive reforms that will ensure strong social, environmental and labor standards.

Program Purpose

The Mining Law Administration program is responsible for managing exploration and development of locatable minerals on public lands under the *General Mining Act of 1872* and FLPMA.

Activities authorized by the *General Mining Act of 1872* are regulated by 43 CFR Subparts 3802 – Exploration and Mining, Wilderness Review Program; 3809 – Surface Management Regulations; and 3814 – Disposal of Reserved Minerals Under the Stockraising Homestead Act. The intent of the regulations is to prevent undue and unnecessary degradation of the land where locatable mineral exploration and mineral development operations are occurring or are proposed to occur. Operators are required to perform concurrent reclamation while operating and must complete reclamation of all disturbed areas at the earliest feasible time.

The BLM collects three fees that fund the operations of this program: maintenance fees, location fees, and processing fees. Since 1993, claimants have been required to pay an annual maintenance fee (currently \$165) for each mining claim in lieu of performing assessment work.⁵ Since 1994, claimants have been required to pay a location fee (currently \$40) when locating any new mining claims.⁶ A processing fee (currently \$20) has been required since 2003.⁷ The BLM is required by statute to adjust the maintenance and location fees every five years, or more frequently if determined reasonable, to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Maintenance and location fees were last increased in 2014. Processing fees are adjusted annually.

Components

⁵ P.L. 102-381, 106 Stat. 1374, 1378-1379

⁶ P.L. 103-66, 107 Stat. 405, 30 U.S.C. 28f-k

⁷ 68 FR 61045

The BLM is responsible for implementing the surface management program and coordinating with resource specialists and applicable State or Federal agencies on the review of notices and plans of operations. Primary duties include reviewing and processing notices and plans of operations, verifying reclamation cost estimates, conducting field inspections to ensure compliance, and ensuring that required enforcement actions are implemented and monitored. The BLM is also responsible for adjudicating mining claims and associated filings. The BLM State offices record new mining claims and site filings and collect associated mining claim maintenance fees. In addition, State offices ensure all annual maintenance fees and maintenance fee waivers for small miners are processed and automated records are timely updated.

Mineral development on Federal lands contributes to the national economy and provides for a domestic supply of minerals needed for multiple purposes. The BLM continues to experience a consistent workload for processing plans of operations and conducting inspections. The BLM is developing strategies to improve permitting and review processes related to developing and enhancing access to mineral resources, particularly critical minerals required for the transition to a carbon-free electricity sector. BLM expects to begin implementing recommendations from the Mining IWG in FY 2023 and FY 2024, in order to support environmentally responsible and sustainable mineral development.

Other Funding Sources

The Mining Law Administration Program (MLAP) is primarily funded through this subactivity, in which the appropriation is offset by maintenance and location fees. Since 1994, Congress, through its appropriations acts, has tied Mining Law Administration funding to revenue collected by the program. The funds made available by Congress are reduced by amounts collected by the Bureau and credited to this appropriation. BLM has regularly collected more funds than are required to fund the MLAP and sends the additional money to the General Fund.

Under the authorities of 43 U.S.C. 1474 and 1734(a), the BLM retains the collected processing fees from mining claim recordation actions and mineral patent adjudication to recover the full cost of processing these documents. In addition, the BLM charges a processing fee, on a case-by-case basis, for proposed mining operating plans that require an environmental impact statement. A processing fee is also applicable to validity examinations or common variety examinations and associated reports performed in connection with a patent application, 43 CFR 3809.100 (withdrawn lands), or 43 CFR 3809.101 (common variety determinations), on a case-by case basis.

LAND ACQUISITION

Appropriations Language

This account does not require annual appropriations language due to permanent appropriation authorized by the Great American Outdoors Act, P.L. 116-152 (GAOA). However, Section 200303(c)(1) of GAOA includes a statutory requirement for the Department to submit an allocation of Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) funding to Congress as part of the annual budget process.

Appropriations Language Citations

Starting in 2021, pursuant to the GAOA, Federal land acquisition is available as mandatory appropriations through permanent LWCF funding.

Appropriation Language Citations and Authorizations

Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) (P.L. 94-579, Sec. 101 et seq.; 43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) Provides authority for acquisition (P.L. 94-579, Sec. 205, 206; 43 U.S.C., 1715, 1716) of lands or interests in lands by purchase, exchange, donation, or eminent domain, when it is consistent with the mission of the Department and with land use plans (P.L. 94-579, Sec. 205(b); 43 U.S.C., 1715(b)); in exercising this authority, appropriations from the Land and Water Conservation Fund may be used to purchase lands which are primarily of value for outdoor recreation purposes (P.L. 94-579, Sec. 318(d); 43 U.S.C., 1748(d)).

Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act of 2000 (FLTFA) (P.L 106-248) Provides authority for the use of receipts from disposal actions by the BLM to purchase inholdings and lands adjacent to Federally designated areas containing exceptional resources, as defined in FLTFA, from willing sellers with acceptable titles, at fair market value, to “promote consolidation of the ownership of public and private lands in a manner that would allow for better overall resource management administrative efficiency, or resource allocation.” The *Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2010* (P.L. 111-212) reauthorized FLTFA for one year, expiring in July 2011. FLTFA was permanently reauthorized in Title III-Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Reauthorization, Section 301, Public Law No. 115-141.

<i>Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, as amended (16 U.S.C. 4601-4 et seq.)</i>	Authorizes planning, acquisition, and development of needed land and water areas and facilities; in exercising this authority, appropriated funds from the LWCF may be used for such acquisition to assist in preserving, developing, and assuring accessibility to public lands and waters for the benefit of present and future citizens.
<i>Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.)</i>	Authorizes the Secretary to exchange or dispose of suitable federally-owned property for non-Federal property within the authorized boundaries of any Federally-administered component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, 1277(d). Similar exchange authority is contained in <i>The National Trails System Act of 1968</i> , as amended (16 U.S.C. 1241 et seq.).
<i>Wilderness Act of 1964 (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.)</i>	Authorizes the Secretary to acquire privately owned property within the boundary of any area designated as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System.
<i>National Trails System Act of 1968, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1241-1249)</i>	Authorizes the Secretary to acquire lands or interests in lands included in the right-of-way selected for a National Historic, National Recreation, or National Scenic Trail; by written cooperative agreement, donation, purchase (with donated or appropriated funds), or exchange.
<i>Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (P.L. 115-141)</i>	Permanently reauthorizes the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA) and broadened the Act's applicability to include recreational access and use, in addition to other values. The Act also required the BLM to establish and maintain a public database containing a comprehensive list of all public lands identified as potentially suitable for disposal under a land use plan.
<i>Other</i>	Other acts such as, the <i>King Range National Conservation Area Act of 1970</i> , as amended (16 U.S.C. 460y); <i>San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area Act</i> , in Arizona (16 U.S.C. 460xx); <i>Arkansas-Idaho Land Exchange Act of 1992</i> (P.L. 102-584); <i>Utah School Lands Act</i> (P.L. 103-93); <i>Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000</i> (16 U.S.C. 460nnn, P.L. 106-399; and <i>California Desert Protection Act of 1994</i> (P.L. 103-433), authorize the Secretary to enter into acquisitions, including purchase, donation, land exchange.
<i>Great American Outdoors Act, P.L. 116-152</i>	The Great American Outdoors Act, which was enacted in 2020, amended the Land and Water Conservation Fund authorization (54 U.S.C 200303) to permanently appropriate full funding (\$900 million a year) for the LWCF.

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Activity: Land Acquisition

Land and Water Conservation Fund Programs for Bureau of Land Management Net Budget Authority⁽¹⁾

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity/Subactivity/Program Element	2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 Request	2024 vs. 2023	2023 FTE	2024 FTE	2024 v. 2023 FTE
Land Acquisition							
Projects	30,101	28,166	35,850	+7,683	-	-	-
Recreational Access	19,332	20,500	20,500	-	-	-	-
Emergency, Inholding, and Hardship	7,072	13,158	9,000	(4,158)	-	-	-
Acquisition Management	7,072	8,101	8,527	+426	14	14	+0
Total, LWCF Bureau Funding (Net Budget Authority)	63,577	69,925	73,877	+3,952	14	14	+0
Sequester Adjustments	3,842	152	230	+78			
Total, LWCF Bureau Funding (New Budget Authority)	67,419	70,077	74,107	+4,030			

(1) Bureau line item funding amounts are Net Budget Authority, the amount available to execute after sequester and Pop-up adjustments. All mandatory LWCF funding is subject to a sequestration reduction of -5.7% across all programs. After FY 2022, amounts sequestered from LWCF programs become available for obligation ("Pop-Up") in subsequent years.

(2) Subtotals may not appear to add correctly due to rounding of sequester adjustments.

Program Overview

The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (LWCF) was established to support the protection of Federal public lands and waters – including national parks, forests, wildlife refuges, and public lands recreation areas – and to provide recreation opportunities to all Americans. The LWCF also provides for grants to State and local governments for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities.

Through a variety of programs, LWCF supports our nationwide legacy of high-quality recreation and conservation areas. The Fund invests earnings from offshore energy development to help strengthen communities, preserve our history, and protect our national endowment of lands and waters. Every State and almost every county in the Nation has benefited from the LWCF since its establishment.

The Department of the Interior is responsible for administering and implementing these important programs, in concert with the U.S. Forest Service. The Great American Outdoors Acts (GAOA) amended the LWCF Act to make \$900 million in LWCF permanent funds available annually. GAOA requires the President’s annual budget submission to Congress include an allocation of LWCF funding by account, program and project for consideration as part of the annual budget process. Mandatory LWCF funding is subject to a sequestration reduction of 5.7%. Beginning in FY 2022, the sequestered amount becomes available or “pops up” in the following year. Unless otherwise indicated, amounts referenced in this section reflect the Net Budget Authority that would be available for programs to execute after sequestration adjustments.

The FY 2024 budget will leverage the LWCF to meet the Administration’s priorities to protect biodiversity by conserving 30 percent of America’s lands and waters by 2030. BLM is also committed to preserving and assuring public accessibility to outdoor recreation to strengthen their health and vitality. Department of the Interior priorities include:

- Strengthening the government-to-government relationship with sovereign Tribal Nations to honor the Federal trust responsibility to Tribal Nations;
- Working to conserve at least 30 percent of our lands and waters by the year 2030 by collaborating with local, State, private, and Tribally led conservation and restoration efforts to leverage natural conservation and climate solutions across America; and
- Making investments to support the Administration’s goal of creating family-supporting jobs by putting a new generation of Americans to work conserving and restoring public lands and waters, increasing reforestation, protecting biodiversity, improving access to recreation, and addressing the changing climate.

Activity Description

The BLM is authorized to acquire non-Federal lands through purchase, exchange, and donation for specified public benefits. Consolidation of the public lands through land acquisition increases management efficiency in pursuing land management goals such as maintaining open space; providing access for hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting; providing opportunities for recreation; preserving natural and cultural heritage resources; restoring at-risk botanical, fisheries and wildlife resources; and maintaining functioning ecosystems. The BLM’s Land Acquisition program uses LWCF funding for Land Acquisition; Emergencies, Hardships, and Inholdings; Recreational Access; and Acquisition Management.

The BLM request represents two funding changes from previous year allocations. The Bureau recognizes an increase in property values and corresponding project costs, and the BLM has a larger number of projects ready for funding. Both funding changes represent an increase necessary to complete and process projects. Additional project funding is necessary to complete additional land acquisitions from willing landowners and an increase in acquisition management funds is necessary to meet increased due diligence and transaction costs.

Consistent with Congressional direction, the BLM submits the following Federal land acquisition projects as part of the 2024 Budget process. Detailed final project data sheets are included later in this chapter and will be made available on the Department’s LWCF website: <https://www.doi.gov/lwcf>. In addition, consistent with language in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117-328), the Department submits a supplemental list of Federal Land Acquisition projects. Project Data Sheets for supplemental projects and color maps for Request and Supplemental projects will also be provided separately.

The projects listed below are listed in priority order and have identified willing sellers. The Department will keep Congress informed should the circumstances of a specific project change during the course of the 2024 Budget process.

The Federal Land Acquisition project funding amounts are shown in Net Budget Authority, the amount needed to execute after sequester reductions and pop-up adjustments.

FY 2024 BLM Summary Table

(Dollars)

Budget Authority/Activity	Amount
FY 2024 New Budget Authority	74,106,692
FY 2024 Estimated Sequestration Reduction (-5.7%)	(4,224,081)
FY 2024 Estimated Pop Up (+5.7% of 2023)	3,994,389
FY 2024 Net Budget Authority	73,877,000

FY 2024 BLM LWCF Land Acquisition Requested Project List

(Dollars)

Priority	Project	State(s)	Funding	Acres
1	Blackfoot River Watershed	MT	\$2,200,000	2,200
2	California Coastal National Monument	CA	\$10,500,000	1,150
3	Henry's Lake Area of Critical Environment Concern and Island Park	ID	\$7,450,000	4,020
4	California Wilderness	CA	\$4,000,000	3,383
5	South San Juan Project Area	CO	\$4,500,000	3,750
6	Lower Gila Terraces and Historic Trails Area of Critical Environment Concern	AZ	\$2,500,000	590
7	Sands Desert Habitat Management Area	ID	\$2,600,000	3,352
8	Red Cliffs National Conservation Area	UT	\$2,100,000	33
	FY 2024 Requested Project List		\$35,850,000	18,478

FY 2024 BLM LWCF Land Acquisition Supplemental Project List*(Dollars)*

Priority	Project	State(s)	Funding	Acres
S1	Rio Grande Del Norte National Monument	NM	\$5,250,000	1,050
S2	South San Juan Project Area	CO	\$4,500,000	3,750
S3	Red Cliffs National Conservation Area	UT	\$6,800,000	92
S4	Mojave Desert Foothills	CA	\$7,300,000	8,763
	FY 2024 Supplemental List		\$23,850,000	13,655

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Activity: Land Acquisition
Subactivity: Land Acquisition Projects

	2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				
			Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	Change from 2023
Land Acq. Projects <i>\$000</i>	30,100	28,166			+7,683	35,850	+7,683
<i>FTE</i>	0	0			+0	0	+0

Program Overview

Consistent with Congressional direction, the Bureau of Land Management submits the following Federal land acquisition projects as part of the 2024 Budget process. Detailed project data sheets are submitted separately for each identified project. The table below presents the proposed allocation of LWCF FY 2024 BLM funds. The projects listed below are in priority order and have identified willing sellers.

Bureau of Land Management
Allocation of Land and Water Conservation Fund FY 2024
Dollars (Net Budget Authority)

Account/Activity/Project	State	Amount
Land Acquisition		
Acquisition Management		8,527,000
Recreational Access		20,500,000
Inholding, Emergencies, & Hardships		9,000,000
Land Acquisition Projects		
Blackfoot River Watershed	MT	2,200,000
California Coastal National Monument	CA	10,500,000
Henry's Lake Area of Critical Environment Concern and Island Park	ID	7,450,000
California Wilderness	CA	4,000,000
South San Juan Project Area	CO	4,500,000
Lower Gila Terraces and Historic Trails Area of Critical Environment Concern	AZ	2,500,000
Sands Desert Habitat Management Area	ID	2,600,000
Red Cliffs National Conservation Area	UT	2,100,000
Land Acquisition Projects, Subtotal		35,850,000
TOTAL Land Acquisition		73,877,000
Bureau LWCF Total (Net Budget Authority)		73,877,000

Program Responsibilities

The BLM's Land Acquisition program provides for the purchase of lands, waters, or interest in lands to consolidate public lands through purchase, exchange, and donation to increase management efficiency and preserve areas of natural, cultural, and recreational importance.

Program Purpose

The BLM's authority to acquire land comes from: *FLPMA* (P.L. 94-579, Sec. 101 et seq.; 43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); the *Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Reauthorization (FLTFA)* in the *2018 Consolidated Appropriations Act* (P.L. 115-141, Sec. 301 of Title III); the *National Trails System Act of 1968*, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1241-1249); the *Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965*, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460l-4 et seq.); the *Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968*, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.); and the *Wilderness Act of 1964*.

Other Funding Sources

In addition to the funds in this account, the BLM uses funding from other sources, such as the *Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act* and other land sale authorizations, to support land acquisition activities. The FLTFA provides funding that can be used to fund the acquisition of environmentally sensitive lands and fund the administrative costs associated with conducting sales.

Justification of 2024 Program Change

The 2024 budget request for Land Acquisition Projects is \$35,850,000, a program change of +\$7,683,000 and +0 FTE from the 2023 Enacted level. The increase in this subactivity is to accommodate higher land values and a greater number of priority land acquisitions.

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Activity: Land Acquisition
Subactivity: Recreational Access

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Recreational Access	<i>\$000</i>	19,332	20,500			+0	20,500	+0
	<i>FTE</i>	0	0			+0	0	+0

Program Overview

Recreational Access funds are used to acquire land or access easements through private lands to provide public access to landlocked BLM lands. Securing and improving public access to these lands will serve various recreational activities, including hunting and fishing. These funds invest in acquisitions that substantially add to or improve recreation access by working with willing landowners to secure rights-of-way, easements, or fee simple lands. These acquisitions provide access or consolidate Federal ownership so the public has unbroken spaces to recreate, hunt, and fish.

Activity: Land Acquisition
Subactivity: Emergencies, Hardships, and Inholdings

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	Change from 2023
Emergency & Hardships	<i>\$000</i>	7,073	13,158			-4,158	9,000	-4,158
	<i>FTE</i>	0	0			+0	0	+0

Program Overview

The Emergencies, Hardships, and Inholdings program allows the BLM to promote conservation of natural landscapes and resources by consolidating privately owned land with publicly owned land when properties become available on short notice and would not remain available unless immediate action is taken. The availability of funds for Emergency, Hardship, and Inholding purchases permits timely actions to alleviate hardships and prevent adverse land use that may conflict with management objectives for adjacent public lands. Additionally, the ability to bridge the gap between an appropriation and the appraised fair market value is also imperative to the program. The BLM’s parcels targeted for purchase with these funds, although typically small and generally inexpensive, enhance public recreation opportunities, conserve and protect cultural and historic resources, permit retention of increasingly limited open spaces, preserve wildlife habitat and wilderness, and are supported for Federal acquisition by local communities.

Justification of 2024 Program Change

The 2024 budget request for Emergency, Inholding, and Hardship is \$9,000,000 and 0 FTE, a program change of -\$4,158,000 and +0 FTE from the 2023 Enacted level. The reduction in this subactivity is due to reprioritizing land acquisitions.

Activity: Land Acquisition
Subactivity: Acquisition Management

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	Change from 2023
Acquisition	<i>\$000</i>	7,073	8,101			+426	8,527	+426
Management	<i>FTE</i>	14	14			+0	14	+0

Program Overview

Program Responsibilities

The Acquisition Management program allows the BLM to execute the necessary tasks to acquire land funded through the LWCF. This includes title research and title corrections, appraisal, appraisal review, due diligence, project planning, boundary surveys, relocation, taxes, escrow, closing, coordination with BLM multi-resource programs, and coordination with local governments and stakeholders.

Processing costs typically vary by project, depending on the complexity of title searches and appraisals, boundary surveys, the number of parcels contained in each purchase, costs associated with the purchase of conservation easements, and other factors.

Other Funding Sources

The Acquisition Management program receives assistance from dozens of third-party partners, such as the Audubon Society, the Conservation Fund, the Nature Conservancy, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the Trust for Public Land, and the Wilderness Land Trust. These partners continually assist local communities and the BLM in supporting the acquisition and management of specific properties for cultural, recreational and wildlife values and to preserve open space. Approximately 80 percent of BLM purchase transactions are completed with the assistance of these third-party conservation partners.

Justification of 2024 Program Change

The 2024 budget request for Acquisition Management is \$8,527,000 and 14 FTE, a program change of +\$426,000 and +0 FTE from the 2023 level, which includes funding project staff and due diligence at higher amounts due to increased costs related to appraisals and other required inspections.

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LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND Project Data Sheet

Agency: Bureau of Land Management

Fiscal Year: 2024

Project/ Unit: Blackfoot River Watershed

Priority: 1

State(s): MT

Congressional District(s): MT-1

Location: The proposed acquisition is located approximately 30 miles east of Missoula, Montana, in Missoula County.

Project Estimates

Land/Cost	Acres	\$
Estimate for FY 2024	2,200	\$2,200,000
Acquired to Date	36,636	\$48,000,000
Remaining to be Acquired	18,250	\$ 18,250,000

Project Description:

This proposed acquisition is a continuation of the Blackfoot River Watershed Project which started in 1992. The project has acquired lands by direct LWCF purchase (36,636 ac.), land exchange (10,733 ac.) and donation (197 ac.). BLM is actively working multiple acquisitions in the area using prior year funds. Recreation use is increasing in this area due to proximity to Missoula, Montana. In 2000, the Blackfoot Challenge, a local watershed collaborative including The Nature Conservancy (TNC), began having discussions concerning the future ownership and management of industrial forestland in the area. The real estate market has dramatically changed in recent years and now land often commands its highest value when subdivided into smaller parcels and sold for residential or recreational development. BLM has participated in TNC’s community-driven process, together with the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, local county governments and local private landowners, in developing a long-term plan for the disposition and management of the lands.

Purpose/Need:

The proposed acquisition of 2,200 acres, adjacent to existing public lands managed by the BLM, maintains access to public lands for recreational opportunities, including but not limited to snowmobile use, cross country skiing, hiking, biking, horseback riding, and fishing. Under past and present landowner “open lands” policies, recreationists have come to view the former industrial timberlands as if they are

publicly owned. The proposed acquisition maintains access for public use and enjoyment as well as protecting critically important resources. The proposed acquisition would ensure active management for multiple benefits including climate change mitigation, restoring habitat for threatened and endangered species (Canada Lynx and grizzly bear), and ensuring proper watershed function for aquatic species. It would also provide working lands with active forestry and fuels programs; continued grazing; and provide greater access to sacred areas, plant gathering areas, and other important areas for tribal groups.

Cooperator(s): U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Montana Department of Natural Resources, Blackfoot Challenge, The Nature Conservancy, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

Operations & Maintenance

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
Estimated O&M Savings:	\$ 0	\$ 0
Estimated O&M Costs:	\$ 6,000	\$ 12,000

O&M Description:

Maintain facilities (signs, roads, trails, boat ramps and/or buildings, etc.); maintain, monitor, or restore resources; treat noxious and/or invasive plants.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND Project Data Sheet

Agency: Bureau of Land Management

Fiscal Year: 2024

Project/ Unit: California Coastal National Monument

Priority: 2

State(s): CA

Congressional District(s): CA-2

Location: The California Coastal National Monument is located along the entire 1,100 miles of coastline of the U.S. State of California. The portion of the monument adjacent to this acquisition nomination is in Mendocino County, approximately 150 miles north of San Francisco and 25 miles north of Fort Bragg.

Project Estimates

Land/Cost	Acres	\$
Estimate for FY 2024	1,150	\$ 10,500,000
Acquired to Date	10,014	\$25,800,000
Remaining to be Acquired	100,000	\$ 1,000,000,000

Project Description:

On January 11, 2000, the California Coastal National Monument (CCNM) was established to protect the unique coastal habitat for marine-dependent wildlife and vegetation on 7,924 acres in six mainland units (Trinidad Head, Waluplh-Lighthouse Ranch, Lost Coast Headlands, Point Arena-Stornetta, Cotoni-Coast Dairies, and Piedras Blancas) and more than 20,000 rocks, islands, exposed reefs, and pinnacles along the 1,100 miles of California coastline. Although millions of people view the monument from beaches, bluffs, and watercraft, a closer look reveals untrammled nesting habitat for an estimated 200,000 breeding seabirds and thousands of loafing and breeding marine mammals, including harbor seals and California and Steller's sea lions. The California Coast is a way of life for millions of Californians and a destination for visitors from around the world. Many people travel to the coast for health, play, work, discovery, and enjoyment. The scenic beauty and important wildlife habitat within the monument are protected by the Bureau of Land Management as National Conservation Lands. Along its length, this spectacular interplay of land and sea is an experience that creates lasting connections between people and nature. In cooperation with the California Coastal Conservancy and the Wildlife Conservation Board, BLM has preserved several miles of California coastline through acquisition and donation. Those acquisitions, in addition to the proposed project, are designed to retain the dramatic coastal vistas and important gateways for interpreting the CCNM.

Purpose/Need:

The proposed acquisition of 1,150 acres is one of three contiguous tracts totaling 4,466 acres. The tracts secure a key section of a connected landscape along a 45-mile stretch of the Lost Coast and permanently protect threatened California redwood and other forests for wildlife, water, and climate resilience benefits. The Lost Coast Redwoods property is a place where the traditional territories of the Sinkyone, Cahto, and Coast Yuki peoples converge and may have important cultural sites. The requested tract has 12 miles of Class I, II, and III streams wholly located on the tract, which support habitat for threatened and endangered (T&E) species such as Northern spotted owl (seven NSO activity centers are on or within 0.7 miles of the project), marbled murrelet, coho salmon, and steelhead trout. Roosevelt elk, black-tailed deer, and mountain lions roam all three tracts. The requested tract includes a portion of Hwy 1 and other roads, enhancing public access to a rare coastal redwood landscape. The location of the project in proximity to other protected lands complements ongoing work of diverse entities to own and manage significant resource lands for conservation and recreation. Several tracts include recently completed firebreaks totaling 4.5 miles. Immediately adjacent to the acquisition are Sinkyone Wilderness State Park and Usal Redwood Forest (55,000 acres conserved), while 10 miles north and east are the Intertribal Sinkyone Wilderness and the BLM’s King Range NCA. The acquisition is also just 5 miles west of three other BLM wilderness areas. The proposed acquisitions include nearly 200 acres of redwood forest including unique old “candelabra” trees and access to the Peter Douglas Trail now used by over 4,000 hikers a year. The landowner recently completed a three-mile fire break on the tract. Partner contributions will defray the acquisition cost to BLM by over 50 percent.

<https://youtu.be/uY0PFREVs3U>

Cooperator(s): California Department of Fish and Wildlife; California State Parks; California State Parks–North Coast Redwoods; California Coastal Conservancy; Mendocino County Resource Conservation District; Fort Bragg City Council; Mendocino Land Trust; Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership; American Forests; California Audubon; Mendocino Coast Audubon, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation; Conservation Lands Foundation; Humboldt Redwoods Interpretive Association, Mendocino County Blacktail Association; Trout Unlimited – Redwood Empire; The Conservation Fund; California Deer Association; California Trout, Point Cabrillo Lighthouse Stewards; Westport Hotel; Usal Redwood Forest Company.

Operations & Maintenance

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
Estimated O&M Savings:	\$ 0	\$ 0
Estimated O&M Costs:	\$ 1,035,000	\$ 75,000

O&M Description:

Start-up costs are to inventory interagency planning, roads, invasive species, cultural resources; construct trails, host site facilities; and restore roads, streams, wildlife habitat. Annual expenses will be to maintain and replace equipment; maintain facilities; maintain, monitor, or restore resources; and forest health treatment. Annual costs are offset by anticipated annual contributions from Save the Redwoods League, Trout Unlimited, other NGO support, and annual fee collection.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND Project Data Sheet

Agency: Bureau of Land Management

Fiscal Year: 2024

Project/ Unit: Henrys Lake ACEC and Island Park

Priority: 3

State(s): ID

Congressional District(s): ID-2

Location: Southeast Idaho, 14 miles west of Yellowstone National Park on the shoreline of Henrys Lake and along the shoreline of Island Park Reservoir.

Project Estimates

Land/Cost	Acres	\$
Estimate for FY 2024	4,020	\$7,450,000
Acquired to Date	2,641	\$3,427,000
Remaining to be Acquired	5,126	\$ 12,300,000

Project Description:

On the western doorstep of Yellowstone National Park and surrounded by the Continental Divide, the 35,875-acre Henrys Lake Area of Critical Environmental Concern’s (ACEC) exceptional aesthetic and wildlife values have been an attraction to generations of Americans who have fished, hiked, hunted, skied, and snowmobiled here. The area offers high-quality open space, rangeland, streams, wetlands, and wildlife and fish resources to the 4 million annual visitors who pass through the project area. This area lies within a hub of seasonal wildlife movement activity. Large carnivores such as grizzly bears and wolverines, antelope, elk, moose, and mule deer use the region for summer/winter range and as a migratory corridor connecting summer range in Yellowstone National Park with winter range in Idaho and Montana. Other conservation priority species that use this area include Yellowstone cutthroat trout and a variety of BLM Sensitive species and Idaho-designated Species of Greatest Conservation Need. The vast wet meadows support large concentrations of long-billed curlews and sandhill cranes. The world-renowned fishery is the last stronghold in the Henrys Fork basin for the Yellowstone cutthroat trout. White spruce and aspen forested wetlands on the east and north shores of the lake are globally rare and found nowhere else in the continental United States. Chief Joseph led his Nez Perce Tribe through the basin on their flight to Canada, now evidenced by the Nez Perce National Historic Trail. The Continental Divide National Scenic Trail rings the project area to the west and north. The Shotgun Valley and Island Park Reservoir area lies near the junction of three ecological sections (defined by underlying geology): the Snake River Basalts, Beaverhead Mountains, and Yellowstone Highlands (Cleland et al. 2007). The

unique ecological sections create a diverse intersection of habitats and seasonal wildlife use within the Idaho portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. The northern and western shores of Island Park Reservoir and adjacent Shotgun Valley support seasonal mudflats, aquatic bed vegetation, marsh, and meadow wetlands; sagebrush steppe; mixed conifer forest; riparian/wet meadow complexes along the creeks and rivers; aquatic stream habitats; and human-made lacustrine habitat. A thriving demand for rural-residential development represents a significant threat to the integrity of wildlife habitats and broader ecological functions.

Purpose/Need:

The acquisition of three conservation easements on 4,020 acres are examples of continuous opportunities in the project area. These and other acquisitions will support the Administration's priorities and key principles for guiding conservation efforts; specifically, by conserving lands and waters to protect biodiversity and help address natural climate solutions (e.g., help limit residential subdivision of lands). All three sample properties will remain working ranches, preserving the cultural and historic character of the area. Maintaining open spaces and working with the landowner to limit wildfire risk in the landscape will strengthen resilience to climate change. This project would add significant value to landscape-level habitat protection by preventing development along critical migration routes, summer range for ungulates, and other seasonal wildlife movement in the area. The sample acquisitions provide crucial transitional and summer range for pronghorn antelope, elk, moose, and mule deer (hereafter, ungulates). Protection of these lands supports maintenance of interstate ungulate migrations across Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming, including Yellowstone National Park.

Diamond D—A conservation easement will be placed on the ranch to restrict development in perpetuity. Precluding subdivision development will significantly contribute to maintaining the outstanding scenic value of the Henrys Lake ACEC. Diamond D lies along the historic stagecoach/freight wagon route between Henrys Lake and the Montana mining towns of Virginia City and Alder Gulch. The owners of Diamond D established the first commercial state coach access to Yellowstone National Park as well, taking early tourists from the railroad siding at Monida, Montana, on a 70-mile trip to the park.

H Bar L Ranch—The property encompasses about 1.5 miles of Howard Creek and a little less than .5 mile of Targhee Creek. Both creeks are important Yellowstone cutthroat trout spawning streams. The property contains primarily sagebrush steppe habitat and a smaller amount of riparian and wetland habitat along Howard Creek and Targhee Creek.

Flying W Bar Ranch—This 465-acre historic family ranch is in Fremont County at the Island Park Reservoir. The ranch borders the reservoir to the south and BLM land to the northwest. In addition to having lake and waterfront habitat, the property contains a wide range of other habitats, including willow riparian and emergent wetlands; vast sagebrush uplands; and Douglas fir and aspen forest.

Cooperator(s): Henry's Fork Foundation; Idaho Department of Fish and Game; Henrys Fork Wildlife Alliance; Idaho Backcountry Hunters and Anglers; Mule Deer Foundation; Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks; Idaho Chapter of Safari Club International; The Nature Conservancy; Teton Regional Land Trust; Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

Operations & Maintenance

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
Estimated O&M Savings:	\$0	\$0
Estimated O&M Costs:	\$0	\$ 5,000

O&M Description:

Conservation easement stewardship; monitor for compliance, trespass, overuse, hazards, etc. Print/update maps and brochures.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND Project Data Sheet

Agency: Bureau of Land Management

Fiscal Year: 2024

Project/ Unit: California Wilderness

Priority: 4

State(s): CA

Congressional District(s): CA-2

Location: This acquisition is adjacent to the Yuki Wilderness Area, in Lake and Mendocino Counties in Northern California, approximately 150 miles north of Sacramento.

Project Estimates

Land/Cost	Acres	\$
Estimate for FY 2024	3,383	\$ 4,000,000
Acquired to Date	400,200	\$57,000,000
Remaining to be Acquired	200,000	\$150,000,000

Project Description:

California is home to more wilderness areas than any other State in the Nation. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) alone has 92 designated wilderness areas, encompassing more than 3.9 million acres of public land in California, including the Yuki Wilderness, which is adjacent to the subject property. Those wilderness areas stretch from the north coast of California to the peaks of the Sierra Nevada to lands along the Mexican border. More than 37 million people live in California, and the wilderness areas offer places of solitude, where people can experience freedom from our fast-paced, industrialized society. Wilderness areas provide an amazing recreational experience and are important habitat for a wide variety of animal and plant species—many threatened or endangered and some federally listed species. The region hosts seven species of oaks and many rare plants, and its Sargent cypress grove is the largest known cypress grove in the world. The project area shares a boundary with the Mendocino National Forest, and the Forest Service has also used funding to improve access and acquire lands within the Yuki and Sanhedrin Wilderness.

Purpose / Need:

The acquisition consists of two tracts with a combined 3,384 acres of lands that would connect and consolidate CA wilderness areas, providing newly accessible lands and 14 miles of creeks and would improve access to 30,000 acres of public lands. The two tracts are the 2,264-acre Elk Creek East, adjacent to the CA wilderness areas, and the 1,120-acre Elk Creek West, surrounded by the Eden Valley

Wilderness Study Area (WSA), which is currently difficult to access because it is surrounded by private lands on most sides. The acquisition includes numerous points of interest for hunting, rafting, camping, and hiking and provides a connection for recreation enthusiasts between the wilderness and the Eden Valley WSA. This project expands hunting and fishing opportunities for trout, black-tailed deer, Tule elk, turkey, black bear, and upland and migratory birds. Acquisition of the property would increase and diversify public access for outdoor recreationists and local underserved communities. The lands along the creek also offer opportunities for horseback riding, backpacking, swimming, and a multitude of other experiences. This property is part of the ancestral territory for the Yuki People, who maintain a strong connection to this land, which contains high densities of cultural and sacred resources. The property supports both terrestrial and aquatic habitats. The Eel River supports close to one-half of California’s entire remaining summer-run steelhead trout population. The project will extend a network of adjoining protected, undeveloped lands upon which numerous species of concern rely, including the federally listed California coastal Chinook salmon, Northern California steelhead, northern spotted owl, 65 other special status species. This tract’s water and habitat attract game species and are heavily sought after by hunters and photographers. Numerous creeks that traverse the property feed the Eel River, and the springs that feed Elk Creek are a recreation destination for many user groups. The springs and streams support more than 700 acres of intact oak woodland habitat that serves as biodiversity hotspots for native understory grasses and forbs. In addition, Bennett Valley, a 70-acre meadow that was the property’s original homestead site, is part of the parcel. This valley offers lush ground with flat topography, which is perfect for camping. surrounded by public lands (Eden Valley WSA). The numerous springs and streams support over 700 acres of intact oak woodland habitat.

Cooperator(s): Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, California Deer Association, Mendocino County Blacktail Association, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, USDA—Mendocino National Forest, NOAA—National Marine Fisheries Service, Friends of the Eel River, Douglas Wheeler—Former Secretary California Natural Resources Agency, Peregrine Audubon Society, Salmonid Restoration Federation, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership.

Operations & Maintenance

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
Estimated O&M Savings:	\$ 0	\$ 0
Estimated O&M Costs:	\$ 465,000	\$ 20,500

Describe O&M:

Start-up costs are to inventory roads, invasive species, cultural resources, restoration/seeding, and treat invasive species. Annual expenses are to maintain, monitor, or restore resources, monitor for compliance, trespass, overuse, hazards, and treat invasive species. Annual costs are offset by anticipated annual contributions from Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, California Deer Association, and Blacktail Deer Association.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND Project Data Sheet

Agency: Bureau of Land Management

Fiscal Year: 2024

Project/ Unit: South San Juan Project Area

Priority: 5

State(s): CO

Congressional District(s): CO-3

Location: The project area is in south-central Colorado in the majestic San Luis Valley in Conejos County, about 20 miles west of La Jara, Colorado.

Project Estimates

Land/Cost	Acres	\$
Estimate for FY 2024	3,750	\$ 4,500,000
Acquired to Date	0	\$ 0
Remaining to be Acquired	22,575	\$ 27,100,000

Project Description:

From soaring 14,000-ft. peaks to spectacular river gorges, the San Luis Valley (SLV) captivates, with sweeping, unspoiled vistas and Hispanic and Native American heritage. This area is rich in biodiversity due to its remoteness, ruggedness, and connectivity to other protected lands. It provides crucial wildlife corridors connecting habitats for elk, mule deer, pronghorn antelope, black bear, mountain lion, turkeys, and bighorn sheep. Large aquatic habitats lie within the project area, including 135 miles of perennial streams and two reservoirs, providing key habitats for the native Rio Grande cutthroat trout, Rio Grande chub, and Rio Grande sucker and important recreational fisheries for brook, brown, rainbow, and tiger trout. La Jara Creek provides occupied habitat for the federally endangered Southwestern Willow Flycatcher. The South San Juan Project Area is at the Colorado/New Mexico border and extends to the Conejos/Rio Grande County line in the southwest portion of the SLV. The project area encompasses multiple Areas of Critical Concern and State Wildlife Areas and borders Rio Grande National Forest (RGNF) lands. Its unique topography, geography, and cultural landscape provide an ideal opportunity to address the critical needs of adjacent underserved communities by developing recreational resources; providing livestock grazing resources; restoring riparian and upland wildlife habitat; providing vitally important traditional uses, including hunting and fishing, firewood collection, and piñon nut gathering; and preserving significant cultural sites across a cultural landscape near sacred sites and the Old Spanish Trail and the Sangre de Cristo Natural Heritage Area. La Jara Reservoir Archaeological District (listed on the National Register of Historic Places) is also within the project boundary.

The SLV is sacred and ancestral lands to 25 Native Tribes and Pueblos, who use the area frequently. Widespread, unique cultural sites exist within the project area, indicating more than 8,000 years of Native American occupation, including La Botica, or “the pharmacy,” a unique, ecologically distinct microhabitat sacred to many Tribes and a culturally significant location for Hispanic Americans to collect medicinal and ceremonial plants. Public lands, or “Nuestras Tierras Publicas,” are a key part of the Latino heritage in southern Colorado. The diverse neighboring communities of La Jara, Antonito, and Capulin (Conejos County) have complex histories that intermingle with public lands.

Purpose/Need:

The proposed acquisition is 3,750 acres with the larger La Jara Creek Parcel Acquisition, a collaborative multiagency acquisition consisting of 45,650 acres from a willing landowner. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) would acquire 22,575 acres bordered or surrounded by BLM-managed land, Forest Service would acquire 21,245 acres bordered by the RGNF, and CPW would acquire 1,833 acres in the La Jara Reservoir SWA, which they manage under a lease. The proposed acquisition supports the Biden Administration’s 30x30 and Justice40 initiatives to invest Federal resources in disadvantaged areas and goals for connecting with communities and conserving landscapes for wildlife migration corridors and movement (reducing fragmentation). It also supports environmental justice communities in the region, allowing for access and traditional uses, and reduces future impacts from climate change. The proposed acquisition will also help to reduce or eliminate adverse environmental, biological, and cultural impacts to the landscape if it were to be sold to a private entity. The enhanced public access resulting from this acquisition would increase different types of outdoor activities and experiences for visitors in a resource-rich area. The wildlife migration corridors and habitat connectivity, rich cultural resources, recreation opportunities, and regional and local traditional uses will remain intact and be enhanced through public lands management and cooperation among agencies.

Cooperator(s): Western Rivers Conservancy, Rio Grande National Forest, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Colorado State Land Board, Trout Unlimited

Operations and Maintenance

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
Estimated O&M Savings:	\$ 7,000	\$ 2,000
Estimated O&M Costs:	\$ 12,000	\$ 2,000

O&M Description: Savings are from management efficiencies associated with the expense and management of isolated lands. Startup and annual expenses would: maintain facilities (signs, roads, trails, boat ramps, buildings, etc.); monitor for compliance, trespass, hazards, etc.; update/print maps and brochures; treat noxious and invasive plants. Annual expenses are subsidized through partnerships and include challenge cost share, grants, donations, stewardship/monitoring, and volunteer services from grazing permittees, San Luis Valley Great Outdoors (Partner), and the Southwest Conservation Corps.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND Project Data Sheet

Agency: Bureau of Land Management

Fiscal Year: 2024

Project/Unit: Lower Gila Terraces and Historic Trails ACEC

Priority: 6

State(s): AZ

Congressional District(s): AZ-7, AZ-9

Location: The property is within the BLM Lower Sonoran Field Office area along the Lower Gila River in western Maricopa County, southwest of the City of Buckeye and north of the Town of Gila Bend and is readily accessible from Enterprise Road.

Project Estimates

Land/Cost	Acres	\$
Estimate for FY 2024	590	\$ 2,500,000
Acquired to Date	0	\$ 0
Remaining to be Acquired	590	\$ 2,500,000

Project Description:

The proposed acquisition is within the Lower Gila Terraces and Historic Trails Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) and the subject parcels are identified for acquisition in the Lower Sonoran Resource Management Plan (RMP) (2012). The basaltic escarpment is an extensive area of petroglyphs. Some 2,000 petroglyph elements are estimated to be present in a three-quarter-mile stretch within the project area. The oldest petroglyphs likely are at least 2,000 years old, with most glyphs created after about 500 CE. The southern portion of the project area is dominated by four Hohokam ballcourt villages. Ballcourts were constructed and used for ritual gatherings of communities for feasts, trade of crafts and other goods, and performance of rituals. At least one village was active during the 1200s and small campsites or seasonal use of the area is evidenced by scatters of pottery shards and hearth areas that indicate use of this area well into the historic era. In addition, portions of the proposed acquisition are within or include Category II Sonoran desert tortoise habitat (110 acres), a Lower Sonoran RMP-designated wildlife movement corridor that crosses the Gila River (185 acres), and an RMP-designated wildlife habitat area (234 acres) especially important for desert tortoise and big game. The project area is also within the proposed Great Bend of the Gila National Conservation Area (NCA), with associated wilderness expansion areas.

Purpose/Need

This proposed acquisition conforms with the Lower Sonoran Resource Management Plan and would provide an opportunity to protect important archaeological sites and a culturally significant landscape of state- and regionwide importance which lie in the path of future development. The 590-acre parcel contains extensive prehistoric Indian petroglyphs, village sites, ball courts, canals, and other artifacts and cultural resources. This area is also an access point to the Woolsey Peak Wilderness and the Gila Bend Mountains Extensive Recreation Management Area. These areas are noted for their wilderness characteristics and opportunities for primitive recreation. The northern two miles of the project area are dominated by a volcanic landscape that transitions abruptly to low terraces that parallel the Gila River floodplain. The acquisition will also maintain recreational access to existing BLM public lands and protect important habitat for a variety of species, including the Sonoran desert tortoise. The area’s cultural resources and value as wildlife habitat and for recreation are threatened by near-term residential development. Acquisition would allow for preservation of these areas in the sensitive Gila River corridor. BLM’s partner in this acquisition, the Trust for Public Lands, would add value by paying for due diligence costs.

Cooperator(s): Trust for Public Lands, Archaeology Southwest, Arizona Game and Fish, Arizona Site Stewards, Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation (includes 27 member groups), Arizona State University, Audubon Southwest, Gila River Indian Community, Lower Gila River Collaborative (includes eight constituent municipalities, agencies, and stakeholders), Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Tohono O’odham Nation

Operations & Maintenance

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
Estimated O&M Savings:	\$ 0	\$ 0
Estimated O&M Costs:	\$ 200,000	\$ 15,000

O&M Description:

Start-up costs are associated with performing a cultural inventory of the sites and to construct new parking areas and trails within the site. Annual costs are to maintain facilities (signs, roads, trails, boat ramps, buildings, etc.), monitor, or restore resources; monitor for compliance, trespass, overuse, hazards, etc.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND Project Data Sheet

Agency: Bureau of Land Management

Fiscal Year: 2024

Project/Unit: Sands Desert Habitat Management Area

Priority: 7

State(s): ID

Congressional District(s): ID-2

Location: Project area is in southeast Idaho. Parcel 1 is approximately 40 miles north of Idaho Falls in Fremont County, and parcel 2 is about 65 miles north of Idaho Falls in Clark County.

Project Estimates

Land/Cost	Acres	\$
Estimate for FY 2024	3,352	\$ 2,600,000
Acquired to Date	945	\$ 4,701,000
Remaining to be Acquired	11,788	\$ 16,217,000

Project Description:

The Sands Desert Habitat Management Area (HMA), also referred to as Sand Creek Desert, encompasses some of the best remaining sagebrush steppe habitat in the State of Idaho. This high-quality habitat supports healthy populations for two species of national importance: the greater sage-grouse and the Columbian sharp-tailed grouse. For Idahoans, though, it is best known for its large mammal populations. Since 1947, both the elk herd and the size of their winter range have expanded. Most of the current elk winter range is a mosaic of State, Federal, and private lands. These substantial game resources also support outstanding hunting opportunities for both Idahoans and nonresidents. The Nine Mile Knoll Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), St. Anthony Sand Dunes Research Natural Area (RNA), Sand Mountain Wilderness Study Area (WSA), and Sand Creek Wildlife Management Area (WMA) are all within the Sands Desert HMA. The Sands Desert HMA provides crucial winter range for approximately 3,300 mule deer, 4,600 elk, 200 to 300 white-tailed deer, and 300 to 500 moose annually. The Nine Mile Knoll ACEC is in the northeast portion of the Snake River Plain. The ACEC encompasses all of the St. Anthony Sand Dunes, a unique ecological setting within an isolated area of large active sand dunes with great variability in dune stability and a complex series of successional vegetative stages. The central portion of the ACEC (the active dunes) is also designated as a WSA and a Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). A high-profile recreation program is at the St. Anthony Sand Dunes SRMA, especially motorized recreation. Although recreation activities vary, motorized recreation represents the majority of recreation use within the SRMA. Other activities include developed and undeveloped camping, hiking, big and upland game hunting, horseback riding, antler hunting, wildlife viewing,

mountain biking, and winter activities such as snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling. The SRMA is a destination location for regional and national visitors seeking a high-quality motorized recreation experience. In addition, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes rely heavily on the areas to continue their aboriginal hunting and gathering treaty rights.

Purpose/Need:

The acquisition of two conservation easements (CE) on 3,352 acres in this project area will support the Administration’s priorities and key principles for guiding conservation efforts—specifically, by conserving lands and waters to protect biodiversity and help address natural climate solutions. Both properties will remain working ranches, preserving the cultural and historic character of the area. Maintaining open spaces and working with the landowner to limit wildfire risk in the landscape will strengthen resilience to climate change. This project would expand opportunities for improving habitats, big-game migration corridors, and crucial winter range. Sand Creek Ranch is approximately 2,952 acres just north of St. Anthony and abuts Idaho’s Sand Creek WMA and BLM lands. The ranch has native habitats and spatially serves as a buffer between intensive agriculture and larger blocks of functional sagebrush steppe on private and public lands extending onto the Sand Creek Desert. Ungulates wintering on the Sand Creek Desert migrate from summer range as far away as Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and the Madison Valley in Montana. This ecologically resilient sagebrush steppe also plays a vital role in providing habitat to native grouse species designated as BLM Sensitive species and Idaho Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN). In addition, the Sand Creek Desert is one of the three most important landscapes in the Upper Snake Watershed for conservation of Columbian sharp-tailed grouse. Protection of these properties via conservation easements by BLM and the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership would add significant value to landscape-level habitat protection by preventing development in wintering big-game habitat in the Sand Creek Desert. The protection of the properties would also help secure long-term conservation of BLM and Idaho designated species.

Cooperator(s): Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Henry’s Fork Foundation, Idaho Chapter of Safari Club International, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, The Nature Conservancy, Teton Regional Land Trust, Mule Deer Foundation, Idaho Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, Henrys Fork Wildlife Alliance, The Conservation Fund

Operations & Maintenance

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
Estimated O&M Savings:	\$ 0	\$ 0
Estimated O&M Costs:	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,000

O&M Description:

Conservation easement stewardship; updating/ printing maps and brochures.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND Project Data Sheet

Agency: Bureau of Land Management

Fiscal Year: 2024

Project/Unit: Red Cliffs National Conservation Area

Priority: 8

State(s): UT

Congressional District(s):

UT-2

Location:

Red Cliffs National Conservation Area, north of St George, Utah

Project Estimates

Land/Cost	Acres	\$
Estimate for FY 2024	33	\$ 2,100,000
Acquired to Date	7,195.72	\$ 63,080,200
Remaining to be Acquired	336.67	\$ 8,880,500

Project Description:

The Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–11) designated the Red Cliffs National Conservation Area (NCA) (1) “to conserve, protect, and enhance the ecological, scenic, wildlife, recreational, cultural, historical, natural, educational, and scientific resources” of the public lands; and (2) to protect each species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act. Most of the 45,560-acre NCA is designated critical habitat for the threatened Mojave desert tortoise and supports one of the highest population densities of tortoise across its range. The NCA is bounded by the towering Pine Valley Mountains and the Dixie National Forest to the north, Snow Canyon State Park to the west, and an arc of rapidly growing communities to the south, including the five largest cities in Washington County, Utah. It affords local residents and visitors opportunities to enjoy open space, hiking, mountain biking, and equestrian trail riding on 130 miles of nonmotorized trails and to experience solitude and natural quiet in the Red Mountain and Cottonwood Canyon Wilderness areas, all within a few minutes’ drive from the urban areas. The NCA also constitutes 75 percent of the land base of a multijurisdictional mitigation reserve, locally known as the Red Cliffs Desert Reserve, which includes public lands managed by BLM, lands managed by the State of Utah, municipal lands, and private lands. BLM and other parties signed a final HCP implementation agreement in 2021 and that agreement commits BLM to continue to acquire

non-Federal lands through direct purchase, donation, and the exchange of public lands that are outside the Beaver Dam Wash and Red Cliffs NCAs and designated wilderness areas.

Purpose/Need

BLM’s purpose and need for acquiring 33 acres of private lands that support desert tortoise populations on critical tortoise habitat are (1) to implement management goals, objectives, and decisions from the approved record of decision for the Red Cliffs National Conservation Area resource management plan (2016, amended 2021); and (2) to fulfill agency commitments in the final implementation agreement for the Washington County HCP (2021). Acquisition of critical tortoise habitat into Federal ownership within a National Conservation Area would ensure that the habitat and populations of the threatened desert tortoise would be conserved and protected. Other resource values that may be present on the acquired lands, such as cultural or paleontological resources, would also benefit from the protections afforded by National Conservation Area status. Acquisition of the additional private inholdings would benefit Washington County and local municipalities by fulfilling the terms of the county’s HCP, the mission of BLM, and the commitments that BLM made in signing the two implementation agreements.

Cooperator(s):

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington County, Washington County Water Conservancy District, City of St. George, Washington City, State of Utah, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Desert Tortoise Council, Zion National Park, U.S. Forest Service, University of Utah Archeological Center, Southern Utah University, The Nature Conservancy, Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, Dixie Mountain Bike Trails Association, American Conservation Experience, Southern Utah National Conservation Lands Friends, Utah Division of State Lands and Forestry, Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration

Operations & Maintenance

Savings/Cost	Start-up	Annual
Estimated O&M Savings:	\$ 0	\$ 0
Estimated O&M Costs:	\$ 3,800	\$ 2,000

O&M Description:

Monitor for compliance, trespass, overuse, hazards, etc.; update and print maps and brochures

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OREGON AND CALIFORNIA GRANT LANDS

Appropriations Language

For expenses necessary for management, protection, and development of resources and for construction, operation, and maintenance of access roads, reforestation, and other improvements on the revested Oregon and California Railroad grant lands, on other Federal lands in the Oregon and California land-grant counties of Oregon, and on adjacent rights-of-way; and acquisition of lands or interests therein, including existing connecting roads on or adjacent to such grant lands; [\$120,334,000]\$132,741,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That 25 percent of the aggregate of all receipts during the current fiscal year from the revested Oregon and California Railroad grant lands is hereby made a charge against the Oregon and California land-grant fund and shall be transferred to the General Fund in the Treasury in accordance with the second paragraph of subsection (b) of title II of the Act of August 28, 1937 (43 U.S.C. 2605). (Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023.)

Appropriations Language Citations

For expenses necessary for management, protection, and development of resource and for construction, operation, and maintenance of access roads, reforestation, and other improvements on the revested Oregon and California Railroad grant lands,

This language provides authority to use appropriated funds provided for the BLM to carry out the mission of the Oregon and California (O&C) Grant Lands program to ensure sustainable development of timber and resources. Oregon and California Grant Lands include original O&C Grant lands, Coos Bay Wagon Road (CBWR) grant lands, and Public Domain lands in western Oregon. The BLM manages these lands for forest diversity and sustainability while providing multiple-use benefits and services to local communities and the public. Activities focus on forest management (including thinning and production), watershed health, wildlife and fisheries habitat improvement, recreation opportunities, cultural resources protection, and infrastructure maintenance.

- **on other Federal lands in the Oregon and California land-grant counties of Oregon,**

The BLM manages resources on public domain in western Oregon under the provisions of the *Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976* (FLPMA); however, lands suitable for forest management are included in the sustained-yield calculation. Activities conducted on certain O&C grant lands within National Forests are under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), managed with USFS funds, and do not receive

funding under this appropriation. The USFS returns receipts generated from activities on these lands to the BLM for payment to counties in accordance with the Act.

- **and on adjacent rights-of-way and acquisition of lands or interests therein, including existing connecting roads on or adjacent to such grant lands;**

The O&C appropriation supports the acquisition of easements, road-use agreements for timber site access, and the design of access roads for general resource management purposes.

- **[\$120,334,000] \$132,741,000 to remain available until expended**

This language provides authority to use \$132,741,000 in appropriated funds to carry out the mission of the program. The language makes the funding no-year, available for expenditure in any year after the appropriation. This type of account allows the BLM a valuable degree of flexibility needed to support multi-year contracts, agreements, and purchases.

- ***Provided, That 25 percent of the aggregate of all receipts during the current fiscal year from the revested Oregon and California Railroad grant lands is hereby made a charge against the Oregon and California land-grant fund and shall be transferred to the General Fund in the Treasury in accordance with the second paragraph of subsection (b) of title II of the Act of August 28, 1937 (43 U.S.C. 2605).***

This language provides authority for the BLM to retain and transfer to the Treasury 25% of the total receipts that would otherwise be paid to O&C counties. This 25% would otherwise be due to the counties in accordance with 43 USC 2605(b) since the Treasury has been fully reimbursed for the expenditures which were charged against the Oregon and California land-grant fund. The net effect of this language is that the O&C counties and the Treasury each receive 50% of the total receipts generated from O&C lands.

Appropriation Language Citations and Authorizations

The Oregon and California Grant Lands Act of 1937 (43 U.S.C. 2601)

Provides for conservation, management, permanent forest production, and sale of timber from revested O&C grant lands and reconveyed CBWR grant lands located in western Oregon.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.,

As amended, provides for the public lands to be generally retained in Federal ownership; for periodic and systematic inventory of the public lands and their resources; for a review of existing withdrawals and classifications; for establishing comprehensive rules and regulations for administering public land statutes; for multiple use management on a sustained yield basis; for protection of scientific, scenic, historical,

ecological, environmental, air and atmospheric, water resource, and archaeological values; for receiving fair market value for the use of the public lands and their resources; for establishing uniform procedures for any disposal, acquisition, or exchange; for protecting areas of critical environmental concern; and for recognizing the Nation's need for domestic sources of minerals, food, timber, and fiber from the public lands, including implementation of the *Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970*.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act(cont.)

Applies to all public lands that include the O&C grant lands by definition (Sec. 103(e)). However, Sec. 701(b) of FLPMA (43 U.S.C. 1701 note) provides that if any provision of FLPMA is in conflict with or inconsistent with the O&C Act and Coos Bay Wagon Road Act, insofar as they relate to management of timber resources and disposition of revenue from lands and resources, the latter Acts will prevail. In addition, many other Federal statutes regarding natural resource management and protection apply to the management of the O&C and CBWR grant lands in western Oregon.

The Act of May 24, 1939 (53 Stat. 753)

Relates to the disposition of funds from the CBWR grant lands located in western Oregon.

The Timber Protection Act of 1922 (16 U.S.C. 594)

Provides for the protection of timber from fire, insects, and disease.

The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-393)

Authorizes stabilized payments to O&C and CBWR counties for 2001 through 2006. Each county that received at least one payment during the eligibility period (1986-1999) received an amount equal to the average of the three highest 50-percent payments and safety net payments made for the years of the eligibility period. The payments were adjusted to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index. The Act expired in 2006. The final payments for 2006 were made in 2007, consistent with the Act.

P.L. 110-28

Provides one additional year of payments to O&C grant lands and CBWR counties.

Sec. 601. of P.L. 110-343 Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Program

Provides an extension and ramping down of payments to the O&C grant lands and the CBWR counties through fiscal year 2011.

<i>P.L. 112-141 – Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21)</i>	Provides an extension of one year of Secure Rural School payments to O&C grant lands and CBWR counties.
<i>P.L. 113-40 – Helium Stewardship Act of 2013</i>	Provides an extension of one year of Secure Rural School payments to O&C grant lands and CBWR counties.
<i>P.L. 114-10 - Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015</i>	Provides an extension of two years (2014 and 2015) of Secure Rural School payments to O&C grant lands and CBWR counties.
<i>P.L. 115-141 Vehicle for Consolidated Appropriation Act of 2018 – Title IV</i>	Provides Secure Rural School payments for fiscal years 2017 and 2018 to O&C grant lands and CBWR counties.
<i>Public Land Order 5490</i>	Dated February 12, 1975, reserves all public lands in and west of Range 8 East of the Willamette Meridian and all lands within that area which hereinafter become public lands for multiple use management, including sustained yield of forest resources in connection with intermingled revested O&C Railroad Grant Lands and reconveyed CBWR Grant Lands.
<i>P.L. 116-94 – Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 - Title III</i>	P.L. 116-94 authorizes Secure Rural School payments for 2019 and 2020.
<i>Healthy Forest Restoration Act (P.L. 108-148)</i>	Authorizes the BLM and the USFS to conduct hazardous fuels reduction projects on Federal land in wildland-urban interface areas and on certain other Federal lands using expedited procedures.
<i>Land Conveyance to Douglas County, Oregon, (P.L. 108-206)</i>	Authorizes conveyance to Douglas County, Oregon, of approximately 68.8 acres of BLM-managed land in Douglas County in order to improve management of and recreational access to the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area.
<i>Forest Ecosystem Health & Recovery Fund, (FEHRF; P.L. 102-381)</i>	Authorizes quick response to fire and reforestation of forests damaged by insects, disease, and fire. Also includes proactive vegetative treatments designed to reduce the risk of catastrophic damage to forests and increase forest resiliency to disturbances. Funds in this account are derived from the Federal share (defined as the portion of receipts not paid to the counties under 43 U.S.C. 2605 and 43 U.S.C. 2601 et seq., and P.L. 106-393) of receipts from all BLM timber salvage sales and

all BLM forest health restoration treatments funded by this account. The Fund was established as a permanent appropriation in the FY 1993 Interior Appropriations Act (Public Law 102-381). This authority was subsequently amended to temporarily expand the use of the FEHRF to cover additional forest health and recovery activities. This temporary expansion also included the authority for receipts from the expanded activities to be deposited in the FEHRF and expended without having to be appropriated. The temporary, expanded authority of the FEHRF was extended for five years in the 2010 Interior Appropriations Act (P.L. 111-88, 123 STAT. 2906) and was scheduled to expire at the end of fiscal year 2015. The 2015 Omnibus Appropriations Act (Section 117) extended this authority again through 2020. The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 extended this authority through 2021. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (P.L. 117-103), included a one-year extension of this authority. The 2023 President’s budget proposes a one-year extension of this authority (through September 30, 2023).

Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration Funds (P.L. 104-134 - Section 327 of the Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996.)

Establishes initial funds for the USFS and the BLM using revenues generated by timber sales released under *Section 2001(k) of the 1995 Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Assistance and Rescissions Act*. The legislation directs that 75 percent of the subsequent pipeline fund be used to fill each agency’s timber sale “pipeline” and that 25 percent of the pipeline funds be used to address maintenance backlog for recreation projects on BLM and USFS lands after statutory payments are made to State and local governments and the U.S. Treasury.

Stewardship Contracting (Sec. 347 of Public Law 105-277, as amended by Public Law 108-7 and Public Law 113-79)

Permanently authorizes the BLM, via agreement or contract as appropriate, to enter into stewardship contracting projects with private persons or other public or private entities to perform services to achieve land management goals for the national forests and the public lands that meet local and rural community needs.

Western Oregon Tribal Fairness Act (P.L. 115-103)

Conveyed 32,261 acres of Federal lands in western Oregon, including O&C grant lands, to the Cow Creek and Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians and reclassifies lands from public domain to O&C grant lands of equal acreage and condition in the amount of O&C lands conveyed to the Tribes.

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58)

Reauthorized the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act payments for fiscal years 2021 through 2023 with payments to be in in FY 2022, FY 2023, and FY 2024.

Summary of Requirements for Bureau of Land Management
(Dollars in Thousands)

ACCOUNT NAME	2022 Actual	2022 FTE	2023 Enacted	2023 Enacted FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-) Amount	2024 Request	2024 FTE	Change from 2023 (+/-) Enacted Amount	Change from 2023 (+/-) Enacted FTE
Western Oregon Resources Management	103,557	524	106,138	519	+3,868		+7,951	117,957	539	11,819	+20
Total, Western Oregon Resource Management	103,557	524	106,138	519	+3,868	-	+7,951	117,957	539	11,819	+20
Info. & Resource Data Systems	1,828	11	1,887	14	+102		+0	1,989	14	102	+0
Total, Info. & Resource Data Systems	1,828	11	1,887	14	+102	-	+0	1,989	14	102	+0
Transportation & Facilities Maintenance Annual Maintenance & Operations	10,770	63	11,123	78	+437		+0	11,560	78	437	+0
Total, Western Oregon Trans & Facilities Maintenance	10,770	63	11,123	78	+437	-	+0	11,560	78	437	+0
Construction & Acquisition	340	3	369	2	+18		+0	387	2	18	+0
Total, Construction & Acquisition	340	3	369	2	+18	-	+0	387	2	18	+0
Western Oregon National Conservation Lands											
NMs & NCAs	788	4	817	4	+31		+0	848	4	31	+0
Total, Western Oregon National Conservation Lands	788	4	817	4	+31	-	+0	848	4	31	+0
TOTAL, Oregon and California Grant Lands	117,283	605	120,334	617	+4,456	-	+7,951	132,741	637	12,407	+20
	0	0	-	-	+0	-	+0	-	0	0	+0

Justification of Fixed Costs and Internal Realignments
Oregon and California Grant Lands
(Dollars in thousands)

Fixed Cost Changes & Projections	2023 Total or Change	2023 to 2024 Change	Description
Change in Number of Paid Days	-313	+327	This reflects changes in pay associated with the change in the number of paid days between 2023 and 2024. 2024 has one day more than 2023.
Pay Raise	+3,256	+4,122	The President's Budget for 2024 includes one quarter of the 4.6% pay raise for 2023 and three quarters of a planned 5.2% pay raise for 2024.
Employer Share of Federal Employee Retirement System	+0	+7	This column reflects no budgeted increase to the employer contribution to the Federal Employee Retirement System and a 0.6% increase to the employer contribution for the Law Enforcement Federal Employees Retirement System.

Appropriation Description

The Oregon & California (O&C) Grant Lands appropriation provides for the management of 2.4 million acres in western Oregon of re-vested O&C Railroad grant lands, re-conveyed Coos Bay Wagon Road (CBWR) grant lands, and intermingled public domain lands (10 percent). The BLM manages these lands for timber production under the principle of sustained yield while concurrently meeting other statutory requirements including the *Endangered Species Act* (ESA), the *Clean Water Act*, and FLPMA. A large part of the O&C Program is focused around conserving fish and wildlife habitat while providing a sustainable timber harvest as statutorily mandated by the 1937 O&C Act. Individual program components are described in more detail in later sections.

The O&C Grant Lands account provides for forest management in western Oregon by planning, preparing, offering, administering, and monitoring timber sales, while maintaining the sustainability of forest resources and timber harvest through reforestation, development, restoration, and increasing fire and climate resiliency. Program activities also manage to conserve the full suite of multiple interrelated and interdependent resources, primarily soil, water, air, riparian, fish, wildlife, cultural, and recreation resources; maintain and improve facilities and roads; acquiring access via easements and rights-of-way; maintaining information technology and resource data; and managing National Monuments.

The five budget activities of the O&C appropriation are summarized below. Through these activities, the BLM implements resource management plans (RMPs) and supports resource activities on the O&C and CBWR grant lands under the BLM's jurisdiction.

- ***Western Oregon Construction and Acquisition*** provides for the necessary acquisition of easements and road-use agreements to facilitate timber sale and administrative site access for general resource management purposes and for monitoring and timber-haul fee collection on government-controlled roads in accordance with the terms of the road-use agreements.
- ***Western Oregon Transportation and Facilities Maintenance*** provides for maintenance activities for the transportation system, office buildings, warehouse and storage structures, maintenance shops, greenhouses, and recreation sites. This program's efforts maintain the transportation system necessary for effective implementation of the RMPs and provide for the commercial haul of both private and government timber over government-controlled roads. Road maintenance activities help to increase user safety, protect capital investments of transportation infrastructure, and reduce or eliminate negative impacts of poor road conditions on aquatic and fisheries resources, including Pacific salmon and other resident and anadromous fish populations in the Northwest.
- ***Western Oregon Resources Management*** provides for planning, preparing, offering, administering, and monitoring timber sales; maintaining the sustainability of forest resources and timber harvest through reforestation, development, and restoration techniques; providing recreational opportunities; managing and monitoring fish and wildlife habitat and rangeland resources; and maintaining or improving soil, water, and air quality.

- *Western Oregon Information and Resource Data Systems* provides for the acquisition, operation, and maintenance of automated data support systems and spatial data systems required for the management of the O&C grant lands. The focus of this program is to make data operational for monitoring and adaptive management, and for developing and analyzing activity plans, such as timber sales and habitat management plans. The integration of spatial data systems in the management of O&C lands has contributed substantially to efficiencies in the program.
- *Western Oregon National Monuments and National Conservation Areas* provides for the management of National Monuments and National Conservation Areas and other similar congressionally designated areas in western Oregon.

The table below shows the acreage of BLM lands managed with O&C Grant Lands appropriations funding. U.S. Forest Service managed O&C lands are included for context.

Acres of O&C Lands in Western Oregon	
(acres)	
BLM-Managed Lands	
O&C Grant Lands	2,084,247
CBWR Lands	74,547
Public Domain Lands	207,110
Total – BLM	2,365,904
U.S. Forest Service-Managed O&C Lands	
Controverted O&C Lands	462,678
Special Act O&C Lands	29,721
Total - U.S. Forest Service	492,399

Other Funding Sources

In addition to the O&C Grant Lands appropriation, two permanent appropriations, the *Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration Fund* and the *Forest Ecosystem Health and Recovery Fund*, are available for use.

The Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration Fund (the Pipeline Fund) was established under Section 327 of the *Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996*. The Act established separate funds for the USFS and the BLM, using revenues generated by timber sales released under Section 2001(k) of the *1995 Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Assistance and Rescissions Act*, which directs that 75 percent of the Pipeline Fund be used to fill each agency’s timber sale “pipeline” and that 25 percent of the Pipeline Fund be used to address maintenance backlog for recreation projects on the BLM and USFS lands after statutory payments are made to State and local governments and the U.S. Treasury.

Annual Pipeline Fund deposits vary because of fluctuations in timber market conditions and purchasers opting on which year to harvest their 1-3 year timber sale contracts. A balance at the end of the year allows continued use of the Pipeline Fund to meet the annual objective of rebuilding and maintaining the timber-sale pipeline and providing and maintaining recreation opportunities. Receipts, deposits, and cumulative expenditures are detailed in the Permanent Operating Funds chapter.

Furthermore, western Oregon utilizes the Forest Ecosystem Health and Recovery Fund to fund forest management activities to improve forest health, salvage dead and dying timber, and reforest areas that have been salvaged in accordance 43 U.S.C. 1736a. Receipts, deposits, and cumulative expenditures are detailed in the Permanent Operating Funds chapter.

Management History of Oregon and California Grant Lands

Pre-1990. Prior to the 1990s, the BLM annually offered a sustained yield harvest level of approximately 1.2 billion board feet while generating between \$100-\$200 million in timber sale receipts. In the late 1970s, USFS researchers observed a rapid decline in the populations of the Northern Spotted Owl, a species associated with old-growth forests. In 1990, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) listed the Northern Spotted Owl as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, citing loss of old-growth habitat. Beginning in 1992, the BLM began preparing amendments to its land use plans to incorporate this new information.

1994 Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) (1994-2016). The 1993 Forest Ecosystem Management Assessment report released in 1993 led to the development of the 1994 Northwest Forest Plan and associated Resource Management Plans that BLM finalized in 1995. Numerous court challenges and issues connected with the 1995 plans resulted in two additional planning efforts, which were finalized in 2008 and 2016. The Northern Spotted Owl recovery plan did not preclude active forest management to increase stand resiliency, reduce hazardous fuels, promote ecological diversity, and meet conservation goals. The plan was incorporated into out-year timber sale plans as the Bureau implemented the RMPs.

2016 Western Oregon RMPs. The BLM signed Records of Decision for the Western Oregon RMPs on August 5, 2016, culminating a four-year effort by the BLM to incorporate the Northern Spotted Owl Critical Habitat Rule (2012) as well as new science, policies, and technology. The RMPs provide sustainable management and conservation of western Oregon's BLM-managed natural resources while supporting local communities. The BLM incorporated lessons learned from 20 years of implementation experience and monitoring results into the 2016 RMPs. Key aspects of the 2016 RMPs include the following:

RMP Volume Estimates: At full RMP implementation level, the BLM estimates the total timber volume offered would increase from the current ten-year average of 210 million board feet (MMBF) to 278 MMBF per year. This timber volume represents both 205 MMBF of annual sustained-yield timber, allowable sale quantity (ASQ) that would be offered from "Harvest Land Base" lands, and 73 MMBF of timber that could be offered as a by-product of habitat restoration treatments from "Reserve" non-ASQ land allocations. The declared 205 MMBF from Harvest Land Base lands is volume the BLM will strive to offer under the 1937 O&C Act annually within the annual variance of +/- 40 percent established in the new RMPs. Timber from the Reserves is expected to vary from year-to-year based on restoration treatments completed in each year.

RMP Receipts Estimates: At the full implementation level, total O&C timber sale receipts are projected to be approximately \$50-\$55 million,⁸ and the O&C counties' share of those receipts are projected to be \$26 million (approximately 50 percent of the total).

⁸ Proposed RMP/Final EIS, p. 695

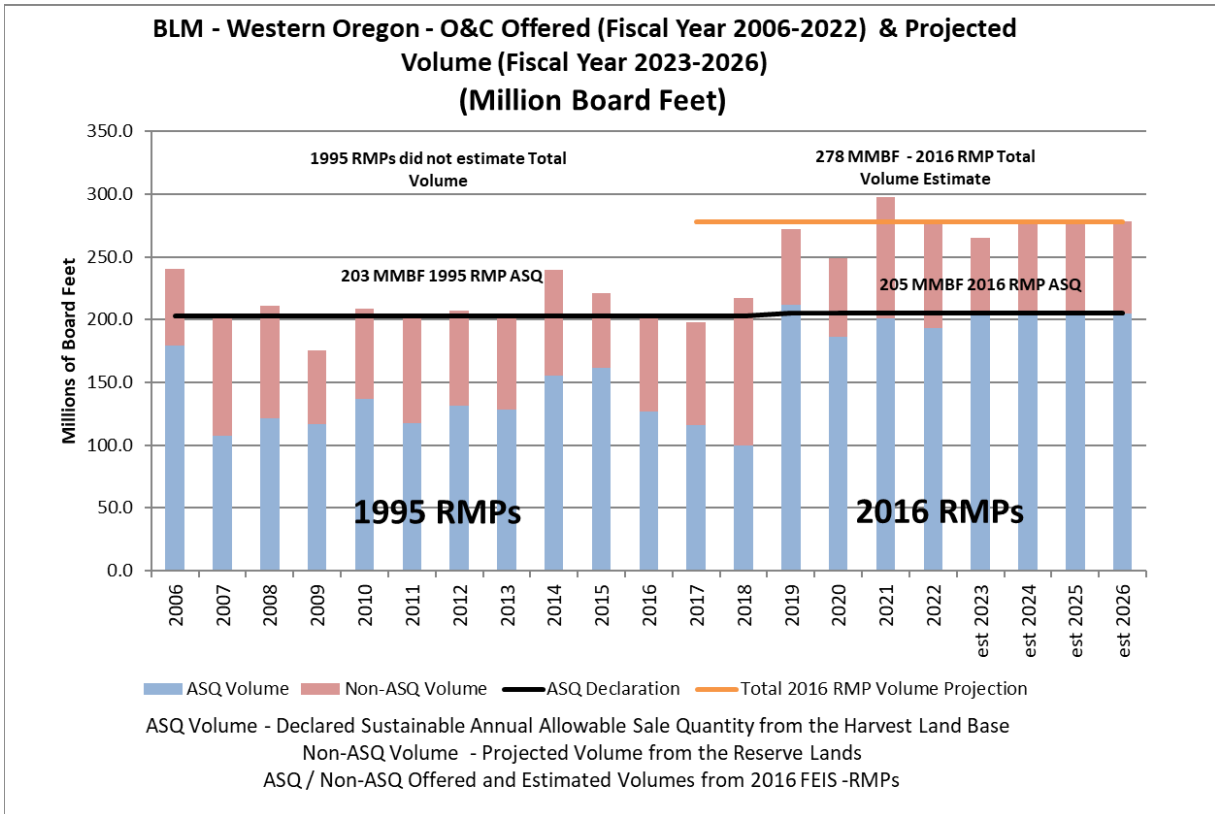
RMP Recreation Estimates: At the full implementation level, the 2016 RMPs project an increase in recreational values from \$223 million to \$271 million.⁹ These values represent the non-market value recreational opportunities over the next ten years and were calculated based on the economic modeling conducted as part of the EIS analysis for the RMP.

The O&C grant lands have had a long history of forest management to promote the sustained yield of timber harvest and generate revenue for western Oregon counties. Fuels management and fire salvage has been an important component of forest management in order to reduce risk to growing stock and recover value in fire-damaged timber. The 2016 RMPs promote salvage of fire damaged timber in areas designated for sustained-yield timber production and where needed to protect infrastructure.

Historic and Projected Timber Volumes

The historic and projected timber targets displayed below are from the BLM-managed lands in western Oregon since 2005. The estimated projected targets shown below for 2023 and 2024 are based upon the 2022 and 2023 President's budget, respectively. Offered volume in any one year is generally a result of the previous years' appropriations; therefore, the FY 2024 appropriation would primarily be used to develop FY 2025 sale plans.

⁹ Proposed RMP/Final EIS, p. 657



BLM O&C WESTERN OREGON ALLOWABLE SALE QUANTITY TARGETS & TOTAL VOLUME OFFERED¹ (Public Land Statistic Data)					
Fiscal Year	Allowable Sale Quantity Target	Total Volume Offered	Volume of Offered Timber Sold	Volume of Timber Sold from Previous Fiscal Years' Offerings²	Total Sold Volume
2013	203	204.9	-	-	-
2014	203	239.5	-	-	-
2015	203	221.4	-	-	-
2016	203	203.4	-	-	-
2017	205	198.3	-	-	-
2018	205	217.6	-	-	-
2019	205	272.0	250.0	34.6	284.6
2020	205	248.9	228.1	6.6	234.7
2021	205	298.8	295.8	22.7	318.5
2022	205	279.3	271.8	none	271.8
2023 est.	205	265.0	-	-	-
2024 est.	205	278.0	-	-	-
2025 est.	205	278.0	-	-	-

¹ Offered volume amounts may differ from previous publications. Adjustments to previous years' data are made following review and consolidation of paper and electronic timber-sale records. Includes ASQ and non-ASQ volume offered. Total Volume Sold was not included in Public Land Statistics data until FY 2019.

² Offered volume is only credited once at the initial offered date, therefore any unsold volume that is reoffered and subsequently sold in another fiscal year is captured in this column.

Note: Starting in 2017, the ASQ target changed per 2016 RMPs

O&C Performance - Revenues and Receipts

The BLM derives timber receipts used for O&C county payments from the harvest of timber on BLM managed O&C lands and controverted O&C grant lands under the jurisdiction of the USFS. In addition, the BLM derives receipts from CBWR and Public Domain lands in western Oregon.

The timber salvage receipts jumped in 2022 compared to prior years due to salvage activity in areas affected by 2020 wildfires (see table below). There continues to be high levels of demand for dimension lumber and wood panels, and this is reflected in the prices the BLM is receiving for offered sales, however this trend has started to decrease. Receipt estimates are determined by the timing of harvest activity across a three-year contract operating window.

O&C / PD Accounts	TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR WESTERN OREGON & PUBLIC DOMAIN BLM LANDS (Thousands of \$'s)							
	Proceeds of sales (timber receipts)							
COLLECTIONS	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023 Est	2024 Est
Public Domain - 5881 Regular	883	638	663	772	1,243	213	600	600
Public Domain - 5881 Salvage	2,981	1,463	482	72	2,781	2,037	2,000	2,000
Public Domain - 5881 Pipeline	5	497	117	329	63	240	100	100
O&C - 5882 Regular (Includes other)	26,846	30,843	32,309	42,527	38,195	30,508	30,000	30,000
O&C - 5882 Salvage	6,656	4,110	7,500	7,865	12,652	31,459	15,000	10,000
O&C - 5882 Pipeline	5,429	4,145	2,646	3,467	3,968	3,109	3,000	3,000
CBWR - 5897 Regular (Includes other)	3,442	2,257	3,110	574	658	1,147	600	600
CBWR - 5897 Salvage	204	263	259	381	720	8	200	200
CBWR - 5897 Pipeline	280	67	0	183	55	0	100	100
Stewardship contract excess receipts	401	-4	150	0	1	0	5	5
Total	47,127	44,279	47,236	56,170	60,336	55,400	51,400	46,605

History of Payments to the O&C Counties

Federal management of timber on O&C lands began in 1938. Appropriations for management of O&C lands were limited to the Federal share of receipts. From 1938 to 1951, total revenues from the O&C Lands were \$30 million, but the counties received only \$15 million rather than the 75 percent entitlement required by the O&C Act. The balance was retained by the Federal government and applied to reimburse the Federal government for sums it had paid to the private owners upon revestment of the lands in 1916, and also to reimburse the Federal government for its payment of property taxes owed by the private owners at the time of revestment. Reimbursement was also made for additional payments that had been made by the Federal government between 1916 and 1937 in lieu of property taxes while final disposition of the lands was being sorted out. The O&C Lands were paid for out of funds that otherwise would have gone to the O&C counties.

In 1953 and thereafter, the O&C counties voluntarily invested a portion of their receipts into road construction and maintenance, recreational facilities, reforestation, forest protection including fire suppression, and general maintenance and operating expenses. By 1960, the counties were reinvesting one-third of their receipts. For the next 22 years, the counties received 50 percent of total receipts and voluntarily invested the other 25 percent to which they were otherwise entitled. In 1982, in order to eliminate the uncertainty caused by basing the appropriation on a percentage of receipts for the management of O&C lands, Congress established the Oregon and California Grant Lands appropriation as a direct, definite appropriation, no longer dependent on the amount of receipts collected. That appropriation included a proviso requiring the additional 25 percent of O&C receipts to be deposited to the General Fund, which has been enacted annually since that time.

Timber harvest levels have dropped significantly from the historical levels in the late 1980s and early 1990s. As a result, the traditional payment formulas defined in Title II of the *Oregon and California Grant Lands Act of 1937*, U.S.C. 43 2605 (50 Stat. 876, Title II), were replaced first by the *Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993* (P.L.103-66), which provided “safety net payments” for the counties from 1993 – 2000. Then in 2000, Congress repealed the safety net payments and passed the *Secure Rural School and Community Self-Determination Act* (P.L. 106-393), which provided fiscal stability and predictability to the O&C counties. The authority for Secure Rural Schools payments to counties has been periodically extended, as described below.

Below is a table of payments made to the O&C and CBWR counties since 2000, including:

Payment to Western Oregon Counties (Million \$) [†]			
Year	O&C Lands	CBWR Lands	Total Payment
2000	61.9	0.5	62.4
2001	0.0	0.0	0.0
2002	108.7	0.9	109.6
2003	109.6	0.9	110.5
2004	110.9	0.9	111.8
2005	112.3	1.0	113.3
2006	114.9	1.0	115.9
2007	116.3	1.0	117.3
2008	115.9	1.0	116.9
2009	104.5	0.9	105.4
2010	94.0	0.8	94.8
2011	84.7	0.7	85.4
2012	39.7	0.3	40.0
2013 ^{††}	37.7	0.3	38.0
2014	39.3	0.3	39.6
2015	37.9	0.3	38.2
2016	35.3	0.3	35.6
2017 ^{†††}	18.8	0.3	19.1
2018 [*]	32.2	0.3	32.5
2019	29.9	0.2	30.1
2020	28.2	0.2	28.4
2021	25.3	0.2	25.5
2022	30.8	0.2	31.0
2023	TBD	TBD	TBD
2024	TBD	TBD	TBD

[†]Payments reflect the fiscal year in which the payments were made

^{††}BLM made 94.9 percent of payments in FY 2013, reserving approximately \$2.04 million required against sequestration.

^{†††}SRS legislation expired. In 2017, BLM made O&C and CBWR payments based upon 1937 O&C Act and 1939 CBWR calculations.

^{*}The 2018 payment was both an O&C/CBWR payment and SRS make-up payment. SRS has been reauthorized for FY 2023 but the amount has not yet been calculated.

- Under the *Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000* (P.L. 106-393), the annual payments to the 18 O&C counties were derived from any revenues, fees, penalties, or miscellaneous receipts (exclusive of deposits to any relevant trust fund; or permanent operating funds such as the Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration or the Forest Ecosystem Health and Recovery funds) received by the Federal government from activities by the BLM on O&C lands; and to the extent of any shortfall, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated. The *Secure Rural Schools Act of 2000* provided that, for 2001-2006, each payment to eligible counties would be an amount equal to the average of the three highest payments made during fiscal years 1986-1999. For each payment made by the BLM under the law, the full payment amount would be adjusted annually for inflation.

- Public Law 110-28, extended the payments for one additional year for 2007.

- Public Law 110-343, signed in October 2008, extended the Secure Rural Schools payments for three years for 2008-2010. In addition, it stipulated “transition” payments with a declining percentage of the 2006 payment; the payment for 2008 was 90 percent of the amount paid in 2006, the payment for 2009 was 81 percent, and the payment for 2010 was 73 percent.

- Public Law 112-141 extended the Secure Rural School payments once again for 2011 and 2012. Payment calculations used several factors that included acreage of Federal land, previous payments, and per capita personal income.

- Public Law 113-40 extended the payments for 2013 using the 2011 calculations.

- Public Law 114-10 extended the payments for 2014 and 2015 using the 2011 calculations.

- Public Law 115-141 provided Secure Rural School payments for fiscal years 2017 and 2018 (omitting 2016) using the same calculation formula as previous extensions. The fiscal year 2017 payment (paid in fiscal year 2018) was in two parts: an O&C and CBWR payment using the O&C receipts formula and a Secure Rural School make-up payment based on the Secure Rural School formula.

- Public Law 116-94, the *Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020*, reauthorized the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act payments for fiscal years 2019 and 2020, to be made in FY 2020 and FY 2021.

- Public Law 117-58, the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act*, reauthorized the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act payments for fiscal years 2021 through 2023 with payments to be made in FY 2022, FY 2023, and FY 2024.

Since the *Secure Rural Schools Act of 2000*, the BLM has worked collaboratively with the western Oregon Resource Advisory Committees to review over 1,000 restoration projects and implement over 600 of them, totaling over \$43.0 million of Title II funds.

Since 2001, more than \$1.2 billion of Secure Rural School payments have been made to the O&C counties and \$10.9 million to the CBWR counties. More information on these payments is contained in the Miscellaneous Permanent Payments chapter.

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Activity: Western Oregon Acquisition

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	Change from 2023 Enacted
Construction & Acquisition	<i>\$000</i>	340	369	+18	0	+0	387	+18
	<i>FTE</i>	3	2	0		+0	2	+0

Justification of Program Change

The 2024 budget request for Western Oregon Acquisition is \$387,000 and 2 FTEs with no program change from the FY 2023 enacted level.

The Western Oregon Acquisition Program uses appropriated funds to acquire and protect access to public lands in western Oregon, providing access to BLM timber sales and other activities associated with managing O&C grant lands.

Program Overview

The BLM obtains access by purchase of perpetual easements, acquisition, or rarely, condemnation. Acquisition funding is also used to manage reciprocal rights-of-way agreements and acquire additional lands or interests in lands needed for infrastructure development including recreation sites, administrative sites, and transportation facilities.

The BLM has many long-standing (since the 1950s) reciprocal right-of-way agreements with surrounding and adjacent private and industrial landowners allowing reciprocal use of each owner’s roads. Access to O&C lands is dependent upon the continual upkeep of these longstanding reciprocal rights-of-way agreements. As adjacent private lands change ownership, existing agreements need to be negotiated and updated. Capital investments on both government and private road improvements are tracked and road-use fees calculated to amortize the investments and record repayments. Timber haul roads, or “fee roads,” negotiated under reciprocal right-of-way agreements are maintained using both appropriated funds and road maintenance fees collected from commercial users and deposited into a permanent account for road maintenance.

The program also administers existing grants, easements, and rights-of-way on O&C grant lands through renewal and rent collections.

The program will continue to work towards gaining access to BLM isolated parcels to fulfill its management obligations under the O&C Act and to administer the reciprocal needs of adjacent landowners.

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Activity: Western Oregon Transportation and Facilities Maintenance
Subactivity: Annual Maintenance & Operations

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023 Enacted
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Annual Maintenance & Operations	\$000	10,770	11,123	+437		+0	11,560	+437
	FTE	63	78	0		+0	78	+0

Other Resources Supporting Annual Maintenance & Operations:						
			2022 Actual	2023 Estimate	2024 Estimate	Change from 2023
Road Maintenance						
			<i>\$000</i>	4,793	4,300	+0
			<i>FTE</i>	14	12	+0

Notes:

- Road Maintenance amounts are shown as new budget authority derived from provisions for amortization of road costs in contracts and by cooperative financing with other public agencies and with private agencies or persons, or by a combination of these methods; 43 USC 1762(c), which provides the authority to acquire, construct, and maintain roads within and near the public lands to permit maximum economy in harvesting timber from such lands tributary to such roads and at the same time meet the requirements for protection, development, and management of such lands for utilization of the other resources thereof. These funds are appropriated on a permanent basis. More information on Road Maintenance is found in the Permanent Operating Funds chapter.
- Road Maintenance is used on both Oregon and California Grant Lands and Public Domain Forestry Lands.
- The Road Maintenance appropriation is also a collaborative activity of the MLR Annual Maintenance & Operations program, accounting for less than \$100,000 in available receipts from public domain lands.

Justification of Program Change

The 2024 budget request for Annual Maintenance & Operations Management is \$11,560,000 and 78 FTE, with no program change from the 2023 enacted level.

Program Overview

The Annual Maintenance and Operations program maintains the BLM’s investment in the transportation network, preserves public safety, minimizes environmental impacts (especially related to water quality and soil erosion), and provides for functional utilities and other services at visitor and administrative sites supporting O&C grant-land management.

The BLM-managed roads serve commercial, administrative, and local government functions. They also serve users by providing for private commercial timber haul, emergency response routes, and access to private, local, Tribal, State, and Federal lands. This includes a system of 14,200 miles of roads, including

131 miles designated as Back Country Byways, 324 miles of trails, along with related structures including 410 bridges, 586 major culverts, and multiple retaining walls and subsurface drainage systems.

Most O&C roads and trails used by the public are maintained using appropriated funds. Timber haul roads, or “fee roads,” are maintained using both appropriated funds and road maintenance fees that are collected from commercial users and deposited into a permanent operating fund for road maintenance (See Road Maintenance Table Above).

Recreation facility maintenance activities are partially funded by user-fee collections. Eighteen of the 170 O&C recreation sites participate in the Recreation Site Fee program. The BLM continues to target the highest priority maintenance needs of facilities and transportation infrastructure, particularly those with the greatest public exposure and use. Annual maintenance and operation of the transportation system is aligned to support timber sale preparation and harvest activities and to facilitate hunting, fishing, and recreational access.

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Activity: Western Oregon Resources Management

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				Change from 2023 Enacted
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	
Western Oregon Resource Management	<i>\$000</i>	103,557	106,138	+3,868		+7,951	117,957	+11,819
	<i>FTE</i>	524	519			+20	539	+20

Summary of 2024 Program Changes for Western Oregon Resources Management:

	(\$000)	FTE
Youth Corps Programs	+2,000	+4
Improve Landscape Health and Resiliency	+5,951	+16
Total	+7,951	+20

Justification of 2024 Program Changes

The 2024 budget request for Western Oregon Resources Management is \$117,957 and 539 FTEs, a program change of +\$7,951 and +20 FTEs from the 2023 enacted level, which includes:

Youth Corps Programs (+\$2,000,000; +4 FTE) – The BLM will prioritize work in partnership with Tribes, States, and local governments to advance locally designed projects that improve climate-driven economic opportunities in urban and rural communities. Working with youth corps programs, BLM will create opportunities to advance natural and cultural resource conservation and protection through maintenance, research, resilience, and mitigation. The requested funding will primarily support tree planting efforts. High or moderate severity fire affected almost 30,000 acres of O&C’s harvest land base in 2020; reforestation of these acres will take years to complete. Natural tree regeneration in western Oregon can be highly variable and faces intense competition from brush and other non-woody vegetation. Reforestation success can be significantly improved by planting one or two-year-old seedlings in the disturbed areas, which can help to ensure a thriving forest and provide for future carbon sequestration or wood production. The youth corps programs will help the BLM accelerate reforestation treatments and help meet the backlog reforestation goals established in EO 14072 Sec. 2(d).

Improve Landscape Health and Resiliency (+\$5,951,000; +16 FTE) This increase will be used to support improved landscape health and resiliency on the western Oregon ecosystems. The requested funding will support restoration in post-fire areas. Wildfires in 2020 affected 105,000 acres at moderate to high severity levels, of which approximately 62,000 acres were areas set aside for species conservation or ecosystem health (reserves). The BLM will utilize this program increase to evaluate the connectivity and functionality of the designated reserve lands and develop treatments to restore damaged habitats. The BLM will increase its species monitoring efforts and increase the number and extent of aquatic and terrestrial habitat restoration projects with the additional funding. Additionally, this funding will support an increase in fire

prevention activities, including tree thinning. The BLM will utilize at least \$1 million of this increase to increase its young-stand reserve thinning program focusing on protecting existing old-forest carbon sinks.

Program Overview

The Western Oregon Resources Management activity provides for the management of 2.4 million acres of O&C and CBWR grant lands and intermingled Public Domain lands. This program's objectives are to:

- Provide a sustained yield of timber as required by the *Oregon and California Act of 1937* by offering and selling the declared ASQ, or so much thereof as can be sold at reasonable prices on a normal market;
- Restore and maintain the ecological and climate resiliency of forested watersheds;
- Provide habitat to benefit threatened, endangered, and other sensitive species; and
- Provide recreational opportunities.
- Support the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act initiatives.

Several large wildfires affected western Oregon in the fall of 2020. The BLM continues to face significant reforestation and landscape level restoration efforts to improve forest conditions, species habitat, recreation, and to ensure the future supply of forest products from the affected lands.

Program Priorities

One of the primary responsibilities and workloads of the Resources Management budget activity is providing for the management, maintenance, and enhancement of forests on the O&C Grant lands, the CBWR lands, and Public Domain land within western Oregon, including activities directly related to reforestation and forest development to ensure replacement of growing stock for long-term sustained yield of forest lands.

Forest management follows the management action/direction outlined in the western Oregon RMPs. The RMPs incorporate the 2011 Northern Spotted Owl Recovery Plan, the 2012 Northern Spotted Owl Critical Habitat Plan, management of the BLM special status species, updated riparian and aquatic protection guidance, sustainable forest management direction, increased recreational opportunities, and critical analysis of other multiple resources.

The BLM will continue to collaborate with Federal, State, and local governmental agencies as well as Tribes and other stakeholders to support efforts to meet the budget's performance target of 205 MMBF for ASQ timber offered in FY 2023. Additionally, the BLM has a total volume target for all BLM lands of 311 MMBF, of which 278 MMBF is derived from western Oregon. The BLM will continue to look for efficiencies in streamlining the administrative review process with the strategy and objective of resolving project level issues early in the planning process to assure timber sale offering targets are met.

Within the framework of the ESA, the Clean Water Act, the O&C Act, and in alignment with the guiding principles of the RMP, the program provides a sustainable source of timber, protects watersheds, and

contributes to conservation, restoration, species recovery, and economic stability. The BLM develops forest management projects using landscape and watershed approaches to determine the suite of treatment and restoration activities. Work continues in coordination with FWS and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to implement active forest management prescriptions and terrestrial and aquatic restoration activities.

The components of forest management include:

- Forest landscape planning and project-level NEPA development;
- Sales of timber and other forest and vegetative products;
- Forest inventory and monitoring;
- Trespass prevention and investigation;
- Maintenance of existing right-of-way agreements;
- Maintenance and restoration of late-successional and old-growth forest structure;
- Resolving appeals and litigation; and
- Maintenance and development of the national Forest Resource Information System (FRIS) databases to assure data integrity. FRIS will be undergoing a modernization effort expected to continue through FY 2025. The modernization effort will improve system security, consolidate and streamline workflows, reduce technical debt, and reduce long-term operations and maintenance costs.

The Resources Management budget activity also supports reforestation, intermediate stand management, and forest resiliency treatments in young forest stands in western Oregon. This program provides for forest restoration and sustainable and permanent forest production through active management to achieve resilient and productive watersheds. The focus areas for reforestation and forest development include:

- Forest regeneration and restoration activities of commercial and non-commercial forest lands that establish young stands and restore habitat in riparian and other reserve areas;
- Intermediate stand management activities in younger-growth forests that promote forest growth, resiliency, value enhancement, fuel hazard reduction, and structure development to provide for future timber harvest, biomass utilization, habitat conservation needs, and fire recovery;
- Treatments to control the spread of forest pathogens and destructive insects;
- Forest monitoring and adaptive management assessments that inform active forest management to achieve stand objectives and provide for the sustainable harvest of timber;
- Invasive and noxious weed management;
- Forest inventory, data acquisition, and consolidation of data storage and retrieval capabilities to facilitate reporting and integration with other programs; and
- Cooperative research on developing technologies and management activities with other Federal and State resource management agencies and universities.

In accordance with the direction of the western Oregon RMPs, reforestation and forest development activities are critical in:

- Assuring that a sustainable level of timber can be offered from Harvest Land Base lands to meet the 1937 O&C Act. The activities assure that harvested areas are promptly and successfully reforested after harvest and younger and intermediate stands are managed to meet the growth rates modeled and projected in the Final Environmental Impact Statements.
- Assuring that Reserve designate lands (Late Successional and Riparian Reserves) are managed to meet the various conservation objectives for which they are intended.
- Assuring that all treatments maintain or increase the resiliency of western Oregon forestlands and woodlands to catastrophic disturbances like fire, insects, diseases, and drought.
- Assuring that landscape-level planning and project-level NEPA compliance work is integrated into and analyzes the full suite of reforestation and forest development treatments and restoration needs in the analysis areas to assure sustainable forest production. The BLM works with external and internal stakeholders to ensure that program goals are achieved.

The BLM uses the following strategies in western Oregon reforestation and forest development:

- Employing emerging technologies such as Light and Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) to provide better and more cost-effective information for decision makers;
- Implementing the full suite of forest management prescriptions provided in the new RMPs to meet management objectives;
- Utilizing various modeling, monitoring, and analysis tools to assure compliance with RMPs;
- Working with the USFS to study the potential for assisted migration of Douglas-fir in response to fluctuations in drought cycles;
- Balancing workforce and operational capacity to prepare and administer service contracts, stewardship contracts, and agreements to reforest and implement high-priority forest development treatments;
- Implementing intermediate stand management activities using a variety of authorities including stewardship contracts, service contracts, and timber sale contracts to offer biomass, reduce hazardous fuels, improve forest health, and enhance growth in young growth stands, achieving multiple resource objectives;
- Working with the USFS, the Oregon Department of Forestry, the Oregon Department of Agriculture, and Oregon State University to treat and monitor the invasive pathogen causing sudden oak death in Curry County, Oregon in accordance with a federally mandated quarantine zone; and,
- Improving efficiencies, and where appropriate, taking advantage of Good Neighbor and Stewardship Contracting authorities.

The D.C. District court ruling in *AFRC v. Hammond*, 422 F. Supp. 3d 184 (D. D.C. 2019) directs the BLM to revise or amend its 2016 RMPs. The fixed cost increase allows the BLM to amend the RMP without reducing timber output, which was estimated to be approximately 3 to 14 million board feet per year during the duration of the plan amendment.

The Resources Management activity also supports four areas critical to effective multiple-use management across the BLM lands in western Oregon: rangeland management; recreation management; aquatic habitat

management; and wildlife habitat management. To support forest management activities and sustained yield harvest, surveys are needed for project clearance, ESA consultation, and analysis for environmental assessments. Surveys include Northern Spotted Owl and Marbled Murrelet, and there are several aquatic species on O&C lands that are classified as threatened, endangered, or sensitive.

The BLM is required to monitor various terrestrial and aquatic populations and formally consult with FWS and NMFS at the project level in order to manage for sustained-yield timber. The BLM works with the USFS to evaluate species distributions and population characteristics for interagency Special Status Species programs. The BLM also applies the concept of Service First and skill sharing to facilitate an interagency approach toward resource conservation. Partnering creates efficiencies and decreases the cost of program administration. The BLM evaluates watershed conditions affecting forest productivity and interrelated and interdependent effects of vegetation management on other resources including soil, water, and air quality. The program is tasked with managing for soil stabilization, resiliency, and productivity; reducing impacts from invasive species on riparian and upland habitat; promoting upland forest and rangeland resiliency; and managing habitat for sensitive species.

The BLM manages developed recreation sites, dispersed recreation areas, off-highway areas, and back-county byways, among other recreation resources. Approximately 8 million visitors per year use western Oregon lands for recreation. The program monitors recreation activity on approximately 30,000 acres per year and issues approximately 190 special recreation permits per year. Recreation sites on BLM lands use the Federal Land Recreation Enhancement Act of 2004 to collect fees to offset operations and maintenance costs. Western Oregon collects approximately \$1.5 million from the recreation fee program. In addition, the Recreation Program can utilize up to 25% of revenues deposited to the Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration Fund to improve and maintain recreation resources.

The BLM ensures that projects are in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (1966), the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (1979), the Historic Sites Act (1935), the Antiquities Act (1906), the Archaeological Data Preservation Act (1974), the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (1990), the American Indian Religious Freedom Act (1978), Executive Order 13007 – Indian Sacred Sites (1996), and the BLM-State Historic Preservation Officers Protocol Agreement (1998). This activity provides support for intergovernmental agreements and liaison activities with local western Oregon Tribes.

Grazing in western Oregon is small relative to the other O&C activities. The program manages 132 leases in total. The program evaluates and renews approximately 1 to 5 leases per year.

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Activity: Western Oregon Information and Data Systems
Subactivity: Western Oregon Information and Data Systems

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	Change from 2023 Enacted
Info. & Resource Data Systems	<i>\$000</i>	1,828	1,887	+102		+0	1,989	+102
	<i>FTE</i>	11	14	0		+0	14	+0

Justification of Program Change

The 2024 budget request for Western Oregon Information and Data Systems is \$1,989,000 and 14 FTE, with no program change from 2023 enacted level.

Program Overview

Most of the data the BLM collects are related to specific places on the landscape. The integration and analysis of spatial data across all resource programs has led to many efficiencies and improved the quality of the information available to support resource management and decision making across western Oregon. These data systems provide tremendous capacity to address a variety of resource questions for all of western Oregon and allow for rapid responses to changes in priorities or circumstances.

The program provides a formalized data framework to integrate data across all programs, resources, and activities in western Oregon. The program creates data standards to ensure data collected and used to support decisions is consistent across all administrative units. It also creates analytical tools and data structures to support the specific needs of O&C programs, which may differ from Bureau-wide requirements. The program coordinates with other Federal, State, and private partners to collect and deliver spatial data for both public and internal use. The program makes data available externally through modern web GIS tools. Standard map templates are available to the public for ease of use and quick access to recreation opportunities or other resource information.

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Activity: Western Oregon National Conservation Lands

Subactivity: National Monuments & National Conservation Areas

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	Change from 2023 Enacted
NMs & NCAs	\$000	788	817	+31		+0	848	+31
	FTE	4	4	0		+0	4	+0

Justification of Program Change

The 2024 budget request for National Monuments & National Conservation Areas is \$848,000 and 4 FTEs, with no program change from the 2023 enacted level.

Program Overview

National Monuments & National Conservation Areas include the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument (CSNM) in southwestern Oregon and the Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area (YHONA) located on the central coast near Newport, Oregon. These are both units of the BLM National Conservation Lands. Both the CSNM and the YHONA work with volunteers, partners, and communities. The BLM works closely with the public to ensure that recreation in these units meets the needs of user groups while remaining compatible with the values for which each unit was designated.

The CSNM expansion (Proclamation 9564) reduced the lands designated for sustained-yield timber production in the Klamath Falls and Medford sustained-yield units by an estimated 16,500 acres. Recent court rulings are split on the legality of the CSNM expansion, which places significant uncertainty on the management of the lands encompassed by the expansion. The BLM will continue to monitor the progress of the litigation and adjust its management of the affected lands as the cases are resolved.

Program Priorities

In support of the National Conservation Land goals, the BLM will focus on the following issues:

- Law Enforcement Presence and Visibility – Law enforcement is a key factor in ensuring visitor safety and protecting fragile or rare geologic, archeological, paleontological, and biological resources.

Threats include vandalism of natural features, archeological sites, facilities, and theft of irreplaceable archeological and paleontological resources.

- Critical Inventories and Monitoring Programs – Inventories define the critical resource values representative of each unit’s uniqueness, and the information provided is essential to the development and implementation of management plans.
- Restoration – Both CSNM and YHONA are home to a variety of ecosystems. These areas contribute to protection and restoration of native plant and animal communities, including riparian habitat. These ecosystems also provide native plant and animal corridors and migration routes to sustain and conserve public land resources affected by drought, altered fire regimes, and invasive species.
- Comprehensive Travel and Transportation Management – Unmanaged recreation use continues to impact resources in the monuments through increased erosion, vegetative damage, spread of weeds and invasive plants, and impacts to wildlife habitat.
- Visitor and Community Education – Interpretation and environmental education improve visitor experiences, providing information about the cultural, ecological, and scientific values of units and the BLM’s balanced resource mission.
- Maintenance and Operations of Recreation Facilities – The program supports a number of education and visitor centers along with other facilities to enhance the visitor experience in the natural setting.

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Range Improvements

Appropriations Language

For rehabilitation, protection, and acquisition of lands and interests therein, and improvement of Federal rangelands pursuant to section 401 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1751), notwithstanding any other Act, sums equal to 50 percent of all moneys received during the prior fiscal year under sections 3 and 15 of the Taylor Grazing Act (43 U.S.C. 315b, 315m) and the amount designated for range improvements from grazing fees and mineral leasing receipts from Bankhead-Jones lands transferred to the Department of the Interior pursuant to law, but not less than \$10,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$600,000 shall be available for administrative expenses. (*Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023.*)

Appropriations Language Citations

- **For rehabilitation, protection, and acquisition of lands and interests therein, and improvement of Federal rangelands pursuant to section 401 of the *Federal Land Policy Management Act of 1976* (43 U.S.C. 1751),**

The language provides authority for the Secretary to direct on-the-ground range rehabilitation, protection, and improvements to Federal rangelands, including seeding and reseeding, fence construction, weed control, water development, and fish and wildlife habitat enhancement.

- **notwithstanding any other Act,**

The provisions of this language supersede any other provision of law.

- **sums equal to 50 percent of all moneys received during the prior fiscal year under sections 3 and 15 of the *Taylor Grazing Act* (43 U.S.C. 315(b), 315(m))**

Section 3 of the *Taylor Grazing Act* concerns grazing permits issued on public lands within the grazing districts established under the Act. Receipts from grazing on section 3 lands are distributed three ways: 50 percent goes to range betterment projects, 37.5 percent remains in the U.S. Treasury, and 12.5 percent is returned to the State.

Section 15 of the *Taylor Grazing Act* concerns issuing grazing leases on public lands outside the original grazing district boundaries. The receipts from grazing on section 15 public lands are distributed two ways: 50 percent goes to range betterment projects and 50 percent is returned to the State.

- **and the amount designated for range improvements from grazing fees and mineral leasing receipts from Bankhead-Jones lands transferred to the Department of the Interior pursuant to law,**

The *Bankhead Jones Farm Tenant Act of 1937* authorized and directed the Secretary of Agriculture to purchase low production, privately owned farmlands. These lands were later transferred to the Department of the Interior for use, administration, or exchange under the applicable provisions of the *Taylor Grazing Act*.

- **but not less than \$10,000,000,**

If grazing receipts are less than \$10.0 million, the balance of the \$10.0 million appropriation comes from the General Fund.

- **to remain available until expended:**

The language makes the funding no-year, available for expenditure in any year after the appropriation. This type of account allows BLM a valuable degree of flexibility needed to support multi-year contracts, agreements, and purchases.

- **Provided, That not to exceed \$600,000 shall be available for administrative expenses.**

The provision limits the amount of funding in this appropriation that can be used for administrative expenses to \$600,000.

Appropriations Language Citations and Authorizations

Section 401 of Federal Land Policy & Management Act (FLPMA) (43 U.S.C. 1751), as Amended by the Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978 (43 U.S.C. 1901-1905),

Provides that 50 percent of all monies received by the U.S. as fees for grazing domestic livestock on public land under the *Taylor Grazing Act* (43 U.S.C. 315) and the Act of August 28, 1937 (U.S.C. 1181d) shall be credited to a separate account in the Treasury and made available for the purpose of on-the-ground range rehabilitation, protection, and improvements, including but not limited to seeding and reseeding, fence construction, weed control, water development, and fish and wildlife habitat enhancement.

Taylor Grazing Act of 1934 (43 U.S.C 315) as, amended by the Act of August 28, 1937 (43 U.S.C. 1181d)

Authorizes the establishment of grazing districts, regulation, and administration of grazing on the public lands, and improvement of the public rangelands. It also authorizes the Secretary to accept contributions for the administration, protection, and improvement of grazing lands, and establishes a trust fund to be used for these purposes.

7 U.S.C. 1010 (the Bankhead Jones Farm Tenant Act of 1937)

Provides that the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized and directed to develop a program of land conservation and utilization in order to correct maladjustments in land use, and thus assist in controlling soil erosion, conducting reforestation, preserving natural resources, protecting fish and wildlife, developing and protecting recreational facilities, mitigating floods, preventing impairment of dams and reservoirs, conserving surface and subsurface moisture, protecting the watersheds of navigable streams, and protecting the public land, health, safety, and welfare; but not to build industrial parks or establish private industrial or commercial enterprises.

Executive Orders 10046, et al.

Provides that land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture under the provision of §32 of the *Bankhead Jones Farm Tenant Act* is transferred from the Department of Agriculture to the DOI for use, administration, or exchange under the applicable provisions of the *Taylor Grazing Act*.

30 U.S.C. 355

Provides that all mineral leasing receipts derived from leases issued under the authority of the *Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands of 1947* shall be paid into the same funds or accounts in the Treasury and shall be distributed in the same manner as prescribed for other receipts from the lands affected by the lease. The intention is that this Act shall not affect the distribution of receipts pursuant to legislation applicable to such lands.

Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974, as amended (7 U.S.C. 2814)

Provides for the designation of a lead office and person trained in the management of undesirable plants; establishes and funds an undesirable plant management program; completes and implements cooperative agreements with State agencies; and establishes integrated management systems to control undesirable plant species.

The Annual Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Acts

Provides that a minimum amount is appropriated, that the appropriation shall remain available until expended, and that a maximum of \$600,000 is available from this appropriation for the BLM administrative expenses.

Under the provisions of the *Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985* and the *Budget Enforcement Act of 1990*, this account is classified as a current, mandatory account.

Summary of Requirements for Bureau of Land Management

(Dollars in Thousands)

ACCOUNT NAME	2022 Actual	2022 FTE	2023 Enacted	2023 Enacted FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-) Amount	2024 Request	2024 FTE	Change from 2023 (+/-) Enacted Amount	Change from 2023 (+/-) FTE
Public Lands Improvements	6,491	16	7,713	22				7,713	22	+0	+0
Farm Tenant Act Land Improvements	2,939	2	1,717	1				1,717	1	+0	+0
Administrative Costs						-		-		+0	+0
Total, Range Improvements	9,430	18	9,430	23	+0	-	+0	9,430	23	+0	+0

Appropriation: Range Improvements

		2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 President's Budget				
				Fixed Costs	Transfers	Program Change	2024 Request	Change from 2023
Public Lands	\$000	6,491	7,713			0	7,713	0
Improvements	FTE	16	22			0	22	0
Farm Tenant Act	\$000	2,939	1,717			0	1,717	0
Land Improvements	FTE	2	1			0	1	0
Administrative Costs	\$000	[600]	[600]				[600]	
Range Improvements	\$000	9,430	9,430			0	9,430	0
	FTE	18	23			0	23	0

The 2022, 2023, and 2024 amounts are net sequesters of 5.7%.

Program Overview

Program Responsibilities

The Range Improvement appropriation functions as the primary support program for Rangeland Management and is used to construct, maintain, or reconstruct on-the-ground projects such as vegetation management treatments, fencing, water developments, weed control, and seeding/reseeding projects. This program also supports activities that build and maintain fish and wildlife habitat improvements through shared livestock-wildlife infrastructure such as guzzlers, which collect drinking water for wildlife, or pipelines and stock tanks to provide livestock water in order to maintain riparian health.

Program Purpose

Fifty percent of grazing fees collected on public lands, or \$10 million, whichever is greater, is appropriated annually into the Range Improvement account. In 1934, the Congress directed the Secretary of the Interior to establish a fund using a portion of the grazing fee receipts specifically for projects designed to improve the conditions of public lands. Initially, the funds were used to develop water sites, distribute water, and build livestock management facilities such as fences, cattleguards, and corrals. After 1976, use of the funds for wildlife habitat improvements and weed management increased, and in 1978, Congress authorized a minimum of \$10 million in annual funding for the program.

The primary legislation authorizing the Range Improvement Program are the *Taylor Grazing Act of 1934*, as amended, the *Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976* as amended, and the *Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978*. The Taylor Grazing Act and Federal Land Policy and Management Act authorized the use of 50 percent of the collected grazing fee for funding projects to improve condition of public rangelands. The Public Rangelands Improvement Act established a formula for annually calculating the grazing fee and provided for \$10 million per annum or 50 percent of the collected grazing fee, whichever is greater, to be used to fund range improvements, including structures and treatments. The 2023 Federal grazing fee is \$1.35 per animal unit month (AUM) for public lands administered by the Bureau of Land

Management and \$1.35 per head month (HM) for lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service. Since 2019, the public land grazing fee has been \$1.35. These fees do not fund the Rangeland Management Program.

Components

These funds are used to improve land health and range resource conditions. Examples of projects include treating noxious invasive species (see photo), constructing livestock management structures such as fencing and water developments to improve distribution, or seeding areas dominated by invasive species. Funding is distributed to the BLM grazing districts according to where receipts are collected. This funding remains available until expended and is to be used for on-the-ground projects, principally for improving public lands that are not achieving land health standards. Areas identified through land health evaluations as not meeting land health standards are prioritized at the district level for funding. Examples of areas not achieving rangeland health standards could be riparian areas functioning at-risk with a downward trend, areas with unacceptable plant community composition (including areas invaded by noxious and invasive weeds or other invasive species), or areas with unnaturally high amounts of exposed soil that would be subject to accelerated erosion. Due to climate change, healthy landscapes across the West are at risk due to more intense and extended droughts, increasing wildfire frequency, and continuing migration of invasive species. Range improvement funds also provide field offices with the flexibility to address infrastructure needs or noxious weed treatments in changing resource conditions such as drought, wildfire, newly listed species, critical habitat, and candidate species.



Partnership with fire crew to build an enclosure to help treat Russian Thistle
California Desert District

Other Funding Sources

Range improvement projects are often jointly planned and funded by the BLM, permittees, and other partners. Range improvement funds can also be used to supplement emergency stabilization funds. Emergency stabilization funds are restricted to projects that stabilize the soil and water resources after an emergency event (such as a wildfire). Range improvement funds are used to purchase additional seed varieties, which are intended to improve wildlife habitat or vegetation composition and can be applied in the same treatment as the emergency stabilization seeding. This increases cost effectiveness and improves the probability of success by reducing the number of times a treatment site is disturbed.

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SERVICE CHARGES, DEPOSITS AND FORFEITURES

Appropriations Language

For administrative expenses and other costs related to processing application documents and other authorizations for use and disposal of public lands and resources, for costs of providing copies of official public land documents, for monitoring construction, operation, and termination of facilities in conjunction with use authorizations, and for rehabilitation of damaged property, such amounts as may be collected under Public Law 94–579 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), and under section 28 of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 185), to remain available until expended: Provided, That notwithstanding any provision to the contrary of section 305(a) of Public Law 94–579 (43 U.S.C. 1735(a)), any moneys that have been or will be received pursuant to that section, whether as a result of forfeiture, compromise, or settlement, if not appropriate for refund pursuant to section 305(c) of that Act (43 U.S.C. 1735(c)), shall be available and may be expended under the authority of this Act by the Secretary of the Interior to improve, protect, or rehabilitate any public lands administered through the Bureau of Land Management which have been damaged by the action of a resource developer, purchaser, permittee, or any unauthorized person, without regard to whether all moneys collected from each such action are used on the exact lands damaged which led to the action: *Provided further*, That any such moneys that are in excess of amounts needed to repair damage to the exact land for which funds were collected may be used to repair other damaged public lands. (*Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023.*)

Appropriations Language Citations

- **For administrative expenses and other costs related to processing application documents and other authorizations for use and disposal of public lands and resources,**

This language provides authority to recover costs associated with the processing of documents related to Rights-of-Way (ROW) and energy and minerals authorizations required to dispose of public lands and resources. These funds are deposited in the Service Charges, Deposits, and Forfeitures account and used by BLM for labor and other expenses of processing these documents. Only those costs directly associated with processing an application or issuing a ROW grant are charged to an individual project.

- **for costs of providing copies of official public land documents,**

The BLM performs certain types of realty work on a cost-recoverable basis. Regulations promulgated pursuant to FLPMA allow the BLM to collect from applicants the costs associated with providing copies of public land documents.

- **for monitoring construction, operation, and termination of facilities in conjunction with use authorizations,**

The BLM performs certain types of realty work on a cost-recoverable basis. Regulations promulgated pursuant to the *Federal Land Policy and Management Act* (FLPMA) allow the BLM to collect from applicants the costs of monitoring construction, operation and termination of facilities.

- **and for rehabilitation of damaged property,**

The BLM performs certain types of realty work on a cost-recoverable basis. Regulations promulgated pursuant to the FLPMA allow the BLM to collect from applicants the costs of monitoring rehabilitation and restoration of the land.

- **such amounts as may be collected under Public Law 94–579 (43 U.S.C.1701 et seq.),**

This language authorizes the BLM to collect amounts for activities authorized by FLPMA.

- **and under section 28 of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 185),**

This language authorizes the Secretary to issue Rights-of-Way and other land use authorizations related to the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. Rights-of-Way applicants and permittees are to reimburse the U.S. for all costs associated with processing applications and monitoring pipeline construction and operations.

- **to remain available until expended:**

The language makes the funds deposited into the account available on a no-year basis. This type of account allows the BLM a valuable degree of flexibility needed to support multi-year contracts, maintenance, construction, operations, and rehabilitation of public lands.

- **Provided, That, notwithstanding any provision to the contrary of section 305(a) of Public Law 94–579 (43 U.S.C. 1735(a)),**

This provision authorizes the BLM to collect for land damaged by users who have not fulfilled the requirements of contracts or bonds.

- **any moneys that have been or will be received pursuant to that section, whether as a result of forfeiture, compromise, or settlement, if not appropriate for refund pursuant to section 305(c) of that Act (43 U.S.C. 1735(c)),**

This language authorizes the Secretary to issue a refund of the amount in excess of the cost of doing work to be made from applicable funds.

- **shall be available and may be expended under the authority of this Act by the Secretary to improve, protect, or rehabilitate any public lands administered through the Bureau of Land Management which have been damaged by the action of a resource developer, purchaser, permittee, or any unauthorized person, without regard to whether all moneys collected from each such action are used on the exact lands damaged which led to the action:**

This language authorizes the Secretary to use funds to improve, protect, or rehabilitate public lands that were damaged by a developer or purchaser even if the funds collected were not for damages on those exact lands.

- **Provided further, that any such moneys that are in excess of amounts needed to repair damage to the exact land for which funds were collected may be used to repair other damaged public lands.**

If a funding excess exists after repair has been made to the exact land for which funds were collected or forfeited, then the BLM may use these funds to improve, protect, or rehabilitate any damaged public land.

Appropriation Language Citations and Authorizations

<i>Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1735)</i>	Authorizes the BLM to receive deposits and forfeitures.
<i>The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended by the Trans-Alaska Pipeline Act of 1973, §101 (P.L. 93-153) (30 U.S.C. 185)</i>	Authorizes rights-of-way for oil, gas, and other fuels. It further authorizes the Secretary to issue Rights-of-Way and other land use authorizations related to the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. Rights-of-Way applicants and permittees are to reimburse the U.S. for all costs associated with processing applications and monitoring pipeline construction and operations.
<i>The Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Act of 1976 (15 U.S.C. 719)</i>	Authorizes the granting of certificates, Rights-of-Way permits, and leases.
<i>The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321, 4331-4335, 4341-4347)</i>	Requires the preparation of environmental impact statements for Federal projects that may have a significant effect on the environment.
<i>The Wild Free Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971, as amended by the Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1331-1340)</i>	Authorizes adoption of wild horses and burros by private individuals under cooperative agreements with the Government.
<i>The Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978 (43 U.S.C. 1901-1908)</i>	Establishes the policy of improving Federal rangeland conditions and facilitates the humane adoption or disposal of excess wild free-roaming horses and burros.

Summary of Requirements for Bureau of Land Management
(Dollars in Thousands)

ACCOUNT NAME	2022 Actual	2022 FTE	2023 Enacted	2023 Enacted FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-) Amount	2024 Request	2024 FTE	Change from 2023 (+/-) Enacted Amount	Change from 2023 (+/-) Enacted FTE
Rights-of-Way Processing	23,052	92	21,100	77			+0	21,100	83	+0	+6
Energy and Minerals Cost Recovery	1,681	6	2,900	17			+517	3,417	18	+517	+1
Recreation Cost Recovery	4,491	12	700	4			+2,900	3,600	4	+2,900	+0
Adopt-A-Horse Program	1,602	-	550	-			+0	550	0	+0	+0
Repair of Damaged lands	9,940	7	3,910	15			+0	3,910	16	+0	+1
Cost Recoverable Realty Cases	946	7	1,000	8			+0	1,000	8	+0	+0
Timber Contract Expenses	44	-	100	-			+0	100	0	+0	+0
Commercial Film and Photography Fees	431	1	290	1			+0	290	1	+0	+0
Copy Fees	-	1	720	3		-	+0	720	3	+0	+0
Trans Alaska Pipeline	2,236	12	3,000	14		-	+0	3,000	14	+0	+0
Subtotal (Gross)	44,423	138	34,270	139	+0	-	+3,417	37,687	147	+3,417	+8
Offsetting Collections	(44,423)		(34,270)				(3,417)	(37,687)		(3,417)	
Total, Service Charges, Deposits & Forfeitures	-	138	-	139	0	0	0	0	147	+0	8

Appropriation: Service Charges, Deposits, and Forfeitures (Indefinite)

Program Overview

Rights-of-Way Processing and Energy and Minerals Cost Recovery – The BLM recovers certain costs of processing documents related to Rights-of-Way (ROW), and energy and minerals authorizations. These funds are deposited in the Service Charges, Deposits, and Forfeitures account and used by the BLM for labor and other expenses of processing these documents. More detail for each type of cost recovery is described below.

Rights-of-Way Processing – ROW processing is funded through a combination of applicant deposits made into this indefinite appropriation and a direct appropriation of funds in the Management of Lands and Resources (MLR) appropriation, which includes the Renewable Energy subactivity as well as the Cadastral, Lands and Realty Management subactivity.

The BLM recovers costs for the processing of ROW applications pursuant to the *Mineral Leasing Act* (MLA) and the *Federal Land Policy and Management Act* (FLPMA). Processing fees are determined by a fee schedule for minor category ROWs (those that require fewer than 50 Federal work hours). Processing fees for major category ROWs (those that require greater than 50 Federal work hours) are based on reasonable costs (FLPMA) or actual costs (MLA). In 2022, the BLM's average cost to process a major category ROW application was approximately \$107,000 and will likely increase due to the increasing trend of major solar, wind, and electricity transmission projects that have been applied for due to the complex nature of these projects. As such, the BLM anticipates average costs increasing by 10% in 2024. Major category ROW projects are usually for oil and gas pipelines, electric transmission lines, wind and solar energy development sites, or other projects associated with energy development. Twenty percent of the BLM's ROW applications are for these types of projects. The BLM estimates that it will recover 80 percent of the reasonable or actual processing costs of the larger scale project types of applications.

Approximately 80 percent of the ROW projects are minor category, which usually consists of short roads, well gathering pipelines, and electric distribution lines. Minor category ROW applications cost an average of \$3,000 each to process in 2023. In 2024, minor category cost recovery applications are estimated to have an average processing cost of \$3,200. For these smaller-scale projects, the BLM recovers 50 percent of the actual costs of each right-of-way application. Approximately 10 percent of the ROW projects are for roads and other infrastructure for local or State government agencies for which the BLM recovers no cost recovery funds.

Only those costs directly associated with processing an application or issuing a ROW grant are charged to an individual project. Costs of land use planning or studies to determine placement of ROW corridors, and other general costs that are not specific to a ROW application, cannot be charged to the individual ROW cost recovery account. These costs are funded entirely from the MLR appropriation. In addition, certain types of ROW applicants are exempted, by law, from cost recovery. These applicants include States and local governments.

The BLM currently administers more than 120,000 ROW authorizations. The Bureau will continue to expedite the granting of ROWs by processing applications, issuing grants, and monitoring construction involved with the operation and termination of ROWs on the public land as authorized by the FLPMA and the MLA.

Energy and Minerals Cost-Recovery – The BLM issued a final rule effective November 7, 2005, to amend its mineral resources regulations to increase certain fees and to impose new fees to cover the BLM’s costs of processing documents relating to its minerals programs. The new fees included costs of actions such as environmental studies performed by the BLM, lease applications, name changes, corporate mergers, lease consolidations and reinstatements, and other processing-related costs. The BLM charges the fees pursuant to authorities under the *Independent Offices Appropriation Act*, as amended, 31 U.S.C. 9701 (IOAA); Section 304(a) of FLPMA; and OMB Circular A-25; DOI Manual 346 DM 1.2 A; and case law (also see the preamble to the proposed rule at 70 FR 41533 and Solicitor's Opinion M-36987 (December 5, 1996)).

Recreation Cost Recovery – The BLM recovers its costs associated with authorizing and administering certain recreation activities or events. The Bureau uses Special Recreation Permits to authorize events such as off-highway vehicle areas, shooting ranges, and specialized trail systems; or to authorize group activities or recreation events. This subactivity covers revenues and expenditures associated with any Special Recreation Permit that has been determined to be cost recoverable by the BLM personnel as outlined in 43 CFR 2930-1 Permits for Recreation on Public Lands and H-2930-1, Recreation Permit Administration Handbook. Primary work in this program involves processing the application and administering the permit, which includes environmental analysis and monitoring.

Adopt-a-Horse Program – The BLM conducts adoptions of wild horses and burros removed from its public lands. In 2024, the BLM will continue offering animals for adoption to qualified applicants. The Bureau administers animal adoptions primarily through a competitive bidding process that often increases the adoption fee above the base fee of \$125 per horse or burro. On an occasional basis in special circumstances, the \$125 adoption fee is lowered to a minimum of \$25. Adoption fees are used to defray part of the costs of the adoption program.

Repair of Damaged Lands – Under FLPMA, the BLM is authorized to collect for land damaged by users who have not fulfilled the requirements of contracts or bonds. This also includes collections received pursuant to settlements for damages from trespass incidents (e.g., wildfires). If excess funding exists after repair has been made to the exact land for which funds were collected or forfeited, then the BLM may use these funds to improve, protect, or rehabilitate any damaged public land.

Cost-Recoverable Realty Cases – The BLM performs certain types of realty work on a cost-recoverable basis. Regulations promulgated pursuant to the FLPMA allow the BLM to collect from applicants the costs of processing applications for realty work, as described below:

- **Conveyance of Federally Owned Mineral Interests** – The BLM collects costs from applicants to cover administrative costs, including the costs of conducting an exploratory program to determine the type and number of mineral deposits, establishing the fair market value of the mineral interests to be conveyed, and preparing conveyance documents.
- **Recordable Disclaimers of Interest** – The BLM collects costs from applicants to cover administrative costs, including the costs to determine if the U.S. has an interest in the property or

boundary definitions, as well as preparing the riparian specialist's report or preparing and issuing the document of disclaimer.

- **Leases, Permits, and Easements** – The BLM collects costs from applicants to cover administrative costs, including the cost of processing applications, monitoring construction, operating and maintaining authorized facilities, and monitoring rehabilitation and restoration of the land.

Applicants may deposit money in an approved account for the BLM to use in completing specific realty work. These dollars become immediately available to the BLM without further appropriation.

Timber Contract Expenses – Many BLM timber contracts have provisions that allow the purchaser to make cash payments to the BLM in lieu of performing specified work directly. The BLM uses these funds as required by the contract. This involves performing timber slash disposal and reforestation.

Commercial Film and Photography – A permit is required for all commercial filming activities on public lands. Commercial filming is defined as the use of motion picture, videotaping, sound recording, or other moving image or audio recording equipment on public lands that involves the advertisement of a product or service, the creation of a product for sale, or the use of actors, models, sets, or props, but not including activities associated with broadcasts for news programs. Creation of a product for sale includes a film, videotape, television broadcast, or documentary of participants in commercial sporting or recreation event created for the purpose of generating income. These fees are exclusive of cost recovery fees for processing the permits that are collected under leases, permits, and easements.

Copy Fees – The BLM is the custodian of the official public land records of the United States. There are more than 500,000 requests annually from industry, user organizations, and the general public, for copies of these official records. The BLM charges a fee for copies of these documents (maps, plats, field notes, copies of use authorizations, reservations of easements and ROW, serial register pages, and master title plats). This fee covers the cost of research, staff time, and the supplies required for printing and for responding to *Freedom of Information Act* requests.

In summary, the Service Charges, Deposits and Forfeitures program supports a variety of projects, both refundable and non-refundable, short-term and long-term. Receipts in the long-term projects, some up to 30 years, may carry large balances as the funds are drawn down. These balances do not represent efficiencies – work continues throughout the lifetime of the project and the funds must remain available during the entire period.

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National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund – Great American Outdoors Act

Program Overview

The Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) is historic legislation that combines a financial commitment to conservation and recreation for future generations with a significant investment in the facilities needed to carry out Interior’s important mission, including the care and maintenance of America’s national treasures. This investment provides an unprecedented opportunity to address DOI’s deferred maintenance backlog and restore deteriorating assets. To do so effectively requires investment prioritization and a sound program execution and management strategy.

The Department of the Interior is responsible for administering and implementing GAOA’s National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund (LRF) program, which is shared with the U.S. Forest Service. For FYs 2021 through 2025, Congress authorized up to \$1.9 billion annually to be deposited in the LRF for projects that address deferred maintenance. The annual deposit is equal to 50 percent of energy development revenues from oil, gas, coal, and alternative or renewable energy on Federal land and water credited, covered, or deposited as miscellaneous receipts under Federal law in the preceding fiscal year.

Bureau Selection Process

The deferred maintenance and repair (DM&R) backlog of the BLM asset portfolio significantly exceeds the DM&R funding available through appropriations or GAOA. As a result, the BLM utilized a project selection criterion to provide the greatest return on investment and benefit to the American public when developing the FY 2024 GAOA LRF project list. The BLM applied the following DOI-wide goals listed below:

1. Deferred maintenance reduction target of 75% per project
2. Alignment with DOI LRF Program Goals
 - a. Improve the Department’s financial health
 - b. Maximize return on investment and citizens served
 - c. Protect those we serve
 - d. Planning for the future
3. Alignment with Administration Priorities
 - a. Supports Economic Revitalization / Job Creation
 - b. Prioritizes Climate Resilient Infrastructure
 - c. Conserves or Protects Against Threats to Resources
 - d. Utilizes Clean Energy
 - e. Supports youth corps programs
 - f. Benefits Overburdened and Underserved Communities

Building on the DOI-wide goals, the BLM applied additional criteria to aid in project selection and prioritization, to maximize the impact across the Bureau.

BLM Priorities:

- Achieve a 1:1 DM reduction.
- Describe how the project will meet the eleven DOI-wide GAOA program objectives:
 - Restore and Protect High Visitation/Public Use Facilities
 - Improve Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility
 - Expand Recreation Opportunities and Public Access
 - Remediate Poorest Facility Condition Index Facilities
 - Reduce or Eliminate DM
 - Leverage Funding/Pursue Partnering Opportunities
 - Reduce Annual Operating Costs
 - Remove, Replace, or Dispose of Assets
 - Address Safety Issues
 - Protect Employees/Improve Retention
 - Modernize Infrastructure

The BLM GAOA projects were developed within the States in accordance with the BLM's *GAOA Project Development Guidance* in order to meet Bureau criteria as well as the DOI-wide GAOA goals. States submitted projects using the Project Data Sheet format aligning with the Department of the Interior's Lifecycle Investment Planning process to assure continuity with the BLM's existing appropriated DM&R program. State Directors approved their State's proposed FY 2024 GAOA projects before submitting to BLM Headquarters for consideration. The Headquarters Division of Business, Engineering and Evaluations reviewed projects to assure they aligned with the criteria noted above and scored the projects.

The BLM HQ prepared briefings for the Assistant Director for Business, Management and Administration; Deputy Director of Operations; Deputy Director for Policy and Programs; Director; and the Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management to review and vet priority projects and approve the list of projects.

Program Performance

To make the greatest impact with GAOA funding, the BLM is determined to address a dollar of DM for every GAOA LRF dollar spent. Since FY 2021, the BLM has focused on identifying priority projects to achieve a dollar-for-dollar DM addressed. In FY 2024, out of the \$95,000,000 of LRF funding programmed, BLM has identified \$7,870,000 for program administration and project contingency, allocating the remaining \$87,130,000 to GAOA projects. The BLM anticipates the DM addressed upon completion of the FY 2024 GAOA projects will be \$91,758,000.

FY 2023 Planned and Achieved Accomplishments

The BLM has identified priority projects across 13 western States, Virginia, and Florida to address the DM&R backlog and to make the greatest impact for the visiting public. The FY 2021, 2022, and 2023 projects target repairs to buildings and various structures including visitor centers and administrative facilities to maintain visitor, employee, and volunteer safety. Additionally, the GAOA projects target repairs to water and utilities systems—including water wells, septic and waste systems—and dams, to ensure health and safety for users of facilities managed by the BLM; repairs to recreation assets including campgrounds, picnic areas, lighthouses, and trails to improve recreational access and provide a safe and enjoyable experience to the visiting public; and repairs to transportation assets including roads, culverts, and parking lots will provide safe access and travel across public lands managed by the BLM.

For the FY 2023 GAOA projects, the BLM is currently in the procurement phase for the construction of the Grand Junction Air Center Tanker Base Repairs. This facility is critical to BLM's wildland fire fighting response in Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah and plays an integral role in national interagency wildland fire support. The project will eliminate safety hazards by replacing multiple structurally deficient buildings with a single building that consolidates the units to increase efficiency and reduce long term operating costs.

As of the end of the first quarter of FY 2023, 58 percent of the FY 2021 projects are in construction or substantially completed while 79 percent of the FY 2022 projects are primarily in the design phase. One exception is the La Posa Wastewater Septic/Lagoon Replacement and Site Road Repair Project in AZ, which is currently under construction. This project is bringing the wastewater system in compliance with EPA standards and repairs the access road to meet the ever-increasing demand for wintertime RV camping opportunities in the Southwest.

The BLM is phasing GAOA LRF projects over multiple fiscal years to better address larger scale projects across a variety of geographic locations. In FY 2023, four of the 14 projects were phased projects: the Little Sahara Recreation Area Maintenance in Utah, Wyoming Safety of Dams Repairs and Maintenance, Wild Rivers Back Country Byway Repairs in New Mexico, and the Grand Junction Air Center Tanker Base Repairs.

Performing priority deferred maintenance and repairs on a broad cross-section of assets maximizes the impact of GAOA across the BLM. For information about the BLM's ongoing implementation and benefits of the GAOA LRF projects, visit the BLM's GAOA website: <https://www.blm.gov/gaoa>, or to view the FY 2021 through 2023 Project Data Sheets, visit the DOI GAOA LRF website: <https://www.doi.gov/gaoa>.

FY 2024 Project List

Consistent with Congressional direction, the BLM submits the following LRF projects as part of the FY 2024 Budget process. Detailed project data sheets will be posted on the Department’s GAOA LRF website (<https://www.doi.gov/gaoa-project-data>) for each identified project. The project lists below have been thoroughly vetted and are considered ready for implementation in FY 2024. The Department will keep Congress informed should the circumstances of a specific project change during the course of the FY 2024 Budget process.

The FY 2024 project list below assumes the full \$1.9 billion allowable for deposit into the Legacy Restoration Fund is realized. Because determination of the deposit relies on the amount of qualifying energy revenue collected in the prior year, the actual amount available for FY 2024 projects will not be finalized until the start of FY 2024. Projects listed below are ranked and prioritized. The BLM will select and implement projects based on the prioritized list below until the LRF allocation is exhausted net of the mandatory funding sequester (5.7% of funding) and previously unavailable (sequestration “pop up”). Projects not funded with the FY 2024 allocation may be considered for FY 2025 implementation.

BLM GAOA Legacy Restoration Fund Projects

FY 2024 Bureau of Land Management Allocation Summary Table

(Dollars in Thousands)

Budget Authority/Activity	Amount
FY 2024 Allocation (estimate)	95,000
FY 2024 Sequestration (estimate)	-5,415
FY 2024 Previously Unavailable (from FY 2023)	5,415
FY 2024 Proposed Projects	-95,000
Total Available/Unallocated (estimate)	0

FY 2024 Bureau of Land Management GAOA LRF Project List

(Dollars in Thousands)

Unique ID	Priority	Station or Unit Name	Project/Activity Title	State	Cong. District	Funding Estimate	Estimated DM Addressed*
L401	1	Northwest Oregon District	Northwest Oregon District Wildfire Damaged Recreation Site Repairs	OR	OR04, OR05	\$11,000	\$11,000
L402	2	Farmington District	Taos Field Office Recreation Sites	NM	NM03	\$7,330	\$7,330
L403	3	Color Country District	Color Country Administration Facility Replacements and Repairs	UT	UT02	\$7,000	\$7,000
L404	4	Northern California District, Central California District, and California Desert District	California Combined Recreation Repair and Maintenance	CA	CA01, CA02, CA08, CA20, CA52	\$5,000	\$5,000
L405	5	Coos Bay, Lakeview, Northwest Oregon, Prineville, Roseburg, Spokane and Vale Districts	Oregon and Washington Recreational Facilities	OR, WA	OR02, OR04, OR05, WA04, WA06, WA08	\$9,700	\$9,700
L406	6	National Interagency Fire Center	415-Duane Graves Building Replacement	ID	ID01	\$7,000	\$7,000
L407	7	Gila District	Haekel Road Rehabilitation Chip Seal, Phases 4, 5, and 6	AZ	AZ01	\$3,500	\$422
L001	8	Anchorage District	Campbell Creek Science Center Access Repairs, Phase II	AK	AKAL	\$2,100	\$5,100
L409	9	Boise District, Idaho Falls District, Twin Falls District, and Idaho State Office	Idaho Fire and Administrative Site Repairs	ID	ID01, ID02	\$7,820	\$7,825
L410	10	Northwest District	Little Snake Fire Operations Building Replacement and Upgrades	CO	CO03	\$5,610	\$5,611
L411	11	Eastern Montana Dakotas District, North Central District, and Western Montana District	Montana FY2024 Recreation, Roads, and Dams Repair Project	MT	MT01, MT02	\$6,000	\$6,000
L412	12	High Desert District and Wind River-Bighorn Basin District	Wyoming Safety of Dams Repairs and Maintenance, Phase III	WY	WYAL	\$4,000	\$4,000
L413	13	High Desert District	Rawlins Barracks Replacement	WY	WYAL	\$5,600	\$5,600

L414	14	Northwest Oregon District	Northwest Oregon District Recreation Site Improvements	OR	OR04, OR05	\$3,200	\$3,200
L415	15	Northern California District	California Demolition	CA	CA01	70	70
L303	16	Anchorage District	Glennallen Warehouse Consolidation, Phase 2	AK	AKAL	2,200	6,900
			Program Administration (Indirect Costs)			2,850	
			Contingency Fund			5,020	
Total						95,000**	91,758

Note: See project data sheets for detailed project descriptions.

*Estimated deferred maintenance numbers reflect the maintenance and repair work that will be addressed upon completion of the project, not within the funding year.

**Total amount is net of FY 2024 sequestration and previously unavailable from FY 2023 (sequestration "pop-up").

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MISCELLANEOUS PERMANENT PAYMENTS

Appropriations Language

No Appropriations Language

Explanation

The Permanent Payment Accounts provide for sharing specified receipts collected from the sale, lease, or use of the public lands and resources with States and counties. They do not require annual appropriations action. Amounts are estimated based on anticipated collections, or in some cases, upon provisions required by permanent legislation. The BLM distributes these funds in accordance with the provisions of the various laws that specify the percentages to be paid to the applicable recipient jurisdictions and, in some cases, how the States and counties must use these funds. These payments are made subject to the authorities of permanent law, and the amounts are made available by operation of permanent laws. The payment amounts shown for each year are the amounts paid, or estimated to be paid, in that year.

Appropriation Language Citations and Authorizations

<i>30 U.S.C. 191, 286; 95 Stat. 12051</i>	Mineral leasing receipts are collected from the leasing of public land (including bonuses, royalties and rents) for exploration of oil and gas, coal, oil shale, and other minerals. The amount charged depends on the type of mineral that is leased.
<i>1952 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (65 Stat. 252)</i>	States are paid five percent of the net proceeds (four percent of gross proceeds) from the sale of public land and public land products.
<i>Taylor Grazing Act of 1934 (43 U.S.C. 315 b, i and m)</i>	States are paid 12½ percent of the grazing fee receipts from lands within organized grazing district boundaries; States are paid 50 percent of the grazing fee receipts from public land outside of organized grazing districts; and States are paid specifically determined amounts from grazing fee and mineral receipts from miscellaneous lands within grazing districts that are administered under certain cooperative agreements which stipulate that the fees be retained by the BLM for distribution.
<i>The Oregon and California Grant Lands Act of 1937 (50 STAT. 874)</i>	Provides for payments to 18 western Oregon counties of 75 percent of receipts derived from the activities of the BLM on O&C grant lands. The percentage was changed to 50 percent by agreement between Oregon and the Federal government.
<i>The Act of May 24, 1939 (53 STAT. 753)</i>	Provides for payments in lieu of taxes to Coos and Douglas counties in Oregon, not to exceed 75 percent of receipts derived from the BLM activities on CBWR grant lands.
<i>7 U.S.C. 1012, the Bankhead Jones Farm Tenant Act of 1937, and Executive Orders 107878 and 10890</i>	Twenty-five percent of the revenues received from the use of these land use project lands, including grazing and mineral leasing, are paid to the counties in which such lands are located. The Act transfers the management of certain Farm Tenant Act-Land Utilization Project lands to the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior.
<i>The Burton-Santini Act of 1980 (P.L. 96-586) and P.L. 105-263</i>	Authorizes and directs the sale of up to 700 acres per year of certain lands in Clark County, Nevada, and the acquisition of environmentally sensitive lands in the Lake Tahoe Basin, with 85 percent of the proceeds going to land conservation and restoration projects in and round the Lake Tahoe Area. The remaining 15 percent of proceeds from sales are distributed to Nevada and Clark County.

<i>Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act, P.L. 105-263, as amended by P.L. 107-282.</i>	Authorizes the disposal through sale of 27,000 acres in Clark County, Nevada, the proceeds of which are distributed as follows: (a) five percent for use in the general education program of the State of Nevada; (b) 10 percent for use by Southern Nevada Water Authority for water treatment and transmission facility infrastructure in Clark County, Nevada; and (c) the remaining 85 percent to be used to acquire environmentally sensitive lands in Nevada; to make capital improvements to areas administered by NPS, FWS and the BLM in Clark County, Nevada; to develop a multi-species habitat plan in Clark County, Nevada; to develop parks, trails, and natural areas in Clark County, Nevada; and to provide reimbursements for the BLM costs incurred in arranging sales and exchanges under this Act.
<i>The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 as amended by P.L. 94-204 of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1611)</i>	Directs the Secretary to make conveyances to Cook Inlet Region, Inc. (CIRI) in accordance with the "Terms and Conditions for Land Consolidation and Management in Cook Inlet Area."
<i>The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 (43 U.S.C. 1611)</i>	Authorizes CIRI to bid on surplus property in accordance with the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1940 (40 U.S.C. 484), and provides for the establishment of a CIRI surplus property account by the Secretary of the Treasury.
<i>The Alaska Railroad Transfer Act of 1982 (43 U.S.C. 1611)</i>	Expands the account by allowing CIRI to bid on properties anywhere in the U.S.
<i>The 1988 Department of Defense Appropriations Act (101 Stat. 1329- 318)</i>	Authorizes CIRI to bid at any public sale of property by any agent of the U.S., including the Department of Defense.
<i>The 1990 Department of Defense Appropriation Act (16 U.S.C 396f)</i>	Appropriated monies to be placed into the CIRI Property Account in the U.S. Treasury as permanent budget authority.
<i>Alaska Land Status Technical Corrections Act of 1992 (P.L. 102-415)</i>	Authorizes payments to the Haida and Gold Creek Corporations to reimburse them for claims in earlier land settlements.

The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-393) as amended by P.L. 110-343, October, 2008.

Authorizes stabilized payments to O&C Grant lands and CBWR Counties for fiscal years 2001 through 2006. Each county that received a payment during the eligibility period (1988-1999) had an option to receive an amount equal to the average of the three highest 50 percent payments and safety net payments made for the fiscal years of the eligibility period. The payments were adjusted to reflect 50 percent of the cumulative changes in the Consumer Price Index that occurred after publication of the index for fiscal year 2000. The final payments for 2006 were made in 2007, consistent with the Act. Public Law 110–28, enacted May 25, 2007, provided payments for one additional year. The fiscal year 2007 payments under the original Act were made in FY 2008.

P.L. 110-28

Provides one additional year of payments to O&C Grant Lands and CBWR counties for 2007 to be made in 2008.

P.L. 110-343

Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act payments were authorized to be made in 2009 through 2012 (for 2008 through 2011) to O&C Grant Lands and CBWR counties.

P.L. 112-141

Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act payments were authorized to be made in 2013 (for 2012) to O&C Grant Lands and CBWR counties.

P.L. 113-40

Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act payments were authorized to be made in 2014 (for 2013) to O&C Grant Lands and CBWR counties.

P.L. 114-10

Under the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015, and the Extension of Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, the payments were authorized to be made in 2015 (for 2014) and 2016 (for 2015) to O&C Grant Lands and CBWR counties.

P.L. 115-141

Under the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018, payments were authorized to be made in 2018 (for 2017) and 2019 (for 2018) to O&C Grant Lands and CBWR counties.

<i>Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-94)</i>	Authorized Secure Rural Schools payments for 2019 and 2020 to be made in 2020 and 2021.
<i>Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58)</i>	Reauthorized the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act payments for fiscal years 2021 through 2023 with payments to be in in FY 2022, FY 2023, and FY 2024.
<i>Clark County Conservation of Public Land and Natural Resources Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-282) as amended by P.L. 108-447</i>	Enlarged the area in which the BLM can sell lands under the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act; approved a land exchange in the Red Rock Canyon Area; designated wilderness; designated certain BLM lands for an airport for Las Vegas; and gave land to the State and City for certain purposes.
<i>Lincoln County Conservation, Recreation and Development Act (P.L. 108-424)</i>	Addresses a wide range of public lands issues in Lincoln County, Nevada; designates as wilderness 768,294 acres of BLM-managed lands; and releases from wilderness study area status 251,965 acres of public land. The bill also directs the BLM to dispose of up to 90,000 acres of public land and divides the proceeds 85 percent to a Federal fund and 15 percent to State and county entities, establishes utility corridors, transfers public lands for State and county parks, creates a 260-mile OHV trail, and resolves other public lands issues.
<i>P.L. 109-432, White Pine County Land Sales</i>	Authorizes the disposal through sale of 45,000 acres in White Pine County, Nevada, the proceeds of which are distributed as follows: (a) five percent for use in the general education program of the State of Nevada; (b) 10 percent to the county for use for fire protection, law enforcement, education, public safety, housing, social services, transportation, and planning; and (c) the remaining 85 percent to be used to reimburse the BLM and the DOI for certain costs, to manage unique archaeological resources, for wilderness and endangered species protection, for improving recreational opportunities in the county, and for other specified purposes.
<i>P.L. 111-11, State Share, Carson City Land Sales</i>	Authorizes five percent of the proceeds from Carson City, Nevada land sales to be paid to the State for the general education program of the State.

Summary of Requirements for Bureau of Land Management

(Dollars in Thousands)

ACCOUNT NAME	2022 Actual	2022 FTE	2023 Enacted	2023 Enacted FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-) Amount	2024 Request	2024 FTE	Change from 2023 Enacted (+/-) Amount	Change from 2023 Enacted (+/-) FTE
Miscellaneous Permanent Payments Appropriation Total	43,843	1	63,344	3	+0	0	-10,919	52,425	3	-10,919	+0
Payments to States from Proceeds of Sales (L5133)	1,741		883		+0		-84	799	0	-84	+0
Payments to States from Grazing Fees, etc. on Public Lands outside Grazing Districts (L5016)	830		978		+0		+59	1,037	0	+59	+0
Payments to States from Grazing Fees, etc. on Public Lands within Grazing Districts (L5032)	1,229		1,445		+0		+87	1,532	0	+87	+0
Payments to States from Grazing Fees, etc. on Public Lands within Grazing Districts, Misc. (L5044)	26		8		+0		+1	9	0	+1	+0
Payments to Counties, National Grasslands (Farm Tenant Lands) (L5896)	405		346		+0		+15	361	0	+15	+0
Payments to Nevada from Receipts on Land Sales (inc. 15%) (L5129)	7,188		30,419		+0		-12,603	17,816	0	-12,603	+0
State Share, Carson City Land Sales (L5561)	-		-		+0		+0	-	0	+0	+0
Payments to O&C 50% of receipts under 1937 statute	-		-		+0		+0	-	0	+0	+0
Payments to Coos and Douglas Counties under 1939 statute	-		-		+0	-	+0	-	0	+0	+0
Secure Rural Schools	32,424	1	29,265	3	+0	-	+1,606	30,871	3	+1,606	+0
Payments to O&C Counties, Title I/III	29,563		26,568		+0		+1,606	28,174	0	+1,606	+0
Payments to Coos Bay Wagon Road Counties, Title I/III	229		215		+0		+0	215	0	+0	+0
Payments to O&C and Coos Bay Wagon Road Counties, Title II	2,632	1	2,482	3	+0	-	+0	2,482	3	+0	+0

*The amounts reflect the net of sequestration and previously unavailable BA.

Appropriation: Miscellaneous Permanent Payments

Program Overview

The following activities include payments made to States and counties from the sale, lease, or use of other public lands or resources under the provisions of permanent legislation and do not require annual appropriations. The payment amounts for 2023 and 2024 are estimated based on the amounts of collections or receipts as authorized by applicable legislation and the provisions of those laws that specify the percentage of receipts to be paid to designated States, counties, or other recipients.

Payments to States from Proceeds of Sales – The BLM collects funds from the sale of public lands and materials in the limits of public domain lands pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1305. States are paid five percent of the net proceeds of these sales. The BLM makes these payments annually and payments are used by States either for educational purposes or for the construction and improvement of public roads.

Payments to States from Grazing Receipts, etc., on Public Lands Outside Grazing Districts – The States are paid 50 percent of the grazing receipts from public lands outside grazing districts (43 U.S.C. 315i, 315m). These funds are to be expended by the State for the benefit of the counties in which the lands are located. The States continue to receive receipts from public lands outside organized grazing districts. The BLM makes these payments annually.

Payments to States from Grazing Receipts, etc., on Public Lands within Grazing Districts – The States are paid 12½ percent of grazing receipts from public lands inside grazing districts (43 U.S.C. 315b, 315i). These funds are to be expended by the State for the benefit of the counties in which the lands are located. The BLM makes the payments annually.

Payments to States from Grazing Fees, etc. on Public Lands within Grazing Districts, Misc. – Also included are grazing receipts from isolated or disconnected tracts. The States are paid specifically determined amounts from grazing receipts derived from miscellaneous lands within grazing districts when payment is not feasible on a percentage basis (43 U.S.C. 315m). These funds are to be expended by the State for the benefit of the counties in which the lands are located. The BLM makes these payments annually.

Payments to Counties, National Grasslands (Farm Tenant Act Lands) – Of the revenues received from the use of *Bankhead-Jones Act* lands administered by the BLM, 25 percent is paid to the counties in which such lands are situated for schools and roads (7 U.S.C. 1012). The BLM makes payments annually on a calendar-year basis.

Payments to Nevada from Receipts on Land Sales – Payments to the State of Nevada are authorized by two Acts. The *Burton-Santini Act* authorizes and directs the Secretary to sell not more than 700 acres of public lands per calendar year in and around Las Vegas, Nevada, the proceeds of which are to be used to

acquire environmentally sensitive land in the Lake Tahoe Basin of California and Nevada. Annual revenues are distributed to the State of Nevada (5 percent) and the county in which the land is located (10 percent).

The *Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act* (SNPLMA), as amended, authorizes the disposal through sale of approximately 50,000 acres in Clark County, Nevada, the proceeds of which are to be distributed as follows: (a) 5 percent for use in the general education program of the State of Nevada; (b) 10 percent for use by Southern Nevada Water Authority for water treatment and transmission facility infrastructure in Clark County, Nevada; and (c) the remaining 85 percent for various uses by the BLM and other Federal lands. (For more information, see SNPLMA, P.L. 105-263, as amended by P.L. 107-282.)

Payments to Oregon and California Grant Lands Counties – Under the *Oregon and California Act of 1937*, the BLM paid 50 percent of receipts from Federal activities on O&C lands (mainly from timber sales) to 18 counties in western Oregon. These revenues decreased since the 1980s due to changes in Federal timber policies.

The *Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000* (P.L. 106-393) was enacted on October 30, 2000. The Act was designed to provide a predictable payment to States and counties, in lieu of funds derived from Federal timber harvests. Payments were based on historical payments, adjusted for inflation.

Payments to the 18 O&C counties were derived from:

- Revenues from Federal activities on O&C lands in the previous fiscal year that are not deposited to permanent operating funds such as the Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration or the Forest Ecosystem Health and Recovery; and
- To the extent of any shortfall, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Under P.L. 106-393, and in the extensions of it, payments for a fiscal year were made in the following fiscal year. For example, payments for 2021 were made in 2022.

Payments have been extended several times through fiscal year 2023. Under the extensions, payments tend to be reduced each year, and they are not adjusted for inflation as they were under P.L. 106-393 during the first six years.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58) Reauthorized the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act payments for fiscal years 2021 through 2023 with payments to be in in FY 2022, FY 2023, and FY 2024.

The tables below show actual payments for 2001 through 2022.

Rural Schools Payments (\$ in thousands)

Payments for 2001 in 2002	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	\$15,540	\$330	\$15,869
Amount from General Fund:	\$93,192	\$618	\$93,811
Total	\$108,732	\$948	\$109,680
Title I/III	\$101,085	\$875	\$101,960
Title II	\$7,647	\$73	\$7,720
Total	\$108,732	\$948	\$109,680

Payments for 2002 in 2003	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	\$11,519	\$229	\$11,748
Amount from General Fund:	\$98,083	\$727	\$98,809
Total	\$109,602	\$956	\$110,558
Title I/III	\$101,433	\$834	\$102,266
Title II	\$8,169	\$122	\$8,291
Total	\$109,602	\$956	\$110,558

Note: Amounts may not add due to rounding

Payments for 2003 in 2004	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	\$6,199	\$51	\$6,249
Amount from General Fund:	\$104,718	\$917	\$105,635
Total	\$110,917	\$967	\$111,884
Title I/III	\$102,468	\$844	\$103,312
Title II	\$8,449	\$124	\$8,572
Total	\$110,917	\$967	\$111,884

Payments for 2004 in 2005	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	\$11,935	\$133	\$12,068
Amount from General Fund:	\$100,424	\$847	\$101,271
Total	\$112,359	\$980	\$113,339
Title I/III	\$103,595	\$936	\$104,531
Title II	\$8,763	\$44	\$8,808
Total	\$112,359	\$980	\$113,339

Payments for 2005 in 2006	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	\$11,100	\$251	\$11,351
Amount from General Fund:	\$103,843	\$751	\$104,594
Total	\$114,943	\$1,002	\$115,946
Title I/III	\$106,123	\$955	\$107,077
Title II	\$8,820	\$48	\$8,868
Total	\$114,943	\$1,002	\$115,946

Payments for 2006 in 2007	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	\$11,720	\$530	\$12,250
Amount from General Fund:	\$104,373	\$394	\$104,767
Total	\$116,093	\$924	\$117,017
Title I/III	\$107,928	\$924	\$108,852
Title II	\$8,165	\$88	\$8,253
Total	\$116,093	\$1,013	\$117,105

Payments for 2007 in 2008*	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	\$6,354	\$297	\$6,652
Amount from General Fund:	\$109,500	\$713	\$110,213
Total	\$115,854	\$1,010	\$116,865
Title I/III	\$110,873	\$995	\$111,868
Title II	\$4,982	\$15	\$4,997
Total	\$115,854	\$1,010	\$116,865
P.L. 110-28 extended Secure Rural Schools payments for one year.			

Note: Amounts may not add due to rounding

Payments for 2008 in 2009	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	\$12,999	\$312	\$13,311
Amount from General Fund:	\$91,484	\$599	\$92,083
Total	\$104,483	\$911	\$105,394
Title I/III	\$95,870	\$838	\$96,708
Title II	\$8,614	\$73	\$8,686
Total	\$104,483	\$911	\$105,394
P.L. 110-343 extended Secure Rural Schools payments through 2011 with the final payment in 2012.			

Payments for 2009 in 2010	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	\$14,423	\$248	\$14,471
Amount from General Fund:	\$79,812	\$573	\$80,384
Total	\$94,035	\$820	\$94,855
Title I/III	\$86,420	\$755	\$87,175
Title II	\$7,615	\$65	\$7,680
Total	\$94,035	\$820	\$94,855

Payments for 2010 in 2011	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	\$9,670	\$636	\$10,306
Amount from General Fund:	\$75,077	\$102	\$75,180
Total	\$84,748	\$739	\$85,487
Title I/III	\$77,393	\$636	\$78,029
Title II	\$7,354	\$102	\$7,457
Total	\$84,748	\$739	\$85,487

Payments for 2011 in 2012	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	\$11,575	0	\$11,575
Amount from General Fund:	\$28,116	\$346	\$28,463
Total	\$39,691	\$346	\$40,037
Title I/III	\$35,992	\$318	\$36,310
Title II	\$3,699	\$28	\$3,727
Total	\$39,691	\$346	\$40,037

Payments for 2012 in 2013	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	\$11,521	\$326	\$11,847
Amount from General Fund:	\$26,162	\$0	\$26,162
Total	\$37,683	\$326	\$38,009
Title I/III	\$34,054	\$281	\$34,334
Title II	\$3,629	\$45	\$3,675
Total	\$37,683	\$326	\$38,009

Note: Amounts may not add due to rounding

Payments for 2013 in 2014	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	\$17,341	\$337	\$17,678
Amount from General Fund:	\$21,952	\$0	\$21,952
Total	\$39,293	\$337	\$39,630
Title I/III	\$35,976	\$310	\$36,286
Title II	\$3,317	\$27	\$3,344
Total	\$39,293	\$337	\$39,630
P.L. 113-40 extended Secure Rural Schools payments through 2013 with the payment to be made in 2014.			

Payments for 2014 in 2015	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	\$30,238	\$322	\$30,560
Amount from General Fund:	\$16,086	\$0	\$7,731
Total	\$35,269	\$322	\$38,291
Title I/III	\$34,802	\$296	\$35,098
Title II	\$3,167	\$26	\$3,193
Total	\$37,969	\$322	\$38,291
P.L. 114-10 extended Secure Rural Schools payments through 2014 with the payment to be made in 2015.			

Payments for 2015 in 2016	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	\$18,336	\$297	\$18,633
Amount from General Fund:	\$16,933	\$0	\$16,933
Total	\$35,269	\$297	\$35,566
Title I/III	\$32,285	\$273	\$32,558
Title II	\$2,984	\$24	\$3,008
Total	\$35,269	\$297	\$35,566
P.L. 114-10 extended Secure Rural Schools payments through 2015 with the payment to be made in 2016.			

*** No Secure Rural Schools Payment was made for 2016 (in 2017) due to expiration of SRS. County payments were made based on O&C and CBWR formulae in 43 USC 2605 and 43 USC 2621.

Payments for 2017 in 2018	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	\$8,665	\$89	\$8,754
Amount from General Fund:	\$5,243	\$0	\$5,243
Total	\$13,908	\$89	\$13,997
Title I/III	\$12,732	\$81	\$12,813
Title II	\$1,176	\$8	\$1,184
Total	\$13,908	\$89	\$13,997
P.L. 115-141 provided Secure Rural Schools payments for fiscal years 2017 and 2018 and allowed for a special “make-up” payment for 2017 after receipt-based payments were already made for 2017. Values reflect payments after sequester.			

Payments for 2019 in 2020	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	28,201	243	28,444
Amount from General Fund:	0	0	0
Total	28,201	243	28,444
Title I/III	25,815	223	26,038
Title II	2,386	20	2,406
Total	28,201	243	28,444

Payments for 2020 in 2021	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	22,484	217	22,701
Amount from General Fund:	0	0	0
Total	22,484	217	22,701
Title I/III	20,496	200	20,696
Title II	1,988	17	2,005
Total	22,484	217	22,701

Payments for 2021 in 2022	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	32,195	229	32,424
Amount from General Fund:	0	0	0
Total	32,195	229	32,424
Title I/III	29,563	210	29,773
Title II	2,632	19	2,651
Total	32,195	229	32,424

Payments for 2022 in 2023*	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	29,050	215	29,265
Amount from General Fund:	0	0	0
Total	29,050	215	29,265
Title I/III	26,568	198	26,766
Title II	2,482	17	2,499
Total	29,050	215	29,265

Payments for 2023 in 2024*	O&C	CBWR	Total
Amount from Receipts:	30,656	215	30,871
Amount from General Fund:	0	0	0
Total	30,656	215	30,871
Title I/III	28,174	198	28,372
Title II	2,482	17	2,499
Total	30,656	215	30,871

*Note: Payments for 2022 and 2023 made in FY 2023 and FY 2024 respectively are estimates. It is anticipated that there should be sufficient receipts to make these payments.

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PERMANENT OPERATING FUNDS

Appropriation Language

No Appropriation Language Sheet

Explanation

The Permanent Operating Funds Appropriation contains funds available for use by the BLM for the purposes specified in permanent laws and do not require annual appropriation action. The activities authorized by the appropriations are funded through various receipts received from the sale, lease or use of the public lands and resources. Amounts shown for 2023 and 2024 are estimates based on anticipated collections.

Appropriation Language Citations and Authorizations

Forest Ecosystem Health & Recovery Fund (P.L. 102-381)

The initial purpose of this fund was to allow quick response to fire and reforestation of forests damaged by insects, disease, and fire. Expanded authorization in the *1998 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act* allows activities designed to reduce the risk of catastrophic damage to forests in addition to responding to damage events. Funds in this account are derived from the Federal share (defined as the portion of receipts not paid to the counties under 43 U.S.C. 1181f and 43 U.S.C. 1181-1 et seq., and P.L. 106-393) of receipts from all the BLM timber salvage sales and all BLM forest health restoration treatments funded by this account. The Fund was established as a permanent appropriation in the FY 1993 Interior Appropriations Act (Public Law 102-381). This authority was subsequently amended to temporarily expand the use of the FEHRF to cover additional forest health and recovery activities. This temporary expansion also included the authority for receipts from the expanded activities to be deposited in the FEHRF and expended without having to be appropriated. The temporary, expanded authority of the FEHRF was extended for five years in the 2010 Interior Appropriations Act (P.L. 111-88, 123 STAT. 2906) and was scheduled to expire at the end of fiscal year 2015. The 2015 Omnibus Appropriations Act (Section 117) extended this authority again through 2020. The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 extended this authority through 2021. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (P.L. 117-103) included a one-year

	extension of this authority. It was extended for another year in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117-328). The 2024 President’s budget proposes a one-year extension of this authority (through September 30, 2024).
<i>Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act of 1996, section 327</i>	This Act establishes the Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration Fund, using revenues generated by timber sales released under Section 2001(k) of the <i>1995 Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Assistance and Rescissions Act</i> , which directs that 75 percent of the Pipeline Fund be used to fill each agency’s timber sale “pipeline” and that 25 percent of the Pipeline Fund be used to address the maintenance backlog for recreation projects on the BLM and U.S. Forest Service lands after statutory payments are made to State and local governments and the U.S. Treasury.
<i>1985 Interior and Related Agencies, Appropriations Act (P.L. 98-473), Section 320</i>	Establishes a permanent account in each bureau for the operation and maintenance of quarters, starting with 1985 and each fiscal year thereafter.
<i>75th Congress, 1st Session – Ch. 876 – August 28, 1937, 50 Stat. 874</i>	An Act relating to the revested Oregon and California Railroad and reconveyed Coos Bay Wagon Road grant lands situated in the State of Oregon provides that 18 counties in western Oregon be paid 50 percent of the revenues from Oregon and California grant lands.
<i>76th Congress, 1st Session – Ch. 142-144 – May 24, 1939, 53 Stat. 753</i>	An Act relating to the disposition of funds derived from the Coos Bay Wagon Road grant lands provides that Coos and Douglas counties in western Oregon be paid for lost tax revenue.
<i>The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993</i>	Amends the <i>Land and Water Conservation Fund Act</i> and further expanded collection of recreation use fees to be deposited into a special account established for each agency in the U.S. Treasury to offset the cost of collecting fees.
<i>The 1993 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act</i>	The Federal share of receipts from the disposal of salvage timber from lands under the BLM jurisdiction is deposited in a special fund in the U.S. Treasury.
<i>Section 502(c) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1762(c))</i>	Provides for the permanent appropriation of money collected from commercial road users in lieu of user maintenance. Receipts are permanently appropriated to the BLM for road maintenance.
<i>Act of October 30, 1998</i>	The legislation provides that the BLM will convey property to

<i>(P.L. 105-321)</i>	Deschutes County, Oregon, and the amount paid by the County pursuant to the Act, may be used by the Secretary of the Interior to purchase environmentally sensitive land east of Range 9 East of Willamette Meridian, Oregon.
<i>Lincoln County Conservation, Recreation and Development Act (P.L. 108-424)</i>	Addresses a wide range of public lands issues in Lincoln County, Nevada, designates as wilderness 768,294 acres of BLM-managed lands and releases from Wilderness Study Area (WSA) status 251,965 acres of public land. The Act also directs the BLM to dispose of up to 90,000 acres of public land and divides the proceeds 85 percent to a federal fund and 15 percent to State and County entities, establishes utility corridors, transfers public lands for State and County parks, creates a 260-mile off-highway vehicle trail and resolves other public lands issues.
<i>Lincoln County Land Sales (P.L. 106-298)</i>	The <i>Lincoln County Land Act of 2000</i> , among other things, authorizes the Secretary to dispose of certain lands in Lincoln County, Nevada, to distribute the proceeds as follows: Five percent to the State of Nevada, 10 percent the County, and 85 percent to an interest-bearing account that is available for expenditure without further appropriation.
<i>White River Oil Shale Mine, Utah Property Sale Provisions, The 2001 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (P.L. 106-291)</i>	The Act authorizes the sale of improvements and equipment at the White River Oil Shale Mine with the proceeds to be available for expenditure without further appropriation to reimburse (a) the Administrator for the direct costs of the sale; and (b) the Bureau of Land Management Utah State Office for the costs of closing and rehabilitating the mine.
<i>The Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (P.L. 106-248)</i>	The <i>Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act</i> (FLTFA) provides that the BLM may conduct sales of lands that have been classified as suitable for disposal under current resource management plans. This law provides that receipts from such sales may be used to acquire non-Federal lands with significant resource values that fall within the boundaries of areas now managed by the Department. The FLTFA expired on July 25, 2010. It was reauthorized through July 25, 2011 by the <i>2010 Supplemental Appropriations Act</i> (P.L. 111-212). FLTFA was permanently reauthorized in the FY 2018 Consolidated Appropriations Act (P.L. 115-141).
<i>Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (P.L. 105-263).</i>	The Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 (SNPLMA), as amended by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 1999 (P.L. 106-362); Clark County Conservation of Public Land and Natural Resources Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-282); the Department of the

Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act of 2003 (P.L. 108-108); Lincoln County Conservation, Recreation, and Development Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-424); the White Pine County Conservation, Recreation, and Development Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-432); the Omnibus Public Lands Act of 2009 (P.L. 111-11); and the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (P.L. 113–291) authorizes the Secretary, through sales, to dispose of public lands in the Las Vegas Valley. Eighty-five percent of the proceeds generated from those land sales are deposited into an interest-bearing special Treasury account that is available to the Secretary for expenditure without further appropriation. The remaining 15 percent is distributed to the State of Nevada (five percent) and the Southern Nevada Water Authority (10 percent). The Secretary may use the special Treasury account funds to reimburse the BLM for certain costs related to management of the Act, and to fund Federal, State, and local projects that support economic development and created new employment opportunities.

Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (Title VIII of P.L. 108-447)

Enacted as Title VIII of the *Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005*, this Act provides authority for 10 years for the BLM to manage public lands for recreational purposes and to collect and spend recreation use fees. The purposes for which the collections may be spent are generally for maintenance and repair of recreation facilities, visitor services, and habitat restoration related to recreation, law enforcement related to public use and recreation, and direct operating and capital costs of the recreation fee program. The current FLREA authority expires on October 1, 2024. The 2024 President’s budget proposes appropriations language to extend the authority through October 1, 2025.

Energy Policy Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-58, Sections 224 and 234, Section 365, Section 332, and Section 349)

Establishes three multi-year appropriations to use a portion of onshore mineral leasing receipts to improve oil and gas permit processing, facilitate the implementation of the *Geothermal Steam Act*, and clean up environmental contamination on the Naval Petroleum Reserve Numbered 2 in California. It also authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to establish standards under which leaseholders may reduce payments owed by the reasonable actual costs of remediating, reclaiming, and closing orphaned wells.

P.L. 109-432, White Pine County Land Sales

Authorizes the disposal through sale of 45,000 acres in White Pine County, Nevada, the proceeds of which are distributed as follows: (a) 5 percent for use in the general education program of the State of Nevada; (b) 10 percent shall be paid to the County for use for fire

protection, law enforcement, education, public safety, housing, social services, transportation, and planning; and (c) the remaining 85 percent to be used to reimburse the BLM and the DOI for certain costs, to manage unique archaeological resources, for wilderness and endangered species protection, for improving recreational opportunities in the County, and for other specified purposes.

***P.L. 111-11, Omnibus
Public Land Management
Act of 2009***

Among numerous other things, authorizes the disposal of certain lands in the Boise District of the BLM, in Washington County, Utah, and in Carson City, Nevada. It authorizes the BLM to retain and spend most of the proceeds of sales of those lands to acquire lands in wilderness and other areas and for other purposes, and to pay a portion to the States in which the sold land was located.

***Sec. 347 of P.L. 105-277,
as amended by P.L.108-7
and P.L. 113-79***

Permanently authorizes the BLM, via agreement or contract as appropriate, to enter into stewardship contracting projects with private persons or other public or private entities to perform services to achieve land management goals for the national forests and the public lands that meet local and rural community needs.

***P.L. 109-94,
Ojito Wilderness Act***

Authorizes the sale of land to the Pueblo of Zia Tribe and appropriates the proceeds of that sale to the BLM to purchase lands within the State of New Mexico.

***P.L. 113-291, National
Defense Authorization
Act***

Provides for permanent extension of the BLM's access to rental receipts in the Permit Processing Improvement Fund and, for fiscal years 2016-2026, adds fees for applications for permit to drill as a source of deposits to the Fund.

Summary of Requirements for Bureau of Land Management

(Dollars in Thousands)

ACCOUNT NAME	2022 Actual	2022 FTE	2023 Enacted	2023 Enacted FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-) Amount	2024 Amount	2024 FTE	Change from 2023 (+/-) Enacted Amount	Change from 2023 (+/-) Enacted FTE
Permanent Operating Funds	521,955	563	429,153	457	+0	0	-133,186	295,967	458	-133,186	+1
Operations & Maintenance of Quarters	996	3	850	1			+0	850	1	+0	+0
Recreation Enhancement Act, BLM	31,115	168	29,959	101			+1,025	30,984	101	+1,025	+0
Forest Ecosystem Health & Recovery	38,944	74	17,969	44			-1,377	16,592	44	-1,377	+0
Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration	5,141	17	4,122	27			-72	4,050	17	-72	-10
Expenses, Road Maintenance Deposits	4,793	14	4,300	12			+0	4,300	12	+0	+0
Southern Nevada Public Land Sales	388,546	48	270,803	41			-152,446	118,357	41	-152,446	+0
Southern Nevada Earning on Investments	2,236		50,908				+17,913	68,821		+17,913	+0
Lincoln County Land Sales	80	3	686	6			+131	817	6	+131	+0
Interest, Lincoln County Land Sales	67	-	379				+0	379		+0	+0
Federal Lands Disposal Account	3,873	-	234	-			-234	-		-234	+0
White Pine County Special Account	-	-	96	-			-90	6	0	-90	+0
Stewardship contract excess receipts	-	-	19	-			+29	48	0	+29	+0
NPR-2 Lease Revenue Account	5	-	5	-			+0	5	0	+0	+0
Oil and Gas Permit Processing Improvement Fund	46,159	236	48,823	225			+1,935	50,758	236	+1,935	+11

Note, amounts in the table reflect the net of sequestration and previously available BA.

Appropriation: Permanent Operating Funds

Program Overview

The following activities account for certain receipts received from the sale, lease, or use of public lands or resources. They are available for use by the BLM for the purposes specified in permanent laws and do not require funding via annual appropriation action by Congress. Amounts shown for 2022 and 2023 are estimates based on anticipated collections. Projected collection amounts consider such factors as market and economic indicators, expected public or industry demand levels for services or sales products, fee or collection schedules or structures, and certain legislative proposals expected to be enacted into law.

Operations & Maintenance of Quarters – This account is used to maintain and repair all the BLM employee-occupied quarters from which quarters rental charges are collected. Agencies are required to collect quarter rentals from employees who occupy Government-owned housing and quarters. This housing is provided only in isolated areas or when an employee is required to live on-site at a federally-owned facility or reservation. The BLM currently maintains and operates 188 housing or housing units in 11 States.

Recreation Fee Program, BLM – The *Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act of 2004* (FLREA), Title VIII of the *Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005*, Public Law 108-447, provides a comprehensive restatement of Federal authority, including that of the BLM, to collect and spend recreation use fees. This statute replaces prior authorities enacted in the *Land and Water Conservation Act*, the *Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993*, and the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program authority enacted in annual appropriation acts since 1996. During fiscal 2005, the BLM switched to the authorities and arrangements enacted in the FLREA.

Recreation projects operating under the former Recreational Fee Demonstration program have varying fee structures depending upon the day of week, season of use, free use days, and standardized entrance fees. Service fees, automated fee collection machines, third-party collection contracts, volunteer fee collectors, entrance booths, donations, self-serve pay stations, reservation systems, fee collection through the mail for permitted areas, special recreation permits for competitive and organized groups, and online Internet reservation payment with credit cards are examples of new collection methods the BLM has used as a result of the Recreational Fee Demonstration program. The fee structure at each site is periodically evaluated to ensure that the fees are comparable to similar sites in the surrounding area. These fees, combined with appropriated funds, are used to maintain buildings, shelters, water supply systems, fences, parking areas, and landscaping; to pump vault toilets and dump stations; to replace or repair broken or non-functioning facilities; to modify facilities to accessibility standards; and, to collect trash at recreation sites.

The Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) was enacted on December 8, 2004, as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act for 2005. All recreation fee receipts collected under this authority at BLM sites are deposited in the Recreation Fee account. The BLM returns 100 percent of these receipts back to the site where the fees were generated. The current FLREA authority expires on October 1, 2024. The

revenues collected by the Department of the Interior from these recreation fees are an important source of funding to enhance the visitor experience through maintenance, operations, and improvements to recreation facilities on public lands.

Use of Fees

The BLM Annual Maintenance program maintains assets on recreation sites. Projects that have been completed or started are quite varied in nature, and include the following accomplishments:

Repair and Maintenance - Recreation fee revenues have been used for maintaining existing facilities; repairing roofs; paving and grading roads and bridges; trail maintenance; repairing equipment and vehicles; adding communication systems; repairing gates, fences and flood damage; and repairing, replacing, installing, and expanding water systems.

Improving Visitor Services - Recreation fee revenues have been used for retrofitting restrooms and providing access to picnic areas for persons with disabilities; repairing existing restrooms or constructing new ones; landscaping recreation sites; expanding campgrounds; adding new grills and tables; constructing trails and additional tent pads; creating and adding directional signs; repairing, replacing, and constructing boat ramps; replacing and constructing boat and fishing docks; developing maps, brochures, exhibits and other outreach materials; and, designing and creating interpretive displays.

Providing for Fee Collection - Recreation fee revenues have been used for constructing fee collection facilities; purchasing and installing lighting for exhibits and kiosks; adding seasonal positions; and expanding partnerships.

Forest Ecosystem Health and Recovery Fund (FEHRF) – Funds in this account are derived from the Federal share of receipts (defined as the portion of receipts not paid to the counties under 43 U.S.C. 2605 and 43 U.S.C. 2621-1 et seq., and P.L. 106-393, as amended) from all the BLM timber salvage sales, and from the BLM forest health restoration treatments funded from this account. Funds from this account are available for planning, preparing, implementing, monitoring, and reforestation of salvage timber sales and forest health restoration treatments, including those designed to release trees from competing vegetation, control tree densities, and treat hazardous fuels. Most of these treatments are implemented through service contracts or commercial timber sales. The BLM projects may occur on Oregon and California Grant Lands, Coos Bay Wagon Road Grant Lands in Oregon, and on the public domain lands throughout the BLM.

The initial purpose of this fund was to allow quick response to fire and for reforestation of forests damaged by insects, disease, and fire. Expanded authorization in the *1998 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act* allows activities designed to promote forest health, including reducing the risk of catastrophic damage to forests in addition to responding to damage events. As noted in the Appropriation Language Citations and Authorizations section above, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 extended the current FEHRF authority through 2023.

The estimated receipts (pre-sequester and pop-up) for 2023 and 2024 are \$16.6 million and \$16.6 million, respectively. The volume of salvage timber harvested and associated revenues in any given year may vary

depending upon the severity of wildland fires, weather events such as drought and windstorms, and insect and disease mortality. The volume and value of harvest is also influenced by the demand for wood products. Estimates are confounded by 3-year contract terms which spread harvest activity and billing across multiple years. A portion of receipts are used to make payments under the O&C and CBWR receipt formulas when in effect.

In 2022, the BLM offered approximately 179 million board feet of timber worth \$40.7 million from more than 10,248 acres using FEHRF funds.

Deposits and Expenditures, Forest Ecosystem Health and Recovery Fund (\$000)				
Year	Annual Deposit	Cumulative Deposit	Annual Expenditure	Cumulative Expenditure
Earlier		10,648		3,412
1999	5,454	21,999	9,247	16,822
2000	11,888	33,887	8,906	25,728
2001	997	34,884	5,579	31,307
2002	4,986	39,870	3,883	35,190
2003	5,003	44,873	3,698	38,888
2004	5,954	50,827	4,254	43,142
2005	6,236	57,063	4,596	47,738
2006	6,795	63,858	5,779	53,517
2007	7,274	71,132	5,865	59,382
2008	5,334	76,466	6,179	65,561
2009	6,998	83,464	5,707	71,268
2010	4,270	87,734	4,880	76,148
2011	3,793	91,527	5,308	81,456
2012	6,437	97,964	4,624	86,080
2013	6,104	104,068	5,505	91,585
2014	4,524	108,592	4,991	96,576
2015	12,018	120,610	4,559	101,135
2016	8,910	129,520	5,207	106,342
2017	3,279*	132,798	6,645	112,987
2018	9,557	142,355	6,901	119,888
2019	6,248	148,603	9,673	129,561
2020	11,427	160,030	13,160	142,721
2021	9,755	169,785	9,911	152,632
2022	40,754	210,539	6,360	158,992
2023 Est.	16,592	227,131	TBD	TBD
2024 Est	16,592	243,723	TBD	TBD

*An adjustment was made in 2017 to correct a 2016 deposit error. The 2016 Annual Deposit should have been approximately 50% of the value shown due to the expiration of Secure Rural Schools. The 2017 Annual Deposit reflects the net deposit after the correction for 2016.

At the end of 2022, the unobligated balance in the FEHRF was \$7.2 million. The BLM estimates the Fund balance will be \$5.6 million at the end of fiscal years 2023 and 2024.

Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration Fund (TSPRF) – The TSPRF was established under Section 327 of the *Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996*. The Act establishes separate funds for the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and the BLM using revenues generated by timber sales released under Section 2001(k) of the *1995 Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Assistance and Rescissions Act*. This Act directs that 75 percent of the TSPRF be used to fill each agency’s timber sale “pipeline”; and, that 25 percent of the TSPRF be used to address the maintenance backlog for recreation projects on the BLM and the USFS lands. Receipts are deposited into the TSPRF after statutory payments are made to State and local governments.

Receipt estimates are confounded by 3-year contract terms which spread harvest activity and deposits across multiple years.

Deposits and Expenditures, Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration Fund (\$000)				
Year	Annual Deposit	Cumulative Deposit	Annual Expenditure	Cumulative Expenditure
1999	3,122	38,192	10,239	14,713
2000	0	38,192	8,454	23,167
2001	6,590	41,868	7,489	30,656
2002	563	42,431	5,615	36,271
2003	2,879	45,502	5,339	41,610
2004	6,993	53,421	2,904	44,514
2005	8,843	62,301	2,887	47,401
2006	12,339	74,756	5,059	52,460
2007	10,922	85,718	8,381	60,841
2008	10,396	96,093	10,340	71,181
2009	5,162	101,274	16,768	87,949
2010	4,078	105,352	10,587	98,536
2011	4,048	109,400	4,718	103,254
2012	4,023	113,423	4,514	107,768
2013	2,889	116,313	2,106	109,874
2014	2,991	119,304	3,172	113,046
2015	9,843	129,147	4,302	117,348
2016	5,321	134,468	3,232	120,580
2017	413*	134,882	4,881	125,461
2018	7,472	142,354	5,312	130,773
2019	1,728	144,082	3,589	134,362
2020	4,024	148,106	4,439	138,801
2021	2,227	150,333	4,447	143,248
2022	5,324	155,657	5,969	149,216

Deposits and Expenditures, Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration Fund (\$000)				
Year	Annual Deposit	Cumulative Deposit	Annual Expenditure	Cumulative Expenditure
2023 Est.	4,050	159,707	TBD	TBD
2024 Est.	4,050	163,757	TBD	TBD
*An adjustment was made in 2017 to correct a 2016 deposit error. The 2016 Annual Deposit should have been approximately 50% of the value shown due to the expiration of Secure Rural Schools. The 2017 Annual Deposit reflects the net deposit after the correction for 2016.				

At the end of 2022, the unobligated balance in the TSPRF was \$16.0 million. In 2023 and 2024, the BLM estimates the Fund balance will be \$1 million at the end of each respective fiscal year.

Recreation Projects Funded Through the Pipeline Fund – Significant progress has been made in western Oregon to address recreation projects using funds from the TSPRF. Through the end of 2021, 25 percent of the TSPRF has been used to complete deferred maintenance work at recreation sites scattered throughout western Oregon on O&C lands. The principal focus of recreation spending is maintaining existing facilities, resolving critical safety needs, and meeting the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The BLM has made considerable investment in projects such as renovation of water and sewer systems, upgrading restroom facilities, improving parking areas, and adapting existing recreation sites for handicapped visitors. In 2022, the actual BLM level of expenditures for recreation projects from the TSPRF was \$398,000. The estimated level of expenditures in 2023 and 2024 for recreation projects from the TSPRF is \$450,000.

Timber Sales Prepared by Use of the Pipeline Fund – Approximately 75 percent of the Federal share of TSPRF receipts is specifically used by a multiple resource team of specialists to prepare timber sales including all necessary National Environmental Policy Act environmental inventories and analyses; timber sale layout; timber cruising and appraising; and contract preparation costs. Upon completion of these requirements, a timber sale is officially prepared and placed “on-the-shelf” in anticipation of being offered for sale in future years.

Since the TSPRF legislation was signed, the BLM has harvested approximately 731 million board feet of timber from over 46,000 acres valued at approximately \$116 million from the TSPRF timber sales. For 2024, the BLM expects to expend approximately \$2.5 million for 2024 and out-year timber sales.

Expenses, Road Maintenance Deposits – This activity provides for the permanent appropriation of money collected from commercial road users in lieu of user maintenance. The receipts are permanently appropriated to the BLM for road maintenance. Users of certain roads under the BLM jurisdiction make deposits for maintenance purposes. Moneys collected are available for needed road maintenance. Monies collected on Oregon and California Grant Lands are available only for those lands (43 U.S.C. 1762(c), 43 U.S.C. 1735(b)). The BLM has authority to collect money for road maintenance from commercial users of the public lands and the public domain lands transportation system. Most of the funds generated for this account come from Oregon and California Grant Lands and are available for those lands only.

Southern Nevada Public Land Sales – This receipt account allows the BLM to record transactions authorized by SNPLMA as amended. The purpose of the Act is to provide for the orderly disposal of certain Federal lands in Clark County, Nevada, to meet the demands for community expansion and economic development, and to use the proceeds to develop trails and natural areas; for environmentally sensitive land acquisitions; to provide outdoor recreation opportunities and encourage interaction with nature; restore and protect healthy and resilient landscapes that connect important habitats; emphasize projects at Federal facilities that address resource protection, education, and visitors’ experiences; and reduce hazardous fuels in and near communities. Receipts are generated primarily through sale to the public of lands in the Las Vegas valley. Approximately 70,000 acres of public land are within the designated disposal boundary area.

Currently, funds collected from the land sales are distributed as follows:

- 5 percent to the State General Education Fund;
- 10 percent to the Southern Nevada Water Authority to fund the infrastructure needed to support the development resulting from land sales under the Act; and,
- 85 percent is deposited into a special Treasury account and available to be spent by the Secretary of the Interior.

To date, the SNPLMA has generated approximately \$3.7 billion in deposits to the special fund, including earnings on investments, from land sales since its enactment in 1998. When SNPLMA was originally passed, proceeds from land sales under the bill were estimated at roughly \$70 million per year. The net deposit of sales proceeds to the SNPLMA special account was \$388.5 million in 2022, and the 2023 and 2024 estimates are \$270.8 million and \$118.4 million respectively. Collections are reported when payments are received regardless of when sales are held, and the estimates make allowance for the normal lag of 180 days between sales and collections. For more information on SNPLMA see <http://www.blm.gov/snplma>. Those collections and estimated collection amounts exclude interest deposited to the fund and payments to the State and Southern Nevada Water Authority.

Lincoln County Sales – This receipt account allows the BLM to record transactions authorized by the LCLA and the LCCRDA. The purpose of the Acts is to provide for the disposal of certain Federal lands in Lincoln County, Nevada. Funds accumulated in the special account may be used to:

- Preserve archaeological resources, conserve habitat, manage wilderness and an OVH trail, and reimburse the BLM Nevada Offices for land sale costs related to this act;
- Process public land use authorizations and rights-of-way stemming from conveyed land; and,
- Purchase environmentally sensitive land or interests in land in the State of Nevada, with priority given to land outside Clark County.

Collections in 2022 were \$80,000. The estimated collections for 2023 and 2024 are \$686,000 and \$817,000, respectively.

Southern Nevada Public Land Management and Lincoln County Acts– Earnings on Investments – The SNPLMA, LCLA and LCCRDA authorize the Secretary to manage the collections account for the purposes set out above, and to use interest generated from the above-mentioned funds. The BLM is authorized to invest the unspent balance of collections from the SNPLMA, and both Acts associated with Lincoln County (LCLA and LCCRDA) land sale receipts. Earnings on investments in 2022 for the SNPLMA special Treasury account were approximately \$2.2 million and are estimated to be approximately \$50.9 million in 2023 and \$68.8 million in 2024. Interest Earnings associated with Lincoln County were \$67,000 in 2022 and are estimated to be \$379,000 in both 2023 and 2024. Projected investment earnings take into account revenue from land sales, earnings on investments, interest earnings from land sales, and projected interest rates and outlays. Funds in the special accounts earn interest at a rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury and are available for expenditure by the Secretary without further appropriation under the provisions of the Acts.

Stewardship "End Results" Contracting Fund – The *2003 Omnibus Appropriations Act* (P.L. 108-7), Section 323, amended Section 347 of the *1999 Appropriation Omnibus* (P.L. 105-277, Oct. 21, 1998) that originally granted the USFS pilot stewardship contracting authority. Until September 30, 2013, the USFS and the BLM, via agreement or contract as appropriate, may enter into stewardship contracting projects with private persons or other public or private entities to perform services to achieve land management goals for the national forest and the public lands that meet local and rural community needs.

The *Agriculture Act of 2014* (P.L. 113-79) provides permanent stewardship contracting authority. The Act grants the BLM the ability to utilize stewardship contracting as a tool for forest and rangeland restoration. The BLM may apply the value of timber or other forest products removed as an offset against the cost of services received, and monies from a contract under subsection (a) may be retained by the USFS and the BLM and shall be available for expenditure without further appropriation at the project site from which the monies are collected or at another project site. In 2022, the BLM did not deposit into the Fund. In 2023 and 2024, the BLM expects to deposit \$20,000 and \$50,000 into the Fund, respectively.

Federal Land Disposal Account – The *Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act* (FLTFA), provides authority for the use of receipts from disposal actions by the BLM to purchase inholdings and lands adjacent to federally designated areas containing exceptional resources, as defined in FLTFA, from willing sellers with acceptable titles, at fair market value, to “promote consolidation of the ownership of public and private lands in a manner that would allow for better overall resource management administrative efficiency, or resource allocation.” Four percent of the FLTFA collections are paid to the State in which the land is sold.

Owyhee Land Acquisition Account – The Owyhee Land Acquisition Account was established under Section 1505 of the *Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009*. This account provides a process for orderly sale of certain public lands in Boise District of the BLM that, as of July 25, 2000, had been identified for disposal in an appropriate resource management plan. In 2022, there were no deposits, and none are estimated for 2023 and 2024.

Washington County, Utah Land Acquisition Account – This account was established under Section 1778 of the *Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009*. This account provides a process for the orderly sale of certain public lands in Washington County, Utah, that, as of July 25, 2000, had been identified for disposal in appropriate resource management plans. Proceeds from the sale of public land are deposited into the “Washington County, Utah Land Acquisitions Account.” Amounts in the account are available to the Secretary to purchase, from willing sellers, inholdings of lands or interest in land within the wilderness areas and National Conservation Area established by the *Omnibus Public Land Management Act*. There are no deposits estimated for 2023 and 2024.

NPR-2 Lease Revenue Account – Section 331 of the *Energy Policy Act of 2005* (P.L.109–58) transferred Naval Petroleum Reserve Number 2 from the Department of Energy to the DOI and appropriates a portion of revenues from mineral leases on the site to remove environmental contamination. The appropriations end when the cleanup is completed. In 2022 there were \$5,000 in deposits. In 2023 and 2024, the BLM expects to deposit \$5,000 into the Fund.

Permit Processing Improvement Fund – Section 365 of the *Energy Policy Act of 2005* (P.L.109–58) permanently directs that 50 percent of rents from onshore mineral leases for oil and gas, coal, and oil shale on Federal lands are to be deposited into the Permit Processing Improvement Fund (PPIF), and authorized the BLM access to the PPIF from 2006 through 2016 for the purpose of identifying and implementing improvements and cost efficiencies in processing oil and gas applications for permit to drill (APDs) and related work.

Section 3021 of the *National Defense Authorization Act of 2015* (2015 NDAA) (P.L. 113-291) permanently extended the BLM’s access to the rent receipts in the PPIF. Section 3021 of the 2015 NDAA also added fees for APDs as a source of receipts to the PPIF. Specifically, Section 3021 authorizes the Secretary in fiscal years 2016 through 2026 to charge and collect a \$9,500 APD processing fee, indexed for inflation. The 2015 NDAA authorized APD fee obviated the need for the \$6,500 APD processing fee that had been authorized in annual appropriations acts for several years prior to the enactment of the 2015 NDAA.

The 2015 NDAA created two sub-accounts within the PPIF to accommodate these two sources of receipts:

- The Rental Account is comprised of rents from oil, gas, and coal leases not paid to States.
- The Fee Account is comprised of fees paid for oil and gas applications for permit to drill.

The law requires that the rental account is used for coordination and processing of oil and gas use authorizations by the BLM project offices. The *Energy Policy Act of 2005* (P.L. 109-58) designated permit processing Pilot Offices in seven BLM Field Offices. These “pilot offices” were redesignated as “Project Offices” by Section 3021 of the 2015 National Defense Authorization Act. The Federal Permit Streamlining Pilot Project and associated funding have enhanced BLM’s ability to coordinate with other Federal and State agencies in connection with oil and gas permitting to improve and streamline permit review process.

The law requires that the fee account is used for the same purposes but is not limited to the activities of project offices.

In 2022, the BLM deposited \$45.3 million into the PPIF, including both rental receipts and APD fees. In 2023 and 2024, the BLM anticipates depositing \$49 million and \$50.9 million into the Fund, respectively. For background purposes, pursuant to the NDAA, from 2016 through 2019, 15 percent of APD collections were subject to appropriation while 85 percent were permanently appropriated. Beginning in 2020, all APD fees in the PPIF are permanently appropriated for BLM use in permit processing. For more information on the use of this Fund, please see the Oil and Gas Management section in the Management of Lands and Resources Chapter.

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MISCELLANEOUS TRUST FUNDS

Appropriations Language

In addition to amounts authorized to be expended under existing laws, there is hereby appropriated such amounts as may be contributed under section 307 of Public Law 94–579 (43 U.S.C. 1737), and such amounts as may be advanced for administrative costs, surveys, appraisals, and costs of making conveyances of omitted lands under section 211(b) of that Act (43 U.S.C. 1721(b)), to remain available until expended. (*Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023.*)

Appropriations Language Citations

1. In addition to amounts authorized to be expended under existing laws,

In addition to the amounts provided under other statutes for the BLM operations and activities.

2. here is hereby appropriated such amounts as may be contributed under section 307 of Public Law 94–579 (43 U.S.C. 1737),

This appropriation consists of both current and permanent funds. The current appropriations are the contributions authorized by the *Federal Land Policy Management Act* (FLPMA) section 307 (c), which allows parties to contribute funds to the BLM for resource development, protection, and management activities; for acquisition and conveyance of public lands; and for cadastral surveys on federally controlled or intermingled lands.

3. and such amounts as may be advanced for administrative costs, surveys, appraisals, and costs of making conveyances of omitted lands under section 211(b) of that Act (43 U.S.C. 1721(b)),

The permanent appropriation allows the BLM to spend funds contributed under the authority of the *Taylor Grazing Act* and under authority of various land survey acts.

4. to remain available until expended.

The language makes the funds available without fiscal year limitation. This type of account allows BLM a valuable degree of flexibility needed to support multi-year contracts, agreements and purchases.

Appropriation Language Citations and Authorizations

Statutes that authorize permanent mandatory trust funds:

- The Taylor Grazing Act of 1934, as amended (43 U.S.C. 315h, 315i)*** Provides for the Secretary of the Interior to accept contributions for the administration, protection, and improvement of grazing lands, and for these funds to be deposited into the Treasury in a trust fund; the Act also permanently appropriates them for use by the Secretary.
- The Act of March 3, 1891, Section 11 (43 U.S.C. 355)*** Provides for the sale of town lots to non-Native Alaskans. This Act was repealed by FLPMA in 1976. However, the Comptroller General Opinion of November 18, 1935, and 31 U.S.C. 1321 authorizes the use of trust funds to provide for survey and deed recordation of town lots occupied prior to passage of FLPMA.
- 43 U.S.C. 759*** Provides for accomplishment of public surveys of whole townships through a trust fund; deposits for expenses deemed appropriated. 43 U.S.C. 761 provides for refunds from trust funds established in 43 U.S.C. 759 of costs in excess of expenses.
- 31 U.S.C. 1321(a)(47) and (48)*** Classifies the activities of "Expenses, public survey work, general" and "Expenses, public survey work, Alaska" as trust funds.
- 48 Stat. 1224-36*** Provides for payments in advance for public surveys.

Statutes that authorize current mandatory appropriations of trust funds:

- 43 U.S.C. 1721(a) and (b) (FLPMA Section 211(a) and (b))*** Provides for the donation of funds for surveys of omitted lands.
- The Comptroller General Opinion of November 18, 1935, and 31 U.S.C. 1321*** Authorizes the use of trust funds to provide for survey and deed recordation of town lots occupied prior to passage of FLPMA.
- The Sikes Act of 1974, as amended (16 U.S.C. 670 et seq.)*** Provides for the conservation, restoration, and management of species and their habitats in cooperation with State wildlife agencies.

Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009, Division E— Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2009, P.L. 111-8, March 10, 2009 Provides that project to be funded pursuant to a written commitment by a state government to provide an identified amount of money in support of the project may be carried out by the Bureau on a reimbursable basis.

Summary of Requirements for Bureau of Land Management
(Dollars in Thousands)

ACCOUNT NAME	2022 Actual	2022 FTE	2023 Enacted	2023 Enacted FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-) Amount	2024 Amount	2024 FTE	Change from 2023 (+/-) Enacted Amount	Change from 2023 (+/-) Enacted FTE
Current:	22,690	92	30,000	81	+0	0	+0	30,000	76	+0	-5
Conveyance of Omitted Lands	-	-	-	-			+0	-	0	+0	+0
Resource Development Protection & Management - FLPMA	15,079	36	19,937	54			+0	19,937	51	+0	-3
Resource Development Protection & Management - California Off-Highway	7,143	56	9,444	25			+0	9,444	23	+0	-2
Wildlife & Fish Conservation & Rehabilitation - Sikes Act	417	-	551	2			+0	551	2	+0	+0
Rights-Of-Way	51	-	68	-			+0	68	0	+0	+0
Permanent:	1,026	7	1,650	9	+0	0	+0	1,650	7	+0	-2
Resource Development Protection & Management - Taylor Grazing Act	796	4	1,266	4			+0	1,266	4	+0	+0
Public Survey	230	3	384	5			+0	384	3	+0	-2
Donations	-	-	-	-			+0	-	0	+0	+0
Total, Miscellaneous Trust Fund	23,716	99	31,650	90	+0	0	+0	31,650	83	+0	-7

Appropriation: Miscellaneous Trust Funds (Current and Permanent)

Activity Description

The Land and Resource Management Trust Fund provides for resource development, protection, and management improvement of the public lands using money and services that are contributed to the BLM from non-Federal sources.

Contributions and donations of money from private individuals, companies, user organizations, State government agencies, and other non-Federal entities provide for the performance of certain conservation practices. Any money remaining after the project is completed is returned to the contributor if they desire.

Current Appropriations:

Funds are routinely received for the following purposes:

- **Conveyance of Omitted Lands** – This activity accounts for contributed funds for land and realty actions from non-Federal sources or applicants as agreed to through an established contribution agreement.
- **Resource Development, Protection, and Management – FLPMA** – According to the FLPMA, the BLM can accept contributed money or services for resource development, protection, and management; conveyance or acquisition of public lands; and conducting cadastral surveys.
- **Resource Development, Protection and Management of California Off-Highway Vehicles** – Includes contributions from the State of California Off-Highway Vehicle license (“Green Sticker”) fund. The BLM uses this fund for the development, maintenance, and operation of benefiting projects on BLM-administered public lands in California. The BLM requests these funds from the State of California each year through a competitive process. The amount awarded to the BLM varies each year.
- **Wildlife & Fish Conservation & Rehabilitation – Sikes Act** – The *Sikes Act* authorizes State game and fish departments to charge fees for activities such as hunting, fishing, and trapping on Federal lands. These funds are shared with the BLM and used by the BLM for the conservation, restoration, management, and improvement of wildlife species and their habitat.
- **Rights-of-Way** – This activity accounts for funds contributed by private entities to pay the casework costs of processing Rights-of-Way grants requested by them.

Permanent Appropriations:

The following funds are permanently available as Permanent Miscellaneous Trust Funds to the Secretary of the Interior for efforts as specified by the authorizing Act:

- ***Taylor Grazing Act Contributions*** – These contributions are permanently appropriated as trust funds to the Secretary for rangeland improvement.
- ***Public Survey Contributions*** – These funds are contributions from individuals, companies, or other users of the public lands, for cadastral survey services provided by the BLM.
- ***Trustee Funds, Alaska Townsites*** – These contributions are provided for the sale of town lots to non-Native Alaskans. These trust funds provide for the survey and deed transfer of town lots. Purchasers pay the cost of survey and deed transfer plus \$25. (Native Alaskans are exempt from payment.) Only lots occupied before the passage of the FLPMA may be deeded to the occupants; all other lots are the property of the municipality.

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Helium Fund and Operations

Appropriations Language

No appropriations language.

Explanation

No appropriations language is necessary. The *Helium Stewardship Act of 2013*, P.L. 113-40, provides the authority and funding for operation of the program.

Summary of Requirements for Bureau of Land Management
(Dollars in Thousands)

ACCOUNT NAME	2022 Actual	2022 FTE	2023 Enacted	2023 Enacted FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-) Amount	2024 Amount	2024 FTE	Change from 2023 (+/-) Amount	Change from 2023 (+/-) FTE
Helium Fund	61,494	-	45,184	-			+0	32,670		-12,514	-
Sale of Helium - Collections	61,494		45,184				-12,514	32,670		-12,514	
Offsetting Collections	(61,494)		(45,184)				+12,514	(32,670)		+12,514	
Helium Fund & Operations	22,714	46	23,395	10			+605	24,000	10	+605	+0
Production and Sales	15,020	22	15,471	6			+399	15,870	6	+399	+0
Transmission & Storage of Operations	4,411	12	4,543	2			+118	4,661	2	+118	+0
Administrative and Other Expenses	3,283	12	3,381	2			+88	3,469	2	+88	+0

Activity: Helium Fund and Operations

Program Overview

Program Responsibilities

The BLM, through its New Mexico State Office, administers the Federal Helium Program that is responsible for the conservation and sale of federally owned helium. The BLM operates and maintains a helium storage reservoir, enrichment plant, and pipeline that supplies over 40 percent of the domestic demand for helium. BLM anticipates sale of the Cliffside Helium Plant between September 2023 and December 2024; in that event, operations and revenues for FY 2023 and FY 2024 may be significantly different from the estimates below.

Program Purpose

The *Helium Act Amendments of 1960*, P.L. 86-777 (50 U.S.C. 167), authorizes activities necessary to provide sufficient helium to meet the current and foreseeable future needs of essential government activities. The *Helium Privatization Act of 1996* (HPA), P.L. 104-273, provides for the eventual privatization of the program and its functions, specifying that once the helium debt is retired, the Helium Production Fund will be dissolved. The debt was repaid at the beginning of fiscal year 2014.

The Helium Stewardship Act of 2013 (HSA), Public Law 113-40, provided for continued operation of the Helium program while facilitating a gradual exit from the helium market. The Helium program consists of: (a) continued storage and transmission of crude helium; (b) oversight of the production of helium on Federal lands; and (c) administration of in-kind and open market crude helium gas sale programs. To minimize impacts to the helium market, the HSA provided a "glide path" from the sales mandated under HPA, increasing the sales price of helium through an auction mechanism and reducing the total volume of helium sold each year until the amount in storage reaches 3.0 billion cubic feet. The 3.0 bcf target was reached October 1, 2018 and the BLM is no longer selling crude helium. The Federal In-Kind program also ended in September 2022. Additionally, the HSA directs the BLM to transfer all assets for disposal to GSA by September 30, 2021. The GSA, following its disposal process, will complete marketing and asset valuation and dispose of all assets.

Components

The physical components of the Federal Helium Program include the Federal helium reserve, the Cliffside gas field, the helium enrichment unit, the Federal helium pipeline, and other infrastructure owned, leased, or managed under contract by the Secretary of the Interior for the storage, transportation, withdrawal, enrichment, purification, or management of helium.

The operational components of the Helium program include managing the helium storage system to ensure that excess helium produced from natural gas processing plants connected to the pipeline network is

conserved for future use. Federally owned natural gas containing marketable helium reserves is identified and contracted for sale or royalty to enhance conservation of crude helium already in storage. The BLM also administers the helium fee and royalty contracts for helium extracted from gas produced on Federal lands. Finally, the BLM is responsible for evaluating the Nation’s helium-bearing gas fields and providing responsible access to Federal land for managed recovery and disposal of helium.

Pursuant to the HSA, the Federal Helium Program is funded with revenue generated from the sale of crude helium (through sales and auctions) and revenue from in-kind crude helium sales, sales of natural gas and natural gas liquids, and royalties from the extraction of helium from Federal lands. Revenue in excess of program operating costs is transferred to the General Fund of the Treasury. The table below shows actual and estimated revenues utilized to operate the Helium Program.

Helium Program		\$ in thousands				
	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Estimate	2024 Estimate
Total Revenues*	46,154	57,605	64,182	61,494	45,184	32,670

*Includes amounts retained by BLM for operations of the Helium program (as shown in the Summary of Requirements table). Revenues in excess of program operating costs are transferred to the Treasury.

In FY 2020, the Amarillo Field Office collected \$57,605,000 in revenue.

In FY 2021, the Amarillo Field Office collected \$64,182,000 in revenue.

In FY 2022, the Amarillo Field collected \$61,494,000 in revenue, including \$6,480,000 by the sale of natural gas and natural gas liquids, \$30,794,000 in fees and royalties, \$5,628,000 in storage services, and \$18,591,000 in in-kind sales.

In FY 2023, the Amarillo Field Office is expected to generate \$45,184,000 by the sale of natural gas and natural gas liquids (\$6,674,000), and fees and royalties (\$31,718,000), storage services (\$5,797,000), and in-kind sales (\$995,000).

In FY 2024, the Amarillo Field Office is expected to generate \$32,670,000 in fees and royalties. This is an estimate based on the pending privatization of the Federal Helium System, outlined in the Helium Stewardship Act of 2013.

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ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Appropriations Language

The Bureau of Land Management may carry out the operations funded under this Act by direct expenditure, contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, and reimbursable agreements with public and private entities, including with States. Appropriations for the Bureau shall be available for purchase, erection, and dismantlement of temporary structures, and alteration and maintenance of necessary buildings and appurtenant facilities to which the United States has title; up to \$100,000 for payments, at the discretion of the Secretary, for information or evidence concerning violations of laws administered by the Bureau; miscellaneous and emergency expenses of enforcement activities authorized or approved by the Secretary and to be accounted for solely on the Secretary's certificate, not to exceed \$10,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding Public Law 90–620 (44 U.S.C. 501), the Bureau may, under cooperative cost-sharing and partnership arrangements authorized by law, procure printing services from cooperators in connection with jointly produced publications for which the cooperators share the cost of printing either in cash or in services, and the Bureau determines the cooperator is capable of meeting accepted quality standards: *Provided further*, That projects to be funded pursuant to a written commitment by a State government to provide an identified amount of money in support of the project may be carried out by the Bureau on a reimbursable basis. (*Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023.*)

Appropriation Language Citations and Authorizations

44 U.S.C. 501

Provides that all executive, congressional, and judicial printing must be done at the GPO, except for printing in field plants operated by executive departments or independent offices if approved by the Joint Committee on Printing.

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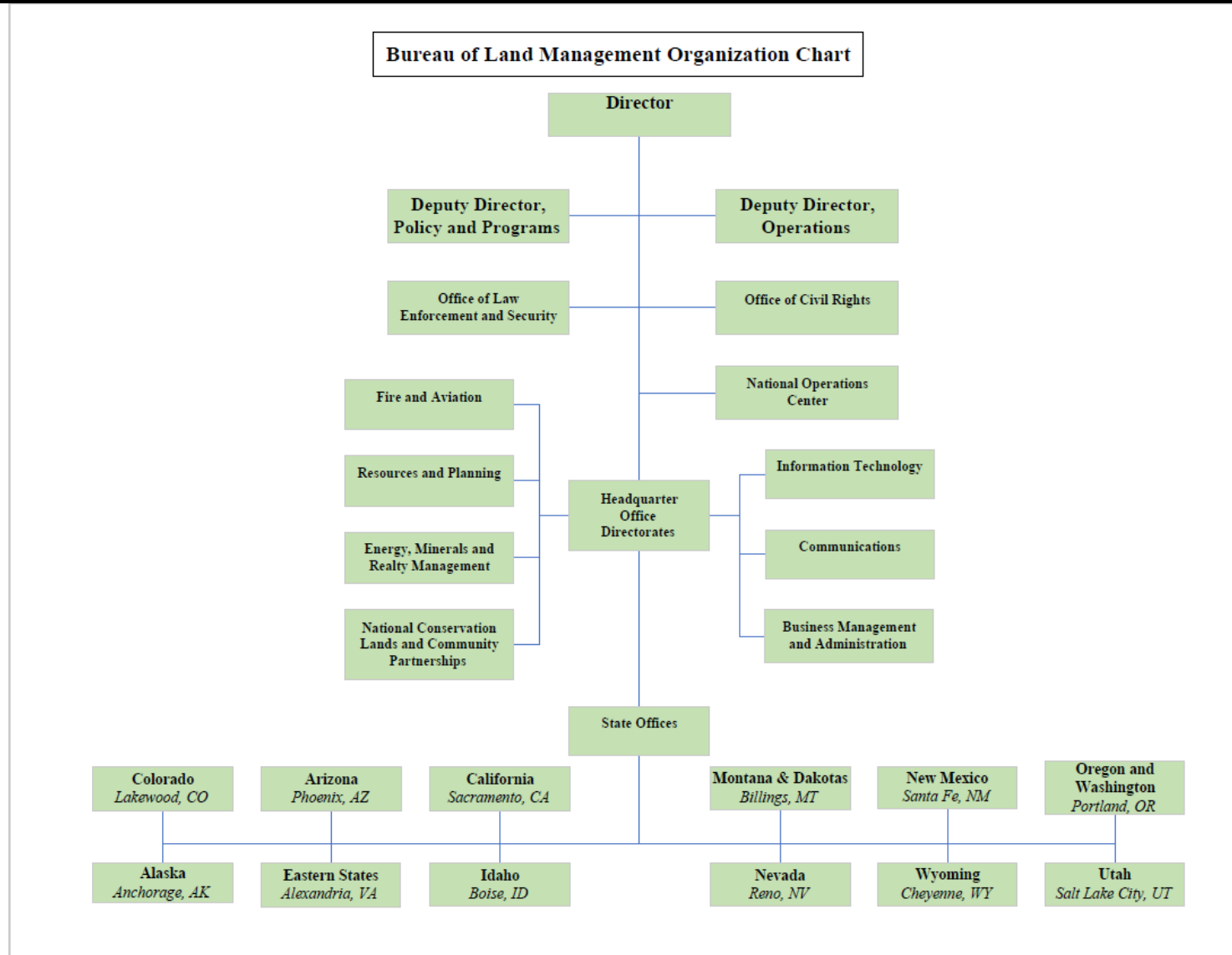
Employee Count By Grade

Bureau of Land Management

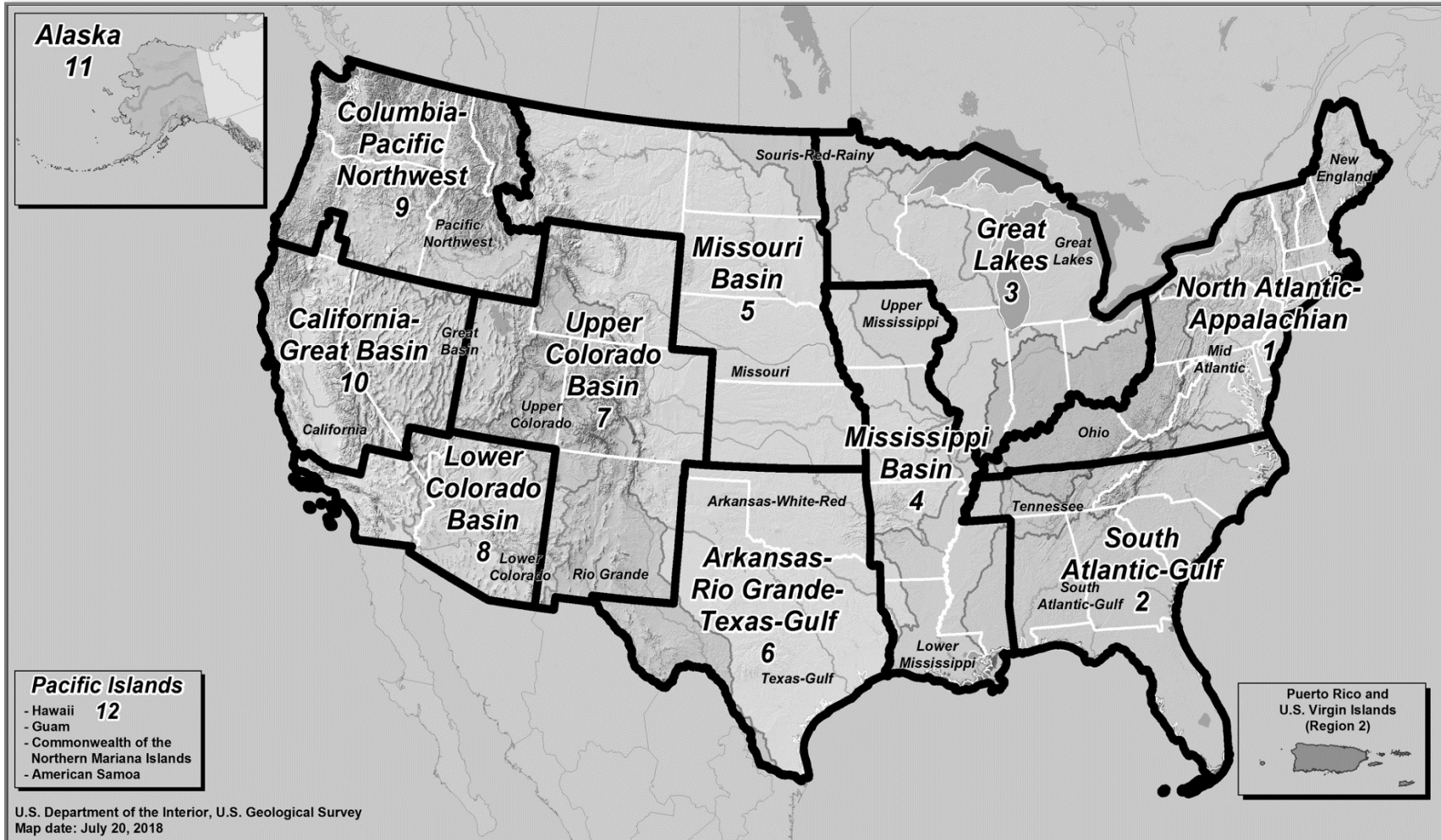
Employee Count by Grade (Total Employment)

Employee Count by Grade	2022 Actuals	2023 Estimate	2024 Estimate
Executive Level V	1	1	1
SES	21	21	21
Subtotal	22	22	22
SL - 00	0	0	0
ST - 00	0	0	0
Subtotal	0	0	0
GS/GM -15	82	83	88
GS/GM -14	342	348	365
GS/GM -13	922	939	985
GS -12	1,679	1,710	1,795
GS -11	2,577	2,625	2,755
GS -10	37	38	40
GS - 9	1,082	1,102	1,157
GS - 8	408	415	436
GS - 7	1,040	1,059	1,111
GS - 6	401	408	428
GS - 5	516	525	551
GS - 4	460	468	491
GS - 3	251	255	268
GS - 2	3	3	3
GS - 1	0	0	0
Subtotal	9,800	9,978	10,473
Other Pay Schedule Systems	458	466	489
Total employment (actuals & estimates)	10,280	10,466	10,984
Total FTE usage (actual & projected)	9,488	9,622	10,083

Table of Organization



DOI 12 Unified Regions



List of Acronyms

ABC/M.....	Activity Based Costing/Management
ACHP.....	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
ADEC.....	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
AFMSS.....	Automated Fluid Minerals Support System
AGO.....	America’s Great Outdoors
AHM.....	Aquatic Habitat Management
AIM.....	Assessment, Inventory, and Monitoring Strategy
AML.....	Appropriate Management Levels
AML.....	Abandoned Mine Lands
AML/HMM.....	Abandoned Mine Lands and Hazardous Materials Management
AMSCM.....	Abandoned Mine Site Cleanup Module
ANCSA.....	<i>Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971</i>
AOGCC.....	Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
AOP.....	Aquatic Organism Passage
APD.....	Applications to Permit for Drill
APP&R.....	Annual Performance Plan and Report
ARPA.....	<i>Archaeological Resource Protection Act</i>
ASQ.....	Allowable Sale Quantity
AUM.....	Animal Unit Month
BCI.....	Bat Conservation International
BLM.....	Bureau of Land Management
BIA.....	Bureau of Indian Affairs
BIL.....	Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
BPI.....	Budget and Performance Integration

BY.....	Budget Year
CADR.....	Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution
CAFF.....	Arctic Council’s Conservation of Flora and Fauna Working Group
CASHE.....	Compliance Assessment—Safety, Health, and the Environment
CBMP.....	Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program
CBWR.....	Coos Bay Wagon Road
CCC.....	Climate Conservation Corps
CEQ.....	Council on Environmental Quality
CERCLA.....	<i>Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act</i>
CFR.....	Comprehensive Facility Review
CHF.....	Central Hazardous Materials Fund
CIRI.....	Cook Inlet Region Inc
CLP.....	Collaborative Landscape Planning
CO.....	Commissioner’s Office
COG.....	Coordination and Oversight Group
CPIC.....	Capital Planning and Investment Control
CSNM.....	Cascade Siskiyou National Monument
DEC.....	Design, Estimating, and Construction
DM.....	Deferred Maintenance
DoD.....	Department of Defense
DOE.....	Department of Energy
DOI.....	Department of the Interior
DRECP.....	California Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan
EGIS.....	Enterprise Geospatial Information System
EOY.....	End of Year
ESA.....	<i>Endangered Species Act</i>

EMS.....	Environmental Management System
ESD.....	Ecological Site Descriptions
FASAB.....	Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board
FBMS.....	Financial and Business Management System
FCI.....	Facilities Condition Index
FEHRF.....	Forest Ecosystem Health and Recovery Fund
FIAT.....	Fire and Invasives Assessment Tool
FLPMA.....	<i>Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976</i>
FLTFA.....	<i>Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act</i>
FOGRMA.....	<i>Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act</i>
FPPS.....	Federal Personnel Payroll System
FRIS.....	Forest Resource Information System
FRR.....	Facility Reliability Rating
FTE.....	Full-time Equivalent
FWS.....	Fish and Wildlife Service
FY.....	Fiscal Year
GAOA.....	Great American Outdoors Act
GAO.....	Government Accountability Office
GCDB.....	Geographic Coordinate Data Base
GHG.....	Green House Gas
GIS.....	Geographic Information System
GLO.....	General Land Office Automated Records System
GPRA.....	<i>Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, and GPRA Modernization Act of 2010</i>
GRSG.....	Greater Sage-Grouse
GSA.....	General Services Administration
GSC.....	Geospatial Steering Committee

GW	Gigawatt
HL.....	Healthy Landscapes
HMA.....	Herd Management Area
HOL.....	Hands on the Land
HSA.....	<i>Helium Stewardship Act of 2013</i>
HMM.....	Hazardous Materials Management
I&E.....	Inspection & Enforcement
IOAA.....	<i>Independent Office Appropriation Act</i>
IRA.....	<i>Inflation Reduction Act of 2022</i>
IT.....	Information Technology
IWRS.....	Indian Water Rights Settlement(s)
LBA.....	Lease by Application
LCCs.....	Land Conservation Cooperatives
LMR.....	Land Mobile Radio
LPP.....	Low-Priority Programs
LSC.....	Life Safety Codes
LUP.....	Land-Use Planning
LWCF.....	Land and Water Conservation Fund
MLP.....	Master Leasing Plan
MOP.....	Maintenance Operation Plans
MMBF.....	Million Board Feet
MRR.....	Major Rehabilitation and Replacement
MTS.....	Mineral Tracking System
MW.....	Megawatt
NAGPRA.....	<i>Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act</i>
NAS.....	National Academy of Science

NCA.....	National Conservation Area
NCL.....	National Conservation Lands
NDAA.....	<i>National Defense Authorization Act</i>
NEPA.....	<i>National Environmental Policy Act</i>
NFLSS.....	National Fluid Lease Sale System
NFWF.....	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
NFWPCAP.....	National Fish, Wildlife and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy of 2012
NGO.....	Non-Governmental Organization
NHPA.....	<i>National Historic Preservation Act</i>
NM.....	National Monument
NMFS.....	National Marine Fisheries Service
NPLD.....	National Public Lands Day
NPR-A.....	National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska
NPS.....	National Park Service
NRDA.....	Natural Resource Damage Assessment
NOS.....	Notices of Staking
NSB.....	North Slope Borough
NSDI.....	National Spatial Data Infrastructure
NSPL.....	National System of Public Lands
NSSI.....	North Slope Science Initiative
NWFP.....	Northwest Forest Plan
O&C.....	Oregon and California
O&M.....	Operation and Maintenance
OHV.....	Off-Highway Vehicles
OIG.....	Office of the Inspector General
OM&R.....	Operation, Maintenance, and Replacement

OMB.....	Office of Management and Budget
ONRR.....	Office of the Natural Resources Revenue
OPM.....	Office of Personnel Management
PD.....	Public Domain
PEIS.....	Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement
PFR.....	Periodic Facility Review
PG.....	Priority Goals
PI.....	Performance Improvement
PL.....	Public Law
PLSS.....	Public Land Survey System
PPIF.....	Permit Processing Improvement Fund
PRP.....	Potentially Responsible Parties
PRPA.....	<i>Omnibus Public Lands Act of 2009</i>
RDM.....	Red Devil Mine
REA.....	Rapid Ecoregional Assessments
RECO.....	Renewable Energy Coordination Offices
RFP.....	Request for Proposal
RI.....	Remedial Investigations
RIA.....	Economic and Threshold Regulatory Impact Analysis
RI/FS.....	Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
RMP.....	Resource Management Plans
ROAM.....	Reclaim Our Arizona Monuments
ROW.....	Rights-of-Way
RPS.....	Renewable Portfolio Standard
ROD.....	Record of Decision
SDMS.....	Spatial Data Management System

SEZ.....Solar Energy Zone

SFLT.....Service First Leadership Team

SNPLMA.....*Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act*

SOS.....Seeds of Success

SRS.....Secure Rural Schools

SSLE.....Security, Safety, and Law Enforcement

SSPP.....Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan

STEM.....Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

T&E.....Threatened and Endangered

UA.....Universal Accessibility

USFS.....United States Forest Service

USGS.....United States Geological Survey

WCF.....Working Capital Fund

WHB.....Wild Horse and Burro

WIS.....Well Information System

WSA.....Wilderness Study Area

WSR.....Wild and Scenic Rivers

XM.....Extraordinary Maintenance

YHONA.....Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area