

# National Conservation Lands

The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) system of National Conservation Lands includes approximately 37 million acres of nationally significant landscapes with outstanding historic, cultural, ecological, and scientific values. Congress and presidents have provided specific designations to these lands to conserve, protect, and restore them for the benefit of current and future generations.

## Background

BLM created the National Landscape Conservation System (National Conservation Lands) in 2000. Congress codified the system in the Omnibus Public Lands Act of 2009 (PL 111-11) and directed the Secretary of the Interior to manage these lands "in a manner that protects the values for which the components of the system were designated" and in accordance with any applicable law. Mostly located in the West, these lands provide outstanding cultural and ecological resources, abundant recreational opportunities, and important scientific research grounds.

## National Conservation Lands

The National Conservation Lands system include BLM lands with the following congressional and presidential designations:

- National Monuments
- National Historic Trails
- National Scenic Trails
- Wild and Scenic Rivers
- Wilderness Areas
- Wilderness Study Areas
- National Conservation Areas
- Additional areas designated by Congress for inclusion in the system



The Iditarod National Historic Trail is the only winter trail in the National Trails System and the only Congressionally-designated National Historic Trail in Alaska. The Iditarod National Historic Trail system is comprised of a 1,000-mile main trail with an additional 1,400 miles of additional trails that link communities and historic sites. The Iditarod Trail served as an important connector between settlements during the Alaska Gold Rush Era beginning in the late nineteenth century, where information and goods flowed.

PHOTO COURTESY KEVIN KEELER/BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

## FY 2023 Appropriations Request

**Please support \$78.145 million for the Bureau of Land Management's National Conservation Lands in the FY 2023 Interior Appropriations bill.**

**APPROPRIATIONS BILL:** Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management

**ACCOUNT:** Management of Lands and Resources

**ACTIVITY:** National Landscape Conservation System (National Conservation Lands)

### Recent Funding History:

|  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| <b>FY 2020 Enacted Funding:</b>            | <b>\$43.819 million</b> |
| <b>FY 2021 Enacted Funding:</b>            | <b>\$45.819 million</b> |
| <b>FY 2022 Enacted Funding:</b>            | <b>\$45.819 million</b> |
| <b>FY 2023 President's Budget Request:</b> | <b>\$68.304 million</b> |
| <b>FY 2023 NTHP Recommendation:</b>        | <b>\$78.145 million</b> |

**JUSTIFICATION:** A sharp increase in funding for the National Conservation Lands is necessary to return to its FY 2006 funding level. Such an increase is needed to properly administer the system's expansion by 10 million acres since 2006. Increased funding will permit increased inventory, monitoring, and protection of cultural resources, enhancing proper management of all resources and providing a quality visitor experience.

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

### National Conservation Lands by State

#### ALASKA

Iditarod National Historic Trail  
Steese National Conservation Area  
1 Wilderness Study Area  
6 Wild and Scenic Rivers

#### ARIZONA

Agua Fria National Monument  
Arizona National Scenic Trail  
Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area  
Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument  
Ironwood Forest National Monument  
Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail  
Las Cienegas National Conservation Area  
Old Spanish National Historic Trail  
San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area  
Sonoran Desert National Monument  
Vermilion Cliffs National Monument  
47 Wilderness Areas; 2 Wilderness Study Areas

#### CALIFORNIA

Alabama Hills National Scenic Area  
Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument  
California Coastal National Monument  
California National Historic Trail  
Carrizo Plain National Monument  
Fort Ord National Monument  
Headwaters Forest Reserve  
Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail  
King Range National Conservation Area  
Mojave Trails National Monument  
National Conservation Lands of the California Desert  
Old Spanish National Historic Trail  
Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail  
Piedras Blancas Historic Light Station Outstanding Natural Area  
Sand To Snow National Monument  
Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument  
10 Wild and Scenic Rivers  
92 Wilderness Areas; 68 Wilderness Study Areas

#### COLORADO

Browns Canyon National Monument  
Canyons of the Ancients National Monument  
Continental Divide National Scenic Trail  
Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area  
Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area  
McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area

Old Spanish National Historic Trail  
5 Wilderness Areas; 54 Wilderness Study Areas

#### FLORIDA

Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area

#### IDAHO

California National Historic Trail  
Continental Divide National Scenic Trail  
Craters of the Moon National Monument  
Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail  
Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area  
Nez Perce National Historic Trail  
Oregon National Historic Trail  
16 Wild and Scenic Rivers  
8 Wilderness Areas; 42 Wilderness Study Areas

#### MARYLAND

Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail  
Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail  
Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail

#### MONTANA

Continental Divide National Scenic Trail  
Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail  
Nez Perce National Historic Trail  
Pompeys Pillar National Monument  
Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument  
1 Wild and Scenic River  
1 Wilderness Area; 37 Wilderness Study Areas

#### NEVADA

Basin and Range National Monument  
Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area  
California National Historic Trail  
Gold Butte National Monument  
Old Spanish National Historic Trail  
Pony Express National Historic Trail  
Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area  
Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area  
46 Wilderness Areas; 59 Wilderness Study Areas

#### NEW MEXICO

Continental Divide National Scenic Trail  
El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail  
El Malpais National Conservation Area  
Fort Stanton-Snowy River Cave National Conservation Area

Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument  
Old Spanish National Historic Trail  
Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument  
Prehistoric Trackways National Monument  
Rio Grande del Norte National Monument  
2 Wild and Scenic Rivers  
16 Wilderness Areas; 47 Wilderness Study Areas

#### NORTH DAKOTA

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail

#### OREGON

California National Historic Trail  
Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument  
Oregon National Historic Trail  
Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail  
Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area  
Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area  
34 Wild and Scenic Rivers  
9 Wilderness Areas; 87 Wilderness Study Areas

#### UTAH

Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Area  
Bears Ears National Monument  
California National Historic Trail  
Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument  
John Wesley Powell National Conservation Area  
Jurassic National Monument  
Old Spanish National Historic Trail  
Pony Express National Historic Trail  
Red Cliffs National Conservation Area  
12 Wild and Scenic Rivers  
35 Wilderness Areas; 78 Wilderness Study Areas

#### VIRGINIA

Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail  
Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail

#### WASHINGTON

Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail  
San Juan Islands National Monument  
1 Wilderness Area; 1 Wilderness Study Area

#### WYOMING

California National Historic Trail  
Continental Divide National Scenic Trail  
Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail  
Nez Perce National Historic Trail  
Oregon National Historic Trail  
Pony Express National Historic Trail  
43 Wilderness Study Areas