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

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:
- FY 2020 Enacted Funding: $43.819 million
- FY 2021 Enacted Funding: $45.819 million
- FY 2022 Enacted Funding: $45.819 million
- FY 2023 President’s Budget Request: $68.304 million
- FY 2023 NTHP Recommendation: $78.145 million

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.
National Conservation Lands by State

ALASKA
Iditarod National Historic Trail
Steeese 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
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
Río 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

For additional information, contact Shaw Sprague, Vice President of Government Relations and Policy, SSprague@savingplaces.org, (202) 588-6339 or Pam Bowman, Senior Director of Public Lands, PBowman@savingplaces.org, (202) 588-6347.