



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

National Conservation Lands and  
Community Partnerships [blm.gov](https://blm.gov)

# National Conservation Lands

The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) National Conservation Lands are one of America's most unique systems of conservation. These lands contain some of the West's most spectacular landscapes and provide unparalleled recreational and economic opportunities for all.

The National Conservation Lands include 901 units covering approximately 35 million acres designated by Congress and the President to conserve special features, from winding rivers to mountain vistas. The National Conservation Lands units are comprised of national monuments, national conservation areas, wilderness areas, wilderness study areas,

wild and scenic rivers, national scenic and historic trails, and conservation lands of the California desert.

The National Conservation Lands offer the American people exceptional opportunities for hunting, solitude, wildlife viewing, fishing, history exploration, scientific research, and a wide range of traditional uses. The BLM manages these public lands for the benefit of present and future generations, supporting conservation as a part of the BLM's multiple-use and sustained yield mission. These landscapes respect the ties that native and local communities have to public lands, as well as welcome diverse interests and uses.



Upper Missouri River Breaks  
National Monument in Montana



Crooked Wild and Scenic River in Oregon



Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness  
Area in Arizona

## KEY FACTS

15% of the lands managed by the BLM are within the National Conservation Lands portfolio. Monuments and national conservation areas account for about 5% of the total acres of public lands managed by the BLM.

The National Conservation Lands receive more than 10.6 million visitors annually. Visitors enjoy the various recreation opportunities provided on these lands, both front and backcountry experiences.

The National Conservation Lands provide opportunities for traditional uses, such as hunting, gathering and fishing, while balancing conservation and multiple uses.

## BY THE NUMBERS

Conservation lands of the California desert:	4.2 million acres
National monuments:	28 units (9,568,555 acres)
National conservation areas and similar designations:	23 units (4,161,570 acres)
Wilderness areas:	260 (10,003,216 acres)
Wilderness study areas:	491 (11,616,634 acres)
Wild and scenic rivers:	81 (2,699 miles)
National scenic and historic trails:	18 (5,763 miles)





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