Economic Contributions from Restoration Activities

A 2016 report from the U.S. Geological Survey evaluated the local and regional economic activity resulting from 21 restoration projects, including 11 BLM projects.

Short-term economic activity

$1 million investment → **Restoration activities**: sagebrush restoration; fuels reduction; postfire restoration → **$2.5 million** in economic output

Though not addressed in the report, these projects also have the potential for long-term economic impacts and values.

Long-term economic effects

Restoration activities → Improved ecosystem health

Increased business activity and jobs: recreation; tourism; agriculture; forestry

Increased ecosystem service values: reduced fire and flood; water quality; wildlife habitat

Nonmarket Benefits from BLM-Managed Lands

Many of the benefits provided by public lands are difficult to quantify in economic terms. These "nonmarket benefits" reflect the value that the public derives from access to our nation's natural, scenic, recreational, and cultural resources.

Natural and scenic

5,761 miles of national scenic and historic trails

2,423 miles of wild and scenic rivers

Recreational

2.2 million visits to fish

22.3 million visits to camp or picnic

7.4 million visits for off-highway travel

Cultural, education, and scientific

1.2 million visits for interpretive and educational activities

10.6 million documented artifacts and specimens in 166 museums and universites nationwide

4.2 million visits for guided activities, living history tours, exhibits, and other interpretive programming

25 national monuments

16 national conservation areas

2,631 horses and burros adopted

BLM-administered land — BLM administrative boundaries

Alaska: The National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska is the northernmost parcel of public land managed by the BLM. Nearly the size of Indiana, it is also the largest single block of federally managed land.

Arizona: In 1984, Aravaipa Canyon was the first wilderness designated on public lands in Arizona. The BLM now manages almost 9 million acres of wilderness.

California: Imperial Sand Dunes is an internationally recognized world-class venue for off-highway vehicle enthusiasts. With more than 160,000 acres of vast sand dunes, the area also offers fabulous scenery, opportunities for solitude, and a home for rare plants and animals.

Colorado: The Canyons of the Ancients National Monument contains the highest known density of archaeological sites in the nation, with some areas containing more than 100 sites per square mile.

Eastern States: The BLM manages several small beachfront tracts in southern Alabama that provide one of the few nesting areas in the United States for the threatened loggerhead turtles.

Idaho: The Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area is home to the largest density of nesting raptors in North America. More than 800 pairs of hawks, owls, eagles, and falcons come here each spring to mate and raise their young.

Montana/Dakotas: Pompeys Pillar National Monument is home to a significant piece of history: Captain William Clark's signature, carved into a sandstone butte along the Yellowstone River. Clark's inscription, made in 1806, is the only remaining physical evidence along Lewis' and Clark's route.

Nevada: More than 1 million people visit the Red Rocks National Conservation Area each year, making it one of the busiest BLM-managed recreation sites.

New Mexico: Archeological sites in New Mexico's Peña Blanca Wilderness Study Area contain remains of the oldest cultivated corn in the United States.

Oregon/Washington: The mighty Doerner Fir in Oregon's Coast Range is the world's tallest Douglas fir. It is a towering 327 feet tall, which is even taller than the U.S. Capitol building; 11.5 feet in diameter; and more than 450 years old.

Utah: Scientists discovered a new large-bodied, horned dinosaur species named *Machairoceratops cronusi* in Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, adding to the nearly 300 species discovered mainly on BLM-managed lands in Utah.

Wyoming: There are nearly as many pronghorns in Wyoming as there are people. The estimated pronghorn population is 500,000 to 600,000, and the human population is less than 590,000.

http://blm.gov/f9jd
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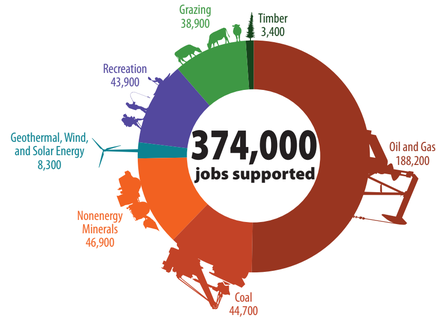
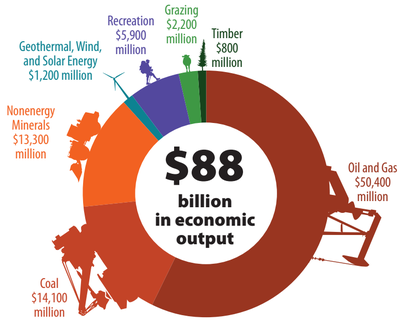
The BLM: A Sound Investment for America 2016

Economic Contributions from BLM-Managed Lands





Fiscal Year 2015

The Bureau of Land Management manages 1 in every 10 acres of land in the United States, and approximately 30 percent of the nation's minerals. These acres of land and minerals are found in every state in the country and encompass forests, mountains, rangelands, arctic tundra, and deserts. These are your public lands, and they are some of our nation's greatest assets.

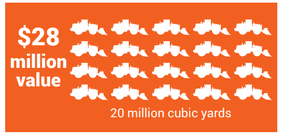
The public lands managed by the BLM generate significant and quantifiable benefits for the nation by providing energy and mineral resources, grazing and timber resources, and more recreational opportunities than lands managed by any other federal agency. Through balanced management, the BLM develops these resources while preserving cultural resources and iconic landscapes and maintaining healthy ecosystems that provide clean air, clean water, and healthy habitat for plants and wildlife.

In fiscal year 2015, the BLM's management of the public lands supported 374,000 jobs and provided $88 billion in economic output throughout the country, while also contributing revenue to the U.S. Treasury and enriching the country environmentally.

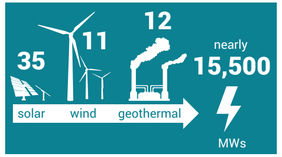
Economic Sectors

Oil and gas: The BLM leases more than 32.2 million acres of land, from the eastern United States to the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska, for onshore oil and gas production. Production of crude oil on public lands continued its upward trend in 2015, rising from 148.8 million barrels in 2014 to 166.4 million barrels in 2015.

Coal: The BLM administers coal leasing on approximately 570 million acres of federal mineral estate. Coal continues to be a large source of energy in the United States, but the continuing low cost of natural gas has spurred a shift away from coal for retail energy production. A decrease in U.S. coal production from 1,084.4 million short tons in 2010 to 895.4 million short tons in 2015 reflects this shift.

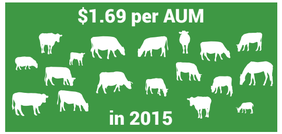


Nonenergy minerals: Many types of minerals are nonenergy minerals, including sand, gravel, dirt, and rock, which are essential for everyday construction uses. Mineral materials such as these are vital to local economies. The BLM issued new contract sales and use permits for nearly 20 million cubic yards in 2015, with a combined value of nearly $28 million.



Geothermal, solar, wind: The BLM has approved 58 renewable energy projects since 2009, including 35 solar projects, 11 wind projects, and 12 geothermal projects. These projects represent a total of nearly 15,500 megawatts of capacity that could provide power to about 5 million homes and contribute to the Climate Action Plan goal of approving 20,000 megawatts of solar energy capacity on public lands by 2020.

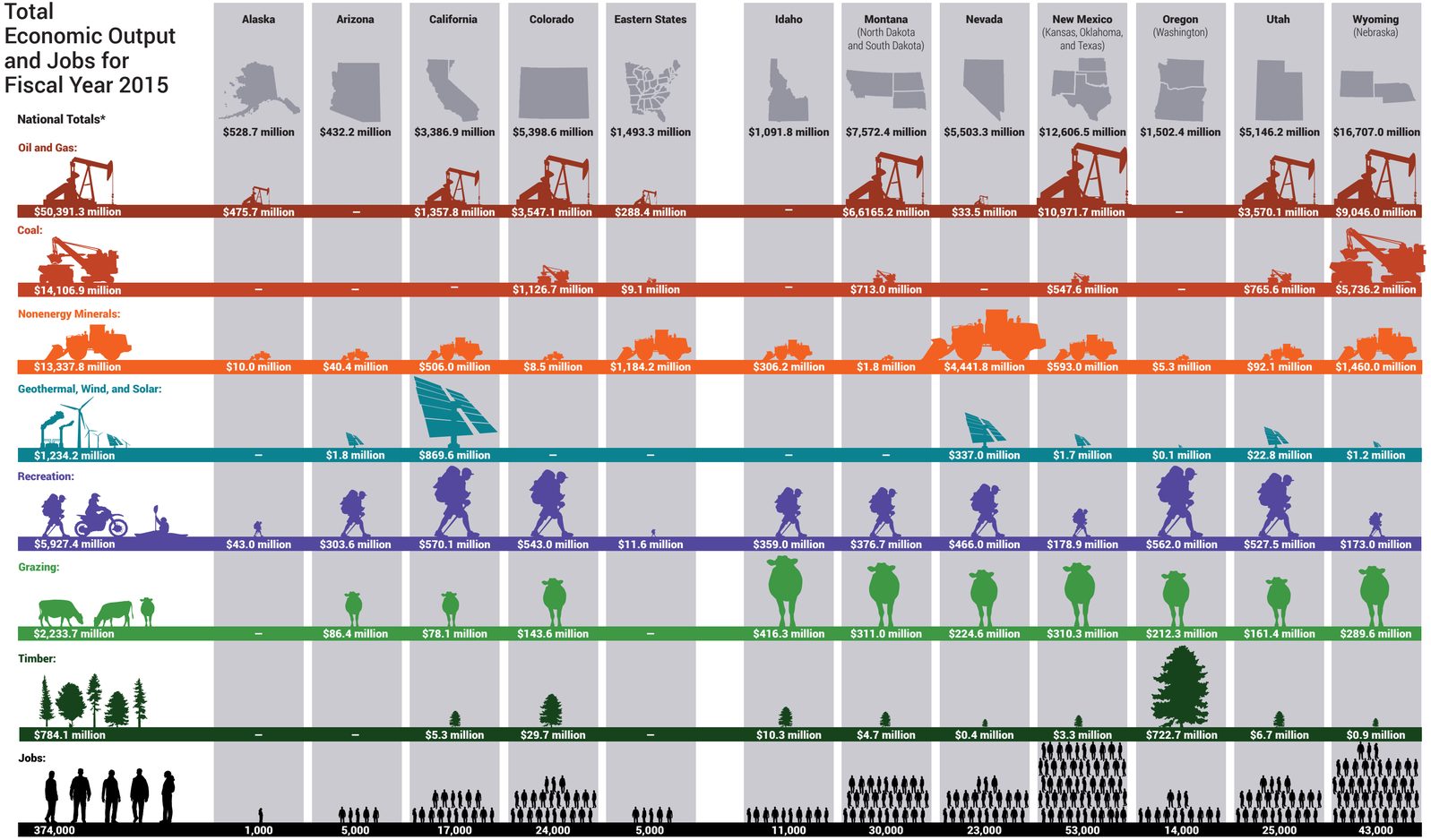
Recreation: The public lands managed by the BLM offer more recreational opportunities than lands managed by any other federal agency, with more than 99 percent available for recreation with no fee. Lands used for recreational activities also contribute significantly to local economies. In 2015, BLM lands received more than 62.4 million recreation-related visits, an increase over the previous year.



Grazing: In 2015, the BLM permitted 12 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 1 month. In 2015, the grazing fee was $1.69 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.

Timber: One-fourth of the 245 million acres of lands managed by the BLM are forest ecosystems, spread across 13 western states, including Alaska. Through responsible management of these lands, the BLM ensures the health and resilience of the nation's public forest lands as well as the availability of traditional forest products, like timber. In 2015, the BLM offered 243 million board feet of timber for sale. This number has remained relatively steady over the past decade.

Total Economic Output and Jobs for Fiscal Year 2015



* National totals may differ from the sum of individual state numbers because they take into account activity across state borders and average industry productivity across states.