



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
National Headquarters
Washington, DC 20240
<https://www.blm.gov>



April 4, 2024

The Honorable Joe Manchin
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Manchin:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) prepared the attached response in conformance with Section 4103 of Public Law 116-9, the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (Act). The Act instructs the BLM and the U.S. Forest Service to prepare and provide annually to Congress a list, by state, of Federal lands that have been temporarily or permanently closed to hunting, fishing, or recreational shooting. In 2023, the BLM implemented the list of closures below. Additional details can be found in the attachment to this letter.

Fiscal Year	Permanent Closures	Acres Permanently Closed	Temporary Closures	Acres Temporarily Closed
2023	2	6,794	0	0

Closure information is organized by BLM state office and is updated annually. This information, including information about individual closures implemented since passage of the Dingell Act, can be found online at <https://www.blm.gov/about/laws-and-regulations/dingell-act/dingell-act-closures>.

Identical letters are being sent to the Honorable John Barrasso, Ranking Member, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; the Honorable Debbie Stabenow, Chair, Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; the Honorable John Boozman, Ranking Member, Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; the Honorable Bruce Westerman, Chair, Committee on Natural Resources; the Honorable Raúl Grijalva, Ranking Member, Committee on Natural Resources; the Honorable Glen “GT” Thompson, Chair, Committee on Agriculture; and the Honorable David Scott, Ranking Member, Committee on Agriculture.

Sincerely,

Tracy Stone-Manning
Director

Attachment

Attachment

Bureau of Land Management
John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act
Section 4103 – Closure of BLM Lands to Hunting, Fishing, or Recreational Shooting
2023 Closure List

Table 1. Summary of Hunting, Fishing, or Recreational Shooting Closures¹ by State Office

State Office	BLM Acres ²	Acres Closed Pre-Dingell Act ³	Acres Closed Post-Dingell Act	Total Acres Closed	Percent Acres Closed
AK	71,178,524	3,585	11	3,596	0.005%
AZ	12,078,435	293,875	9,308	303,183	2.510%
CA	14,983,333	818,099	0	818,099	5.460%
CO	8,354,714	263,904	0	263,904	3.159%
ES ⁴	29,269	925	0	925	3.160%
ID	11,775,071	65,945	5,773	71,718	0.609%
MT/DKs ⁵	8,378,948	30,202	20,250	50,452	0.602%
NM	13,505,176	69,941	0	69,941	0.518%
NV	47,273,840	249,810	0	249,810	0.528%
OR/WA	16,159,802	188,355	1,071	189,426	1.172%
UT	22,759,263	92,586	10,619	103,205	0.453%
WY	18,047,278	28,909	0	28,909	0.160%
Totals	244,523,653	2,106,136	47,032	2,153,168	0.881%

¹ Refers to public lands subject to a permanent or temporary closure or restriction to either hunting, fishing, or recreational shooting.

² Total BLM acres per state as recorded in the [2022 Public Land Statistics](#).

³ Acres closed prior to Dingell Act enactment (March 12, 2019).

⁴ Eastern States (ES) includes 31 states bordering on or east of the Mississippi River. Total acres are approximately 40,000 acres, but several parcels still need to be surveyed.

⁵ Includes North Dakota and South Dakota.

Table 2. List of Permanent and Temporary Closures in FY 2023

State Office	District Office	Project Name	Acres Permanently Closed	Acres Temporarily Closed	Activity Closed
ID	Boise	Four Rivers Field Office Resource Management Plan	5,773	0	Shooting
OR/WA	Spokane	San Juan Islands NM Resource Management Plan	1,021	0	Shooting ¹

¹ Prohibits the discharge of firearms and use of bows within the Monument except as associated with lawful hunting practices.

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Four Rivers Field Office Resource Management Plan (Boise District Office) 5,773 acres permanently closed. The Four Rivers Field Office [Record of Decision](#) and Approved Resource Management Plan permanently prohibited the use of firearms within OHV open areas (2,940 ac.), the Payette Special Recreation Management Area (1,610 ac.), and within 0.25 mile of developed recreation sites (1,223 ac.), unless BLM issues a special recreation permit to allow their use. Legal hunting is allowed in all locations.

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San Juan Islands NM Resource Management Plan (Spokane District Office) 1,021 acres permanently closed. The San Juan Islands National Monument prohibited the discharge of firearms and use of bows within the Monument except as associated with lawful hunting practices in the [Record of Decision](#) and Approved Resource Management Plan. The closure is to protect Monument objects and values as identified in the Presidential proclamation establishing the area. The availability of the Record of Decision was published in the *Federal Register* on 01/31/2023 ([Doc. Num. 2023-01971](#)).