



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



California
Public Lands



Message from the State Director

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is a conservation agency, responsible for the management of public lands and resources on behalf of the American people. Congress directed that public lands be managed under the “principles of multiple use and sustained yield.”

Today, the BLM manages about 15 million acres of public lands in California, about 15% of the state’s land area. However, 48% of the lands in the state exist in federal ownership, and another five million acres or 5% are in local and state government ownership. Private homeowners and businesses own about 47 million acres or 47% of the lands in California (see map and chart on page 4).

The Bureau also administers 44 million acres of subsurface mineral estate underlying federal surface land, 2.5 million acres underlying privately owned land, and 592,000 acres of Native American Tribal lands where BLM oversees mineral operations as part of its trust responsibility. The BLM in California also manages 1.6 million acres in northeastern Nevada for cattle grazing, wild horses, recreation, and wildlife habitat.

The lands managed by BLM are located within 50 miles of most major urban areas and encompass many ecosystems. Mountain ranges, chaparral lands, sand dunes, sagebrush plains of the high desert, rushing mountain rivers, statuesque redwood trees, riparian oak forest, wetlands, and the rugged Pacific coastline offer exceptional recreational endeavors, renewable energy sources, oil and natural gas, cattle grazing, and wildlife habitat for more than 800 species of plants and animals.

The Bureau actively involves local groups in on-the-ground operations through partnerships to create mutually beneficial projects and programs for the use, enhancement, and protection of natural resources. Partnerships greatly enhance these efforts and improve service for millions of public land users.

The Bureau seeks to fulfill energy, mineral, grazing, wildlife, recreation, and other needs of the nation and the people of California through cooperation, collaboration and consultation with advisory councils, elected officials, special interest, civic and industry groups, the public and many others.

We hope this brochure will assist you and we welcome your involvement in the management of your public lands in California.



Mike Pool
California State Director
Bureau of Land Management



The Challenges of Conservation Management

To better understand the work and challenges facing the BLM in California, it is important to first understand the unique position of California in the West*. The West gains more than one million people a year to its population base, and California alone contributes more than 500,000 people to that one million annual growth rate. The population of California expands annually at the rate equal to the other 11 western states with BLM lands combined (Graph 1).

Graph 1: Population Increase 2000 to 2001

California	501,000
11 other Western BLM States (combined)	514,000
Total	1,015,000

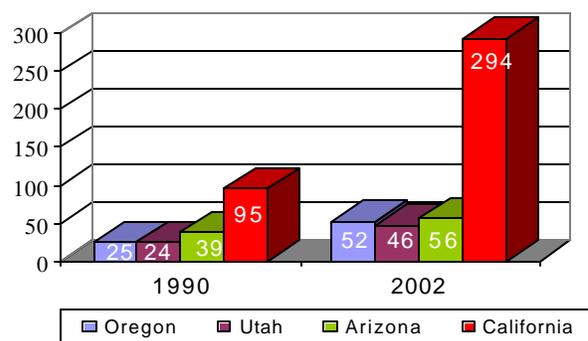
California's population is almost 35 million. For comparison, the next western BLM state with significant public lands has a population of 6 million, a ratio of 6 to 1 (see Graph 2). California's population is projected to double in several decades, and public land use will dramatically rise with these new residents.

Graph 2: Population Growth

STATE	2001 Population (in millions)	Increase from 2000
Alaska	0.6	7,300
Arizona	5.3	142,000
California	35.0	501,000
Colorado	4.4	64,000
Idaho	1.3	22,000
Montana	0.9	1,300
Nevada	2.1	87,000
New Mexico	1.8	7,900
Oregon	3.5	44,000
Utah	2.3	28,000
Washington	6.0	80,000

Another big impact on public land management is the extraordinary number of listings of threatened and endangered species for California. The endangered species list increased from 95 in 1990 to 294 by the year 2002 (Graph 3). California is richly endowed with many ecosystems that support hundreds of species, and approximately half of the federally listed species' habitat can be found on public lands.

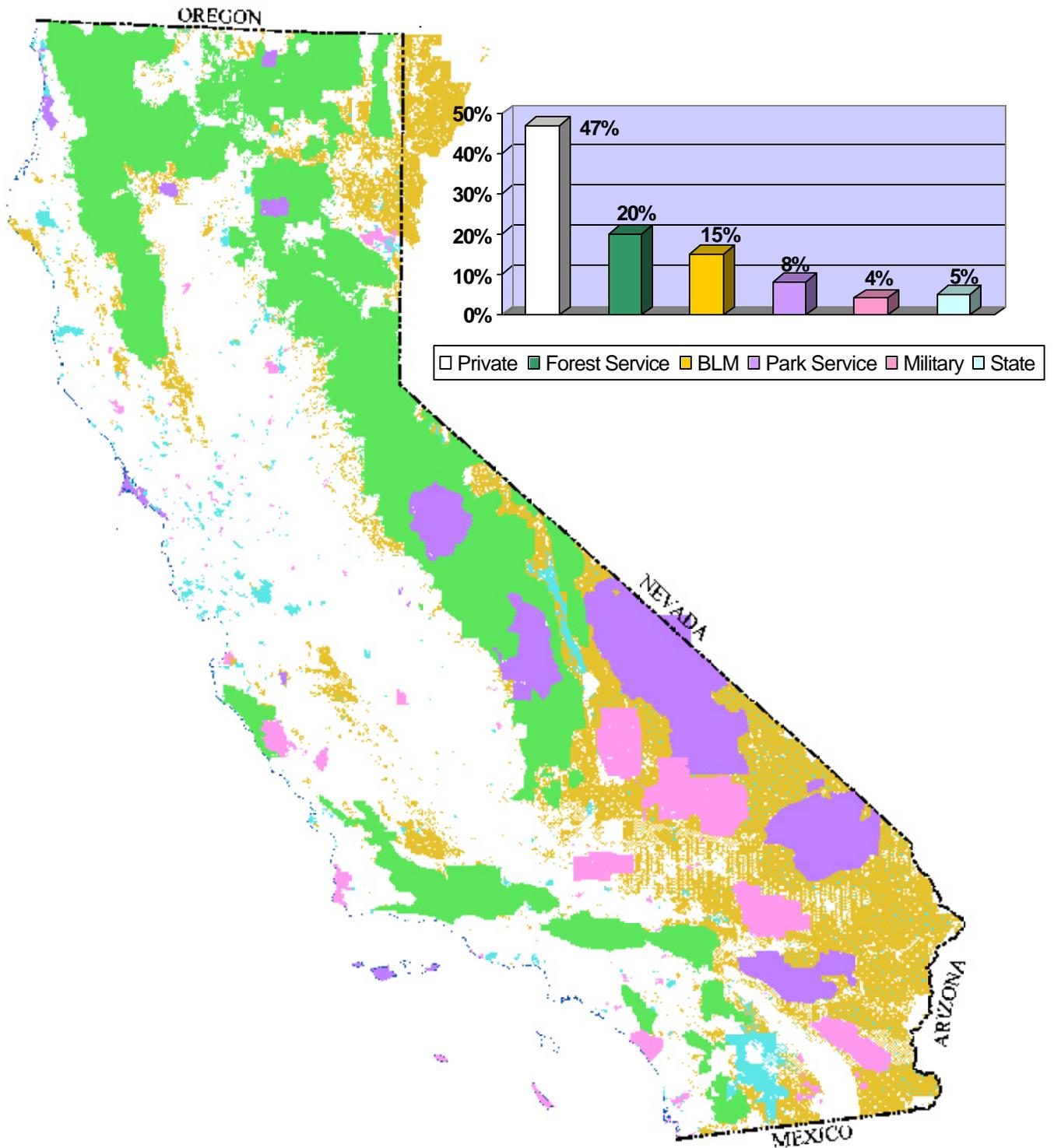
Graph 3: Increase in Threatened & Endangered Species



The listings identify Bureau opportunities to restore important plant and wildlife habitat as well as protect vital natural resources. However, the listings are also perceived as impediments to responsible development of energy sources, extraction of minerals, and other uses of natural resources to support families and communities. It is the Bureau's responsibility to work with the public within our nation's laws to bring about a balanced use and protection of the land and resources.

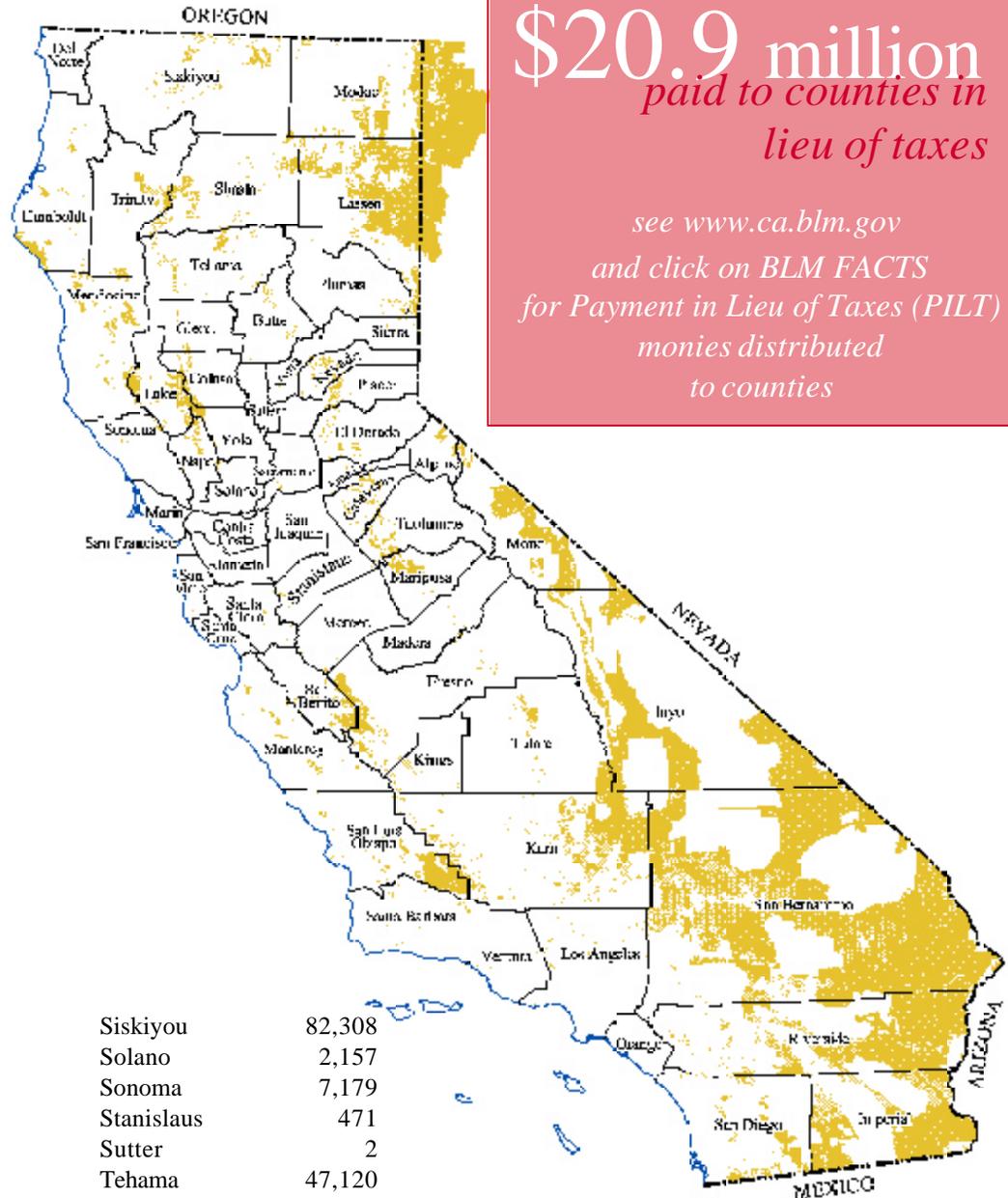
* "West" for this text consists of 12 BLM western states where most BLM lands reside. See names of specific states in Graph Two.

California Land Ownership



BLM Public Lands by County

COUNTY	ACRES
Alameda	217
Alpine	12,962
Amador	8,981
Butte	16,832
Calaveras	36,475
Colusa	30,420
Contra Costa	69
Del Norte	195
El Dorado	15,488
Fresno	153,528
Glenn	5,882
Humboldt	72,124
Imperial	1,164,376
Inyo	1,789,326
Kern	700,142
Kings	9,800
Lake	124,524
Lassen	1,088,887
Los Angeles	13,177
Madera	2,528
Marin	0
Mariposa	72,580
Mendocino	117,897
Merced	4,175
Modoc	272,388
Mono	557,114
Monterey	30,594
Napa	31,737
Nevada	19,049
Orange	1
Placer	20,192
Plumas	10,566
Riverside	1,539,842
Sacramento	3,248
San Benito	87,581
San Bernardino	6,076,378
San Diego	174,202
San Francisco	0
San Joaquin	436
San Luis Obispo	241,313
San Mateo	0
Santa Barbara	7,462
Santa Clara	2,347
Santa Cruz	12
Shasta	124,820
Sierra	1,921



\$20.9 million
paid to counties in lieu of taxes

see www.ca.blm.gov and click on BLM FACTS for Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) monies distributed to counties

Siskiyou	82,308
Solano	2,157
Sonoma	7,179
Stanislaus	471
Sutter	2
Tehama	47,120
Trinity	78,419
Tulare	119,836
Tuolumne	44,993
Ventura	1,928
Yolo	29,692
Yuba	1,582
TOTAL	15,007,475

Programs

Wild Horse and Burro Adoptions: California is the #1 leader among 12 western states - over 1,100 adoptions annually.

Fire/Fuels Reduction: 150 local communities given \$3 million to reduce fuels. National Fire plan implementation to address wildland/urban interface issues.

Land Use Plans: 12 Management Framework Plans - 4.5 million acres; 9 Resource Management Plans - 12.5 million acres; 15 Land Use Plan Updates 14.8 million acres; 13.3 million acres non-federal lands under Habitat Conservation Plans; 7 National Monument/National Conservation Area Plans - 700,000 acres; six time-sensitive BioRegion Plan Amendments.

Threatened and Endangered Species: 294 federally listed in California, plus another 373 state-listed species

Oil & Gas: 3rd largest BLM on-shore producer; 4,400 producing wells on 292 leases; \$28 million in royalties.

Geothermal: California is the largest producer; 6 fields supply steam to 27 power plants; \$12 million in royalties. Energy for a million people.

Wind Energy: 3,000 wind turbines on public lands; \$500,000 in royalties; 22 right-of-ways on 2,800 acres.

Biomass Program: Juniper initiative underway in Alturas and Surprise Field offices; 1.5 megawatts from BLM fuels.

Minerals Materials: 1st in contract value (\$40 million); 200 active mineral sale contracts; \$1 million in royalties annually.

Solid Leaseables: 51 leases; 2.5 million tons of products; \$5 million annual royalties; significant royalties for local school districts.

Mining Law: 2nd largest producer of gold in U.S.; five active mines; 2nd largest number of mining claims; largest number of individual claimants.

Abandoned Mines: 13,000 on BLM lands; 100 evaluated for remediation.

Law Enforcement: At least 96,000 marijuana plants eradicated annually valued at \$384 million.

Recreation Partnerships: 225 agreements in California - most in the BLM.

Visitor Use Days: More than 9 million visits and 16 million visitor days annually.

Cadastral Survey: Survey over 600 miles of boundary lines annually.

Noxious Weeds: Conduct weed inventory, treatments, and evaluations annually.

Archaeology/Cultural: Conduct studies and protect thousands of sites. Coordinate with 109 Tribes in California.



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Did you Know?

- ◆ Two National Conservation Areas: the California Desert and the King Range
- ◆ Three National Monuments: the Santa Rosa/San Jacinto Mountains, Carrizo Plain, California Coastal
- ◆ One Forest Reserve: Headwaters
- ◆ 129 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
- ◆ 77 miles of public land along six National wild and scenic rivers
- ◆ 78 wilderness areas on 3.7 million acres
- ◆ 16.8 million barrels of oil produced annually
- ◆ 6.3 billion cubic feet of natural gas produced annually
- ◆ \$57 million in receipts annually
- ◆ 473,000 ounces of gold produced annually
- ◆ 132,000 animal unit months of forage support 147,000 head of livestock
- ◆ 6,200 rights-of-way for roads and powerlines
- ◆ Volunteers contribute 400,000 hours annually
- ◆ Public lands host 3,700 wild horses and 1,400 burros
- ◆ 1.5 million board feet of timber harvested annually
- ◆ 800 wildlife species in California
- ◆ 23,000 mining claims
- ◆ Fiscal Year 2002 Budget:
 - labor - \$65.5 million
 - operations - \$83.2 million
 - State OHV grant funds - \$5 million



For more information concerning BLM California public lands, contact the BLM Field Office nearest you:

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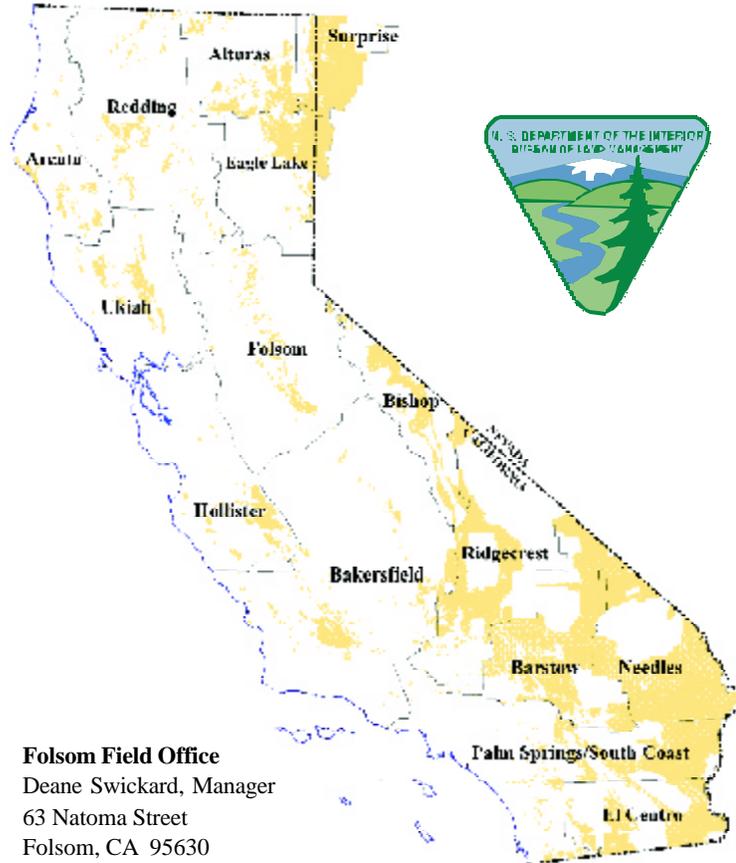
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