

Stewardship Assets

Unaudited

STEWARDSHIP ASSETS

As human beings we cannot separate ourselves from the land and the natural resources that sustain our lives. Natural resources on America's public lands sustain us physically and economically, while the recreational opportunities and cultural resources on these lands nurture our minds and spirits. Stewardship is thus at the very heart of the Department of the Interior's mission, vision, and values. Interior employees take their responsibility for stewardship seriously and accept it with pride.

The Department serves as steward for approximately 429 million acres of America's public lands and for the natural and cultural resources associated with these lands. The agency also supervises mineral leasing and operations on over 564 million acres of mineral estate that underlie both Federal and other surface ownerships. These stewardship assets are valued for their environmental resources, their recreational and scenic values, the cultural and paleontological resources they contain, their vast open spaces, and the resource commodities and revenue they provide to the Federal government, states, and counties.

STEWARDSHIP LANDS

Most of the public lands under the purview of Interior management were once a part of the 1.8 billion acres of "public domain" lands acquired by the Nation between 1781 and 1867. Land currently managed by Interior represents about 19 percent of America's land surface and approximately 66 percent of all federally owned land. Each of America's 50 states, the Pacific Islands, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and Puerto Rico all contain lands that are managed by the Department of the Interior.

Use of Stewardship Lands

The Interior-administered lands include the National Wildlife Refuge System, the National Park System, and the vast expanses of public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management. The Fish and Wildlife Service manages lands primarily to conserve and protect fish and wildlife and their habitat. The National Park Service manages lands to conserve, preserve, protect,

and interpret the nation's natural, cultural, and recreational resources. The Bureau of Land Management is guided by the principles of multiple use and sustained yield in managing its public lands. Congress has defined multiple use as management of the public lands and their various resource values so they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people. The resources and uses embraced by the multiple use concept include mineral development; natural, scenic, scientific, and historical values; outdoor recreation; range; timber; watersheds; and wildlife and fish habitat.

Types of Stewardship Lands

Figure 23 shows the acreage of Interior stewardship lands by land type. In addition to the 88 million acres shown for the National Wildlife Refuge System, there are approximately 4.8 million additional acres within the system that are not federally owned; these are managed by the Fish and Wildlife Service cooperatively through agreements with landowners and other partners. The National Park System also contains lands that are not federally owned -- approximately 6 million acres owned by state and local governments and private landowners. The National Park Service has no management responsibility for this land except in cases where cooperative agreements with landowners authorize direct Federal land management.

Figure 23

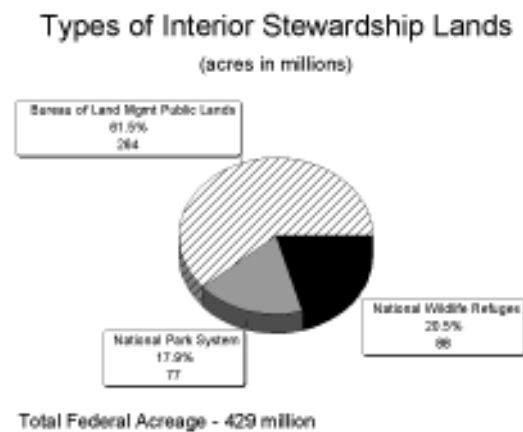
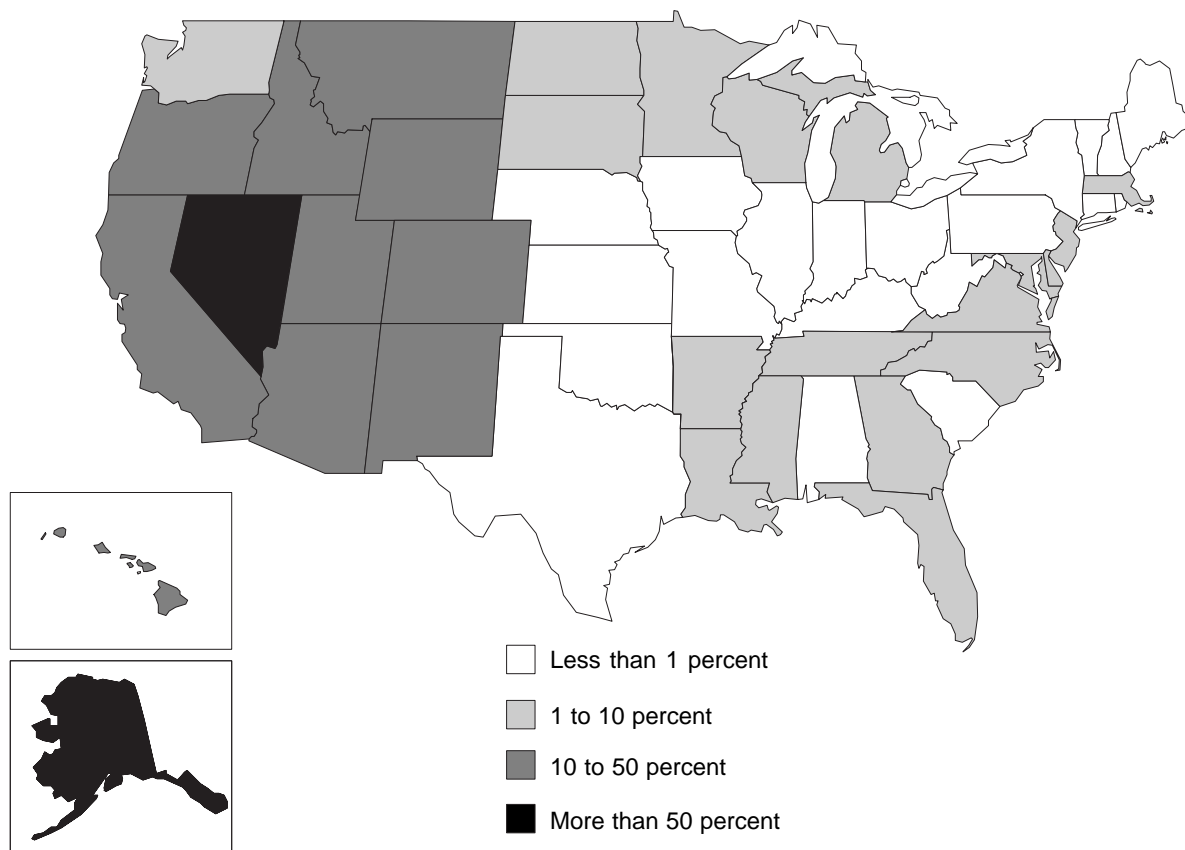


Figure 24

Percentage of Each State's Acreage Managed by Interior (as of September 30, 1997)



America's parks, refuges, and other public lands consist of rangelands; forestlands; riparian areas and wetlands; lakes, reservoirs, and streams; grasslands; swamps; marshes; and seashores; as well as mountain tops, glaciers, barren mountains, sand dunes, playas, and deserts.

Management Units of Interior Stewardship Lands

There are unique management requirements associated with approximately 58 percent of the lands managed by the Department of the Interior because of their congressional or administrative designations. These management units are shown in *Figure 25*. The acreage included in these units is a subset of Interior's total 429 million acres.

Condition of Stewardship Lands

Public Lands Managed by the Bureau of Land Management: The Bureau of Land Management assesses the condition of the lands it manages based on the land type and the multiple use and sustained yield goals identified through its land use planning process. *Figure 26* shows condition by land type. In adhering to its mandate for multiple use and sustained yield, the Bureau's land management programs include significant efforts to restore riparian wetlands; preserve significant cultural and natural features; create opportunities for commercial activities; protect endangered species; develop opportunities for recreation and leisure activities; protect public health, safety, and resources; manage wild horses and burros; manage wildlife habitat and fisheries; administer mining laws; manage rangelands; oversee forest management, development, and protection; and manage wilderness and wild and scenic rivers.

Figure 25

Management Units of Interior Stewardship Lands					
Bureau of Land Management Public Lands					
<u>Management Unit</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Federal</u> <u>Acreage</u>	<u>Non-Federal</u> <u>Acreage</u>	<u>Total Acreage</u>	<u>Miles</u>
National Wild and Scenic River Segments	34	951,824	0	951,824	2,022
National Wilderness Areas	136	5,251,363	0	5,251,363	-
Wilderness Study Areas	622	18,020,549	0	18,020,549	-
National Conservation Areas	8	11,689,774	0	11,689,774	-
National Scenic Area	1	65,280	0	65,280	-
National Recreation Area	1	1,000,000	0	1,000,000	-
National Historic Trails	9	-	-	-	3,590
National Scenic Trails	2	-	-	-	502
National Recreation Trails	26	-	-	-	429
Outstanding Natural Area	1	100	-	100	-
Herd Management Areas	199	33,167,752	0	33,167,752	-
National Monument	1	1,700,000	0	1,700,000	-
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	696	10,371,582	0	10,371,582	-
Research Natural Areas	100	326,449	0	326,449	-
National Natural Landmarks	43	599,042	0	599,042	-
National Back Country Byways	69	-	-	-	3,518
Globally Important Bird Areas	2	56,500	0	56,500	-
Biosphere Reserve	1	2,000	0	2,000	-
BLM Special Management Area Subtotal	1,951	83,202,215	0	83,202,215	10,061
National Multiple Use Lands	-	180,727,043	0	180,727,043	-
Bureau of Land Management Subtotal	1,951	263,929,258	0	263,929,258	10,061
National Wildlife Refuge System					
<u>Management Unit</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Federal</u> <u>Acreage</u>	<u>Non-Federal</u> <u>Acreage</u>	<u>Total Acreage</u>	<u>Miles</u>
National Wildlife Refuges	512	87,176,000	2,882,000	90,058,000	-
Refuge Coordination Areas	50	197,000	121,000	318,000	-
Waterfowl Production Areas	198	692,000	1,785,000	2,477,000	-
Wildlife Research Centers	3	0	0	0	-
Fisheries Research Centers	6	1,000	1,000	2,000	-
National Fish Hatcheries	64	13,000	5,000	18,000	-
Fish and Wildlife Service Subtotal	833	88,079,000	4,794,000	92,873,000	-
National Park System					
<u>Management Unit</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Federal</u> <u>Acreage</u>	<u>Non-Federal</u> <u>Acreage</u>	<u>Total Acreage</u>	<u>Miles</u>
International Historic Site	1	22	13	35	-
National Battlefields	11	11,520	1,625	13,145	-
National Battlefield Parks	3	8,007	769	8,776	-
National Battlefield Site	1	1	0	1	-
National Historic Sites	75	18,415	5,482	23,897	-
National Historic Parks	38	113,807	48,580	162,387	-
National Lakeshores	4	145,313	83,622	228,935	-
National Memorials	27	7,956	110	8,065	-
National Military Parks	9	34,811	3,200	38,011	-
National Monuments	72	1,746,537	319,663	2,066,200	-
National Parks	54	49,318,943	2,383,244	51,702,186	-
National Preserves	16	21,523,387	2,110,960	23,634,347	-
National Recreation Areas	18	3,353,060	350,515	3,703,575	-
National Reserves	2	10,630	22,777	33,407	-
National Rivers	5	310,814	113,970	424,785	-
National Wild and Scenic Rivers	11	72,156	65,316	137,472	-
National Scenic Trails	3	116,843	115,090	231,934	-
National Seashores	10	477,518	147,404	624,922	-
Parks (other)	11	37,608	1,332	38,940	-
Parkways	4	163,238	7,655	170,893	-
National Park Service Subtotal	375	77,470,587	5,781,327	83,251,914	-
Department of the Interior Total					
<u>Management Unit</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Federal</u> <u>Acreage</u>	<u>Non-Federal</u> <u>Acreage</u>	<u>Total Acreage</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Total Interior Management Units	3,159	248,751,802	10,575,327	259,327,129	10,061
Total Interior Stewardship Lands	-	429,478,845	10,575,327	440,054,172	-

National Wildlife Refuge System Lands: The National Wildlife Refuge System protects tundra, grasslands, deserts, forests, rivers, marshes, swamps, and remote islands -- virtually every type of habitat and landscape found in the United States. On many refuges, the Fish and Wildlife Service must restore what was ditched, drained, and cleared, and actively manage wetlands, grasslands, forest, and even some croplands to provide the variety of habitat needed by diverse wildlife. Control of invasive and exotic pest plants and animals is essential at many refuges to retain or

restore native fish, wildlife, and plants. Approximately 7.5 million acres of system lands receive active habitat treatment each year. The Service also incurs costs amounting to about \$1 million annually to monitor the effectiveness of cleanup actions conducted by other Federal entities prior to transferring land to the Service. Further, the Service has recognized estimates for future environmental cleanup liabilities in its financial reporting. While individual units of the stewardship lands managed by the Fish and Wildlife Service can be improved, the condition of this stewardship as-

Figure 26

Condition of Bureau of Land Management Public Lands				
Land Type	Acres/Miles	Condition 1/		
Rangeland		<u>Alaska Reindeer Range</u>	<u>Continental USA Range 2/, 3/</u>	
a. Alaska Reindeer Range	5 million acres	Excellent	All	Potential natural community 4%
b. Continental USA Range	165 million acres			Late seral 32%
				Mid seral 37%
				Early seral 13%
				Unclassified 14%
Forested Land			6/	
a. Forestlands 4/	11 million acres		Good	
b. Woodlands 5/	36 million acres		Good	
Riparian Areas and Wetlands		<u>Alaska</u>	<u>Lower 48 States</u>	
a. Riparian Areas	183,000 miles	Properly functioning	91%	Properly functioning 31%
	7 million acres	Functioning but at risk	Trace	Functioning but at risk 33%
		Nonfunctional	1%	Nonfunctional 10%
		Unknown	8%	Unknown 26%
b. Wetlands	16 million acres	Properly functioning	81%	Properly functioning 36%
		Functioning but at risk	<1%	Functioning but at risk 11%
		Nonfunctional	Trace	Nonfunctional 1%
		Unknown	19%	Unknown 52%
Aquatic Areas (Lakes, Reservoirs, and Streams)	4 million acres	Alaska: Good		
	205,500 miles	Lower 48 States: Poor		
Other Habitat	20 million acres	Unclassified: 7/		

1/ Impact of Hazardous Materials on the Condition of the BLM managed Public Lands: The cumulative direct impacts of the identified future liability hazardous materials sites will be very small nationally or even regionally. It is the goal of the BLM to achieve cleanup of these sites, and as needed, to restore the functions of adversely affected natural resources. The BLM has recognized potential future cleanup liabilities in its financial reporting.

2/ Impact of Noxious Weeds on the Condition of the BLM managed Public Lands: Noxious weeds currently infest about 8.5 million acres, or 5 percent of BLM's 165 million acres of rangeland in the continental United States. The BLM strategy for preventing and controlling the spread of noxious weeds on the BLM public lands is called "Partners Against Weeds."

3/ This is a composite of rangeland condition classification since most of the BLM managed public lands have not been classified under the newer ecologically based classification. The older range condition classification as depicted here rates the rangelands' ability to produce forage.

4/ Although there are about 7 million acres of forestland in Alaska capable of producing timber, most of this forestland is either inaccessible or too far from established markets to make timber harvest feasible. In the Lower 48 States, only about 4 million acres of forestland are classified as "productive" or capable of producing timber. However, the management emphasis on much of BLM's productive forestland is not timber, but rather a multitude of other values and uses (water quality, wildlife habitat, etc.). Only about 495,000 acres are managed for timber production.

5/ Woodlands are forested with tree species not normally considered useful for sawlogs.

6/ The condition of BLM's forested lands is considered to be good insofar as they are providing important wildlife habitat and watershed protection functions. However, other methodologies for assessing condition are being explored in concert with the U.S. Forest Service.

7/ The unclassified condition refers to lands such as dry lakebeds, rock outcrops, and other areas for which data cannot be gathered.



Rocky Mountain National Park (photo by George Davis).

set as a whole is sufficient to support the mission of the Service.

National Park System Lands: The National Park Service conducts various activities to preserve and protect land resources, and to mitigate the effects of activities conducted previously that adversely affect the natural state of the land on or near the parks. While the Service is subject to loss contingencies arising from environmental laws and regulations that currently require, and will continue to require, correcting or ameliorating adverse environmental effects, the Service does not expect these costs to have a material effect on its financial position. The condition of the National Park System, as a whole, is sufficient to support the mission of the Service even though individual units of the system can be improved.

Net Change in Stewardship Land Acreage from 1996 to 1997

Federally owned lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior at the end of fiscal year 1997 decreased by approximately 289,000 acres from fiscal year 1996. This represents a net decrease of 0.067 percent, which resulted from the net effect of acquisition, disposal, exchange, withdrawal, and restoration transactions.

HERITAGE ASSETS - NATURAL

National Wilderness Preservation System

The National Wilderness Preservation System was created by the Wilderness Act of 1964. A wilderness area is an area designated by Congress to assure that increasing populations, expanding settlement, and growing mechanization do not occupy and modify all areas of the United States. Designations ensure that certain lands are preserved and protected in their natural condition. In contrast to those areas where humans and their works dominate the landscape, wilderness is where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by human beings, where humans themselves are visitors who do not remain.

America's wilderness system encompasses approximately 104.7 million acres. The Department of the Interior manages almost 66 percent of this wilderness system -- 256 areas comprising over 69 million acres (*Figure 27*).

In addition to designated wilderness, the Bureau of Land Management manages 622 wilderness study areas encompassing 18 million acres. The National Park Service also manages 29 proposed wilderness areas with 5.5 million known acres -- acreage associated with 10 of these areas has not yet been determined. Pending official designation to the National Wilderness Preservation System, these lands are managed as wilderness.

National Wild and Scenic Rivers System

For a river to be eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, it must be in a free-flowing condition, and to a remarkable degree, it must possess one or more specific values. These values include scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values. Suitability is based upon the extent of public lands in the immediate environment of the river, and the funds required for acquisition, development, and management, as well as local or state interest in acting to protect and manage the river. Wild and scenic eligibility studies are presented to Congress with a Presidential recommendation. Congress then decides whether or not to add the river to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

There are 154 rivers containing 178 river segments included in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Sys-

Figure 27

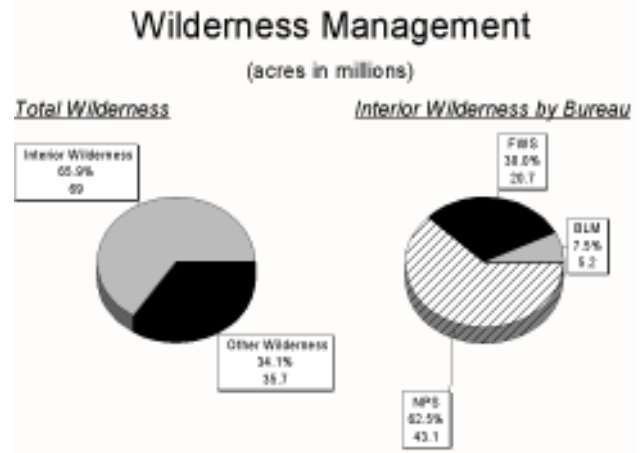
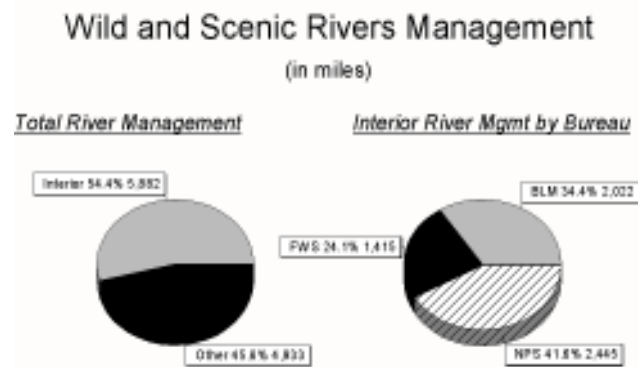


Figure 28



tem. Each mile of each designated segment is classified as either wild, scenic, or recreational. The total system covers 10,815 river miles. Fifty-four percent of the river miles in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System are managed by Interior (*Figure 28*).

National Natural Landmarks

National Natural Landmarks are management areas having national significance as sites that exemplify one of a natural region's characteristic biotic or geologic features. The site must have been evaluated as one of the best known examples of that feature. These areas must be located within the boundaries of the United States or on the Continental Shelf and are designated by the Secretary of the Interior. To qualify as a National Natural Landmark, an area must contain an outstanding representative example(s) of the Nation's natural heritage, including terrestrial communities, aquatic communities, landforms, geological features,

habitats of native plant and animal species, or fossil evidence of the development of life on earth.

The Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Land Management each manage 43 National Natural Landmarks, and these 86 Landmarks total about 4.1 million acres. The National Park Service manages 18 National Natural Landmarks in 16 units of the National Park System.

Paleontological Sites

Since the early 1800s, professional and amateur paleontologists have made discoveries that helped launch the new scientific discipline of paleontology in America, filling our nation's museums of natural history with the remains of spectacular creatures that have captured the public's imagination. Today, the public lands continue to provide paleontological resources that fuel scientific discovery and evoke public wonder. Interior Bureaus manage these fragile and nonrenewable resources as a public trust not only to assure preservation of their scientific values, but also to see that their public educational and recreational values are realized.

While the Interior Bureaus take paleontological resources into account on all public lands, the Bureau of Land Management is responsible for over 50 specially designated areas, including Research Natural Areas, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, and National Natural Landmarks, totaling nearly 300,000 acres that are managed wholly or in part for their outstanding paleontological values. In addition, the Fish and Wildlife Service has identified paleontological resources in 10 Wildlife Refuges, with paleontological research being conducted by the scientific community at these sites. The two most active Fish and Wildlife Service sites are the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge in Montana and the McKay Creek National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon. Fossils have also been located in over 120 National Park Service areas. These fossils collectively reveal a story ranging from Precambrian algae in Glacier National Park to Ice Age mammals in the Alaskan parks.

The Department of the Interior manages a number of publicly accessible and interpreted paleontological sites such as the Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry, the Trilobite Trail, the Trail Through Time, and Dinosaur National Monument. To meet public demands for recreational opportunities, the Bureau of Land Management



BLM and University of Arizona archaeologists excavate the tusk of a prehistoric mammal at the Murray Springs archaeological site (photo by BLM's Arizona State Office).

also makes many public lands available for collecting invertebrate fossils and limited amounts of petrified wood.

Condition of Natural Heritage Assets

Natural heritage assets represent a subset of stewardship lands. As such, the condition of these natural assets is as good as or better than that described for each land type under the Stewardship Lands section of this report.

Net Change in Natural Heritage Assets from 1996 to 1997

The net change in natural heritage designations from fiscal year 1996 to fiscal year 1997 includes the following:

The number of acres included as Wilderness Study Areas increased by 619,966 acres, even though the number of areas did not change (BLM).

The number of acres designated as Wilderness increased by 24,303 acres, even though the number of Wilderness Areas remained the same (BLM).

HERITAGE ASSETS - CULTURAL

The Department of the Interior is steward for a large, varied, and scientifically important body of resources that are cultural heritage assets (*Figures 29 and 30*). These resources include archeological sites, historic structures, cultural landscapes, and objects. Many are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, acknowledging their importance to American history. Some are National Historic Landmarks that are exceptional in illustrating the heritage of the United States.

The Department has a responsibility to inventory, preserve, and interpret these resources for the benefit of

the American public. Interior Bureaus have information on the numbers and types of resources and their condition. Not all resources have been inventoried and, for many resources, adequate condition information is lacking.

Figure 29

Number and Condition of Cultural Heritage Assets		
Type of Asset	Number of Assets	Condition
Bureau of Land Management		
	241 Properties	
National Register of Historic Places	3,301 Contributing Properties	Good
Archaeological & Historic Properties	212,000 Properties	Fair to Excellent
National Historic Landmarks	22 Landmarks	Good
World Heritage Sites	5 Sites	Good
Fish and Wildlife Service		
National Register of Historic Places	93 Properties	Unclassified 1/
Historic Structures	188 Structures	Unclassified 1/
Archaeological & Historic Properties	11,000 Properties	Unclassified 1/
National Historic Landmarks	9 Landmarks	Unclassified 1/
National Park Service		
National Register of Historic Places	1,246 Properties	Unclassified
Historic Structures	19,998 Structures	Good 44.2% Fair 42.2% Poor 12.7% Unknown 0.9%
National Historic Landmarks	143 Landmarks	Unclassified
Cultural Landscapes	875 Landscapes	Unclassified
Archaeological Sites	60,000 Identified Sites	Good 4% Poor 4% Unclassified 92%
World Heritage Sites	18 Sites	Unclassified
Bureau of Reclamation		
National Register of Historic Places	61 Properties	Unclassified
Bureau of Indian Affairs		
National Register of Historic Places	31 Properties	Unclassified
Other Bureaus		
National Register of Historic Places	9 Properties	Unclassified

1/ The physical condition of these cultural resources varies tremendously, depending on location, maintenance, and type of resource. While no comprehensive assessment is currently available, the Fish and Wildlife Service will be working to develop a definition and set of criteria to begin reporting information for fiscal year 1998. It is estimated that it will take 10 years to complete an accurate condition assessment.

Figure 30

Types of Cultural Heritage Assets	
Type	Description
National Register of Historic Places	The National Register of Historic Places is America's official listing of sites important to history and prehistory. Properties listed in the National Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. These resources contribute to an understanding of the historical and cultural foundations of the Nation. A total of nearly 68,000 properties are listed in the National Register, which incorporates nearly one million historic and archeological resources.
Historic Structures	Historic structures are constructed works consciously created to serve some human activity or purpose. They include buildings, monuments, millraces, canals, ships, railroad locomotives, rolling stock, stockade and fences, defensive works, temple mounds and kivas, outdoor sculpture, and ruins. Structures are historic because they individually meet the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places or are contributing elements of sites or districts that meet National Register criteria. As such, historic structures are significant at the national, state, or local level and are associated with the important people and history of this nation. Structures that do not meet National Register criteria may be considered historic due to management responsibilities established by legislation or through management planning processes. Such structures include moved, reconstructed, or commemorative structures as well as structures that have achieved significance within the last 50 years. The assemblage of historic structures for which the Department of the Interior is responsible is the tangible evidence of where we have been and what we have done as a nation and is a most compelling testimony of our rich, multi-ethnic heritage.
National Historic Landmarks	National Historic Landmarks are districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects possessing exceptional value in commemorating or illustrating the history of the United States. The Historic Sites Act of 1935 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to designate National Historic Landmarks as the Federal government's official recognition of the national importance of historic properties. These places possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States in history, architecture, archeology, technology, and culture as well as possessing a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.
Cultural Landscapes	A cultural landscape is a geographic area, including both natural and cultural resources, associated with an historic event, activity, or person. Cultural landscapes are complex resources that range from large rural tracts covering several thousand acres to formal gardens of less than an acre. Natural features such as landforms, soils, and vegetation are not only part of the cultural landscape, they also provide the framework within which it evolves. The Department of the Interior recognizes four cultural landscape categories which are historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes, historic sites, and ethnographic landscapes. These landscapes individually meet the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places, are contributing elements of sites or districts that meet National Register criteria, or have value to associated communities. As such, the cultural landscapes for which the Department of the Interior is responsible are significant at the national, state, or local level and are associated with the important people and history of this nation.
Archaeological Sites	Archaeological sites are locations that contain the remains of past human activity of various sorts. Archaeological sites include prehistoric structures, middens, and roadways, such as those found on many of the lands managed by the Department of the Interior in the Southwest. Sites also include the ancient earthen mounds in the midwestern and southern parts of the nation, many of them managed by Interior Bureaus. Other archaeological sites come from historic times and are associated with the settlement of the United States by Euroamericans, African-Americans, and Asian Americans. Archaeological sites occur on and within lands that are managed by Interior throughout the nation. The sites are most important for the unique information they contain about the past and for the sense of commemoration they can express for the people and events with which they are associated.
World Heritage Sites	The preservation of a common world heritage is the objective of the international Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. This international agreement, signed to date by more than 150 nations, was adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1972. Its primary mission is to define and conserve the world's heritage by drawing up a list of sites whose outstanding values should be preserved for all humanity and to ensure their protection through a closer co-operation among nations. To be listed for its cultural significance, a monument, group of buildings, or sites must meet specific criteria that established its outstanding universal value. Likewise, to be listed for its natural heritage significance, a natural feature, a habitat for threatened species, or a natural site must also meet specific criteria that establishes its outstanding universal value.

Museum Property

Department of the Interior museum collections total approximately 69 million museum objects and 23,000 linear feet of archival documents. Disciplines represented include art (10,000), ethnography (94,000), archaeology (60 million), history (3.4 million), biology (1.4 million), paleontology (4 million), and geology (50,000). *Figure 31* summarizes the changes in types of museum property collected between 1991 and 1997. Information on accessions, deaccessions, and conditions is incomplete.

Highlights for fiscal year 1997 included an exhibit at the National Gallery of Art that featured Thomas Moran paintings from the Interior Museum's collection as well as watercolors from National Park Service collections; opening of a new museum in Rapid City, South Dakota, that features Indian Arts and Crafts Board collections; revision of the Department's policies and standards for managing museum collections; and successful recovery from a devastating flood that inundated more than 900,000 Bureau of Reclamation and Fish and Wildlife Service archaeological artifacts in Grand Forks, North Dakota.

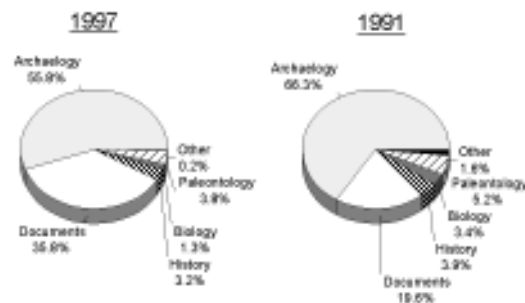
The Office of Museum Services provides Departmentwide training and technical assistance and operates the Interior Museum as a branch of the Interior Museum Program. The Office of Acquisition and Property Management is the policy branch that develops Departmentwide policies and strategies and provides oversight for the museum programs in all Interior bureaus and offices. Trends in fiscal year 1997 include increased use of partnerships to improve long-term management of collections, public access to the collections, and coordination among DOI museum col-



Viewing an exhibit at the new museum in Rapid City, South Dakota (photo by Indian Arts and Crafts Board).

Figure 31

Types of Museum Collections



lections managers. Interior bureaus are working toward compliance with the Department's policies and standards by implementing bureau-specific plans. Beyond basic accountability, Interior encourages increasing public access to and use of museum collections in support of the Department's missions. *Figure 32* provides bureau-level information for Interior's museum property.

Library Collections

Interior's Natural Resources Library is composed of two collections. The general collection consists of approximately 950,000 holdings dealing with the broad range of matters related to the Department's mission to use and conserve natural resources and to meet its trust responsibilities toward American Indians and Alaska Natives. The law collection has approximately 100,000 holdings related to natural resources and Native American laws.

National Park Service libraries contain 1.2 million books and reports and 4.5 million non-book items, for a total of 5.7 million items. The National Park Service estimates that 10 percent of the library collections are in good condition, 40 percent are in fair condition, and 50 percent are in poor condition. Data is not available on the number of acquisitions and withdrawals for fiscal year 1997.

Figure 32

Interior Museum Property		
Interior Entity	Property Information	Other Information
Bureau of Indian Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manages 22,255 museum objects at 106 BIA units Manages 40,000 objects in 20 non-federal institutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current focus is on improving accountability and preventative conservation of collections
Bureau of Land Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manages 20 million objects in partnership with 220 non-federal institutions The Anasazi Heritage Center (Delores, Colorado) includes 2.5 million artifacts, 99% of which are in good condition. Sixty percent of the artifacts are entered into the Argus collections management data base 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current focus is on implementing the North American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act Manages 300,000 acres primarily for their outstanding paleontological values Public paleontological sites include Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry, the Trilobite Trail, and the Trail Through Time
Bureau of Reclamation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manages 462,470 objects and 4 linear feet of documents in 29 BOR units Manages more than 5.5 million objects and 569 linear feet of documents in partnership with an estimated 85 non-federal institutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current focus is on developing bureau policies and establishing baseline inventories of collections in repositories In 1997, BOR installed interpretive exhibits at New Melones Lake Visitor Center, California; drafted 15 of more than 180 project histories; received 5,391 pages of oral history interviews from a transcription service; and conducted 35 hours of additional oral history interviews BOR cultural web pages logged more than 94,000 visits during 1997
Fish and Wildlife Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manages 760 linear feet of documents at 146 units Manages more than 2.7 million objects in partnership with 217 non-federal institutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current focus is on developing software for tracking key accountability data In 1997, FWS transferred 800,000 zoological and botanical specimens to USGS's Biological Resources Division
National Park Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manages 35 million objects and specimens and 22,000 linear feet of archival documents 53% of the objects and 33% of the archives are cataloged 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current focus is on developing a strategy to quantify condition information for collections and give priority to treatment of the most fragile, important, and heavily used items Parks typically respond to over 26,000 annual public research requests Park visitors view over 300,000 objects annually In 1996 (latest available), NPS acquired over 2.1 million objects through gifts, exchanges, purchases, field collections, and transfers In 1997, NPS deaccessioned 1,179 objects through exchanges, transfers, losses, thefts, repatriation, or by returning to a rightful owner
U.S. Geological Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manages 60 art and history objects and 800,000 scientific specimens transferred from FWS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current focus is on assessing the Biological Resources Division museum property that was transferred from FWS
Minerals Management Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manages 54 objects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current focus is on implementing a museum property module within a new Property Management Information System (PMIS)
Indian Arts and Crafts Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manages 19,794 objects at four facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 1997, the Sioux Indian Museum moved into a new facility in Rapid City, South Dakota Catalog records were recently migrated from a DOS to a Windows-based collections management application Use of interns has accelerated progress on collection documentation projects
Department of the Interior Museum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manages 4,759 objects, 1,841 of which are in the Main Interior Building and 2,918 objects at a repository managed by the National Park Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 1997, new accessions totaled 116 objects, 41 of which reflect clarification of records as a result of file research, and 75 as a result of gift, transfer, and field collection