

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## The Nation's Principal Conservation Agency

Established in 1849, the Department of the Interior is the Nation's principal conservation agency and is responsible for wise stewardship of lands and natural and cultural resources, honoring trust responsibilities to Native Americans, and conducting scientific research.

- **Land** Interior manages over 500 million acres or about one-fifth of the land area of the United States and 700 million acres of subsurface minerals. The Department has jurisdiction over an additional 1.76 million acres of the Outer Continental Shelf.
- Parks, Refuges, Public Lands Interior manages 385 units of the national park system, 537 national wildlife refuges, 70 national fish hatcheries, 13 national conservation areas, and 89 national monuments.
- **People** Interior has over 70,000 employees located in approximately 2,400 locations across the United States, Puerto Rico, U.S. Territories and freely associated states.
- **Volunteers** Interior benefits from over 200,000 volunteers who provide in excess of seven million hours of service, valued at over \$95 million per year.
- **Youth Programs** Interior employs over 4,000 youth in youth-related programs annually. Since 1970, the Department has used the Youth Conservation Corps to employ young adults ages 15-18.
- **Revenues** Revenues collected annually vary from \$6 to \$11 billion, including revenues from energy, minerals, grazing, timber, land sales, and other revenue producing activities.
- **Water** The Department is the largest supplier and manager of water in the 17 western states, managing 550 dams and 348 reservoirs that deliver irrigation water to 31 million people and one of every five western farmers.
- **Energy** Interior manages lands, subsurface rights, and offshore areas that produce approximately 28 percent of the Nation's energy, including 35 percent of natural gas, 29 percent of oil, 35 percent of coal, 17 percent of hydropower, and 47 percent of geothermal.
- **Visitation** Annually, 52 million visits are made to Bureau of Land Management public lands, 286 million visits to national park units, and 41 million visits to national wildlife refuges and fish hatcheries. In addition, there are 90 million visitor days of use at Bureau of Reclamation recreation sites.
- Native Americans The Department maintains relationships with 558 federally-recognized tribes in the lower 48 states and Alaska, and provides support to a service population of 1.4 million people. The Bureau of Indian Affairs provides education services to over 48,000 students in 23 states attending 185 elementary and secondary schools and supports 25 tribally controlled community colleges.

The Department also has a broad range of other responsibilities that are vital to the health and management of our natural resources including:

- Wildfire management
- Scientific research and information to describe and understand the earth
- Management of mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf

The front cover provides examples of the broad scope of the Department's conservation and steward-ship responsibilities. The Accountability Report provides in-depth information about the Department and its performance during Fiscal Year 2001.

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## Fiscal Year 2001 Annual Departmental Report on Accountability

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