



# Mike Pool

State Director

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

State Director Mike Pool is a career veteran of BLM, having spent more than 34 years in service, starting at the field office level and working his way up through the “ranks.” In between included stints in a variety of assignments in Colorado, New Mexico, Alaska, Nevada, Washington D.C., and the Department of the Interior. This wide variety of posting and jobs prepared him well for his current job of overseeing 15.1 million acres of public lands in California and another 1.5 million in northwestern Nevada, with a dedicated workforce of more than 900 employees spread throughout 16 BLM offices.

He views his current assignment as State Director as the most challenging of his entire career, as well as the most exciting, given the diversity of both the resources and people in California. He is responsible for some of the most complex landscapes in the West, ranging from the Pacific Coast rocks and islands, to the vast California Desert and from the Central Valley plains to redwood forests.

His jurisdiction includes national monuments, national conservation areas, and wilderness areas as well as millions of public land acres open to a variety of public uses. These include motorized and non-motorized recreation, renewable energy projects (such as wind, geothermal, and solar), mining and oil and gas operations, livestock grazing, and timber harvesting.

The 55-year-old Pool holds a B.S. in wildlife science from New Mexico State University. An Arizona native raised in New Mexico, he enjoys hunting, fishing, cooking, reading, and music in his leisure time. He and his wife Nancy, a nurse administrator, have two grown children, Jessica and Justin.

Reflecting on his career so far, Pool says he is “most proud of the partnerships BLM has been able to forge with hundreds of organizations, friends groups, and governmental entities throughout California. Together with these partners, BLM is able ensure that the public lands of today are managed wisely for future generations.”

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