

California Public Lands

BLM

California 2009



National System of Public Lands

From the State Director



With a new Administration in office, 2009 promises to be a year of new ideas, changes, and challenges. For the career Federal employees who manage the public lands in California under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), it promises to be an exciting time.

New leadership brings new opportunities and also the chance for us to host or brief those appointed or selected by the new President about the diverse resources found on the 15.2 million acres of public lands in California. For many of these key officials, California's public lands may be a bit different from the others.

To truly understand this 100-million-acre State, it's important to appreciate the differences among its 58 counties and the ethnic diversity of its 38 million people. The public lands BLM cares for are equally diverse, ranging from the scenic rocks and islands off the California coast to the seemingly endless expanse of the Mojave Desert, and from the towering Headwaters Forest to the shifting sands of the Imperial Dunes.

All these areas are special to the people of California and they often have very divergent views on how they should be managed. Add to that the fact that these are part of a National System of Public Lands and owned by all Americans, and the BLM's job becomes even more challenging.

But BLM-California and our 900 employees spread throughout 16 field offices are accustomed to meeting new challenges and we look forward to addressing the new directions likely to come from both the public and the new leadership in Washington.

"2009 promises to be a year of new ideas, changes, and challenges."

This 2009 California Public Lands report is one of our ways to share as much information as possible with the public we serve about their public lands in California. We hope you find it useful and would appreciate any feedback offered.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Pool".

Mike Pool, California State Director

Public Land Acreages and Payments in Lieu of Taxes

COUNTY	BLM ACRES	JUNE PAYMENT	NOVEMBER PAYMENT	TOTAL PAYMENT
Alameda	217	\$1,240	\$752	\$1,992
Alpine	12,962	\$83,853	\$50,882	\$134,735
Amador	9,045	\$17,383	\$10,548	\$27,931
Butte	16,832	\$30,323	\$18,400	\$48,723
Calaveras	35,386	\$73,671	\$44,704	\$118,375
Colusa	33,410	\$79,994	\$48,541	\$128,535
Contra Costa	74	\$3,257	\$1,976	\$5,233
Del Norte	195	\$92,907	\$56,376	\$149,283
El Dorado	19,988	\$111,656	\$67,754	\$179,410
Fresno	157,048	\$1,006,167	\$610,549	\$1,616,716
Glenn	5,882	\$93,517	\$56,746	\$150,263
Humboldt	84,225	\$103,281	\$62,672	\$165,953
Imperial	1,267,370	\$1,801,781	\$1,093,332	\$2,895,113
Inyo	1,789,322	\$984,910	\$597,650	\$1,582,560
Kern	701,814	\$1,371,618	\$832,306	\$2,203,924
Kings	7,646	\$10,772	\$6,537	\$17,309
Lake	126,575	\$76,329	\$46,317	\$122,646
Lassen	1,009,062	\$328,347	\$199,243	\$527,590
Los Angeles	13,177	\$768,702	\$466,452	\$1,235,154
Madera	3,453	\$363,164	\$220,370	\$583,534
Marin	0	\$113,375	\$68,796	\$182,171
Mariposa	72,580	\$506,256	\$307,199	\$813,455
Mendocino	121,110	\$236,180	\$143,315	\$379,495
Merced	4,175	\$50,389	\$30,577	\$80,966
Modoc	272,581	\$345,283	\$209,520	\$554,803
Mono	559,913	\$565,996	\$343,450	\$909,446
Monterey	30,139	\$475,195	\$288,351	\$763,546
Napa	31,737	\$85,720	\$52,015	\$137,735
Nevada	18,989	\$40,192	\$24,388	\$64,580
Orange	1	\$74,162	\$45,002	\$119,164
Placer	20,329	\$78,851	\$47,846	\$126,697
Plumas	10,526	\$233,404	\$141,631	\$375,035
Riverside	1,552,334	\$1,883,561	\$1,142,956	\$3,026,517
Sacramento	4,497	\$13,707	\$8,318	\$22,025
San Benito	87,147	\$146,800	\$89,079	\$235,879
San Bernardino	6,207,404	\$1,791,119	\$1,086,862	\$2,877,981
San Diego	183,891	\$637,757	\$386,995	\$1,024,752
San Francisco	0	\$12,884	\$7,819	\$20,703
San Joaquin	603	\$3,104	\$1,884	\$4,988
San Luis Obispo	240,895	\$612,716	\$371,800	\$984,516
San Mateo	0	\$3,353	\$2,035	\$5,388
Santa Barbara	7,462	\$997,331	\$605,187	\$1,602,518
Santa Clara	1,735	\$2,722	\$1,652	\$4,374
Santa Cruz	12	\$0	\$27	\$27
Shasta	129,850	\$196,015	\$118,943	\$314,958
Sierra	1,921	\$90,260	\$54,771	\$145,031
Siskiyou	84,923	\$513,334	\$311,494	\$824,828
Solano	2,157	\$9,956	\$6,042	\$15,998
Sonoma	7,158	\$4,269	\$2,590	\$6,859
Stanislaus	471	\$4,674	\$2,837	\$7,511
Sutter	2	\$0	\$5	\$5
Tehama	48,633	\$89,061	\$54,042	\$143,103
Trinity	78,419	\$306,983	\$186,279	\$493,262
Tulare	121,711	\$1,508,702	\$915,490	\$2,424,192
Tuolumne	44,892	\$790,721	\$479,815	\$1,270,536
Ventura	1,928	\$802,995	\$487,263	\$1,290,258
Yolo	29,692	\$44,508	\$27,007	\$71,515
Yuba	1,582	\$9,445	\$5,732	\$15,177
TOTAL	15,7275,082	\$20,683,852	\$12,551,121	\$33,234,973

Payments are based on BLM acres and other Federal acres not shown



"Facts"

Land Use Plans: 26 RMPs or major amendments completed or soon to be completed.

Fire/Fuels Reduction: 26 pre-fire projects totaling \$3 million, which assisted "Communities at Risk" in the wildland urban interface.

Law Enforcement: 465,000 marijuana plants eradicated; 11 law enforcement agreements and 57 memorandums of understanding.

Oil & Gas: Third largest onshore oil producer; 4,500 wells on 302 leases; \$95.8 million in royalties.

Geothermal: 6 fields and 31 power plants; 500 megawatts; \$12 million in royalties and \$8 million bonus bids at recent lease sale.

Wind Energy: 3,000 wind turbines; 234 megawatts; \$600,000 in royalties; 24 rights-of-way on 4,060 acres; processing 98 applications; 1.2 million acres.

Biomass Program: Western juniper initiative underway; 30,000 tons of biomass produced annually.

Solar Energy: Processing 74 applications; 652,000 acres (all but 2 are in the Desert District).

Minerals Materials: 150 active mineral sale contracts; \$40 million contract value; 1.2 million tons of aggregate for infrastructure needs.

Solid Leaseable Minerals: 26 leases; 2.5 million tons of products; \$5 million annual royalties.

Mining Law: Fifth largest producer of gold in U.S.; three mines; fourth largest number of mining claims.

Abandoned Mines: 13,000 on BLM lands; 300 sites evaluated - 5 sites with water-quality problems and 102 physically hazardous sites remediated last 10 years.

Recreation Partnerships: 371 agreements in California - most in the BLM.

Visitor Use Days: More than 9.1 million visits; 3.2 million campers and picnickers.

Archaeology/Cultural: Conduct studies and protect thousands of sites.

Native American Consultations: Work cooperatively with 108 tribes in California.

Wildlife: 800 species in California.

Threatened and Endangered Species: 310 federally listed, 237 state-listed species in California, and 64 rare plants.

Invasive Weeds: Thousands of acres of weed inventories and treatments annually.

Livestock Grazing: 572 permittees lease 699 allotments on 8.1 million acres.

Wild Horses and Burros: Leader among 12 western states with over 400 animals adopted annually; 1,200 compliance inspections annually; plus nearing "appropriate management levels" of animals on the range.

Cadastral Survey: Over 375 miles of boundary lines surveyed annually.

Volunteers: 233,000 hours contributed annually.

Fiscal: \$167.6 million budget 2008; \$34.5 million annual receipts.



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Major Programs

“Stats”

Lands

- 15.2 million acres of public lands in California, 1.6 million in northwestern Nevada
- 44 million acres subsurface minerals under federal land/2.5 million acres under private lands/592,000 acres under Native American Tribal lands
- 6,814 acres of priority lands acquired in 2008

Special Areas

- 2 national Conservation Areas: the California Desert Conservation Area and the King Range National Conservation Area
- 3 National Monuments: the Santa Rosa/San Jacinto Mountains, Carrizo Plain, California Coastal
- 1 Forest Reserve: Headwaters
- 204 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
- 6 national wild and scenic rivers
- 82 wilderness areas covering 3.7 million acres, 71 wilderness study areas covering 900,000 acres
- 4 National Scenic & Historic Trails

Resource Uses

- 8,040 miles of rights-of-way for roads/powerlines
- 1.5 million board feet of timber harvested annually
- 17.8 million barrels of oil and 4.1 billion cubic feet of natural gas produced annually
- 58,000 ounces of gold produced annually
- 24,000 mining claims
- 525,000 animal unit months of forage for livestock
- 3,500 wild horses/550 wild burros on the range
- 11 million acres for open and limited off-road vehicle recreation

BLM-California is a multiple use agency - all the programs it manages by law or policy are important. At any one time, however, some move to the forefront for many reasons: public needs and demands, new initiatives, and on-the-ground priorities.

In 2009, these program areas met these criteria:

- **National Landscape Conservation System** – BLM-California is proud to have more public land areas within the system than any other state (173). The areas comprise the “crown jewels” of the public lands.
- **Energy** – Energy independence is a national priority and the public is looking to BLM to help with renewable energy – solar, wind and geothermal, as well as oil and gas. Balancing these uses with environmental protection is BLM’s challenge.
- **Recreation** – Californians love to recreate and the public lands provide many recreation opportunities, which help local “gateway” economies by drawing 9.1 million recreation visits and 3.2 million campers and picnickers in 2008.
- **Sustainable Communities** – BLM strives to be a “good neighbor” to help sustain communities near public lands. This ranges from working with children and youth on outdoor education projects, to entering into hundreds of partnerships including agreements with more than 70 law enforcement agencies and 192 Fire Safe Councils to help provide protection to local communities.



Bureau of Land Management California Jurisdiction

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