

Origins & Missions of Public Land Management in USA

CSS 235
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Long History Since Nationhood

- Started in the East & reflected the needs of a growing nation.
- War for independence -- the revolutionary army needed a corps of engineers to build defense fortifications & supply lines . . .
- After 1776, they helped to rebuild our infrastructure . . . roads, bridges, ports, navigable waterways . . .

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Welcome to the US Army Corps of Engineers

- Since Revolutionary War.
- Maintained waterways for navigation.
- Responsible for Navigation & Flood Control
- Dam Building, Municipal water supply, hydropower, levies & dikes, irrigation
- Built recreation facilities but State & County Parks often operate.
- Tremendously popular with public (Dept of Defense \$\$, Congressional support, excellent jobs)

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Army Corps of Engineers

- "Nation's largest provider of Outdoor Recreation"
- 420 lakes in 43 states.
- 12 million acres of land & water.
- 56,000 miles of shore.
- 360 million visitors.
- 4,300 recreation areas developed for camping & day use.
- 80% within 50 miles of a large U.S. city
- 450 swimming beaches.
- 90,000 campsites.
- 3,500 boat launch ramps.
- 200,000 fishing tournaments per year.
- Thousands of miles of levies.
- 4,300 miles of trails.

<http://www.corpsresults.us/recreation/>
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“Two Paths Diverged in the Woods...”

<p>National Parks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Yellowstone in 1872 ■ Emphasized: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resource Protection Recreation use Preservation Education & Science Visitor Safety ■ Department of Interior 	<p>National Forests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Forest Reservation Act 1891 ■ Emphasized: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire protection Commodity production Multiple Use & Local Economies ■ Department of Agriculture
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TVA (Tennessee Valley Authority)

- Since 1933 has built 41 reservoirs (11,000 miles of shoreline)
- Primary purpose to supply power & economic development to Appalachia.
- Recreation is an important multiple use.
- Cooperates with other agencies that develop recreation around the lakes.
- Demonstration areas & provides technical assistance on recreation planning & design.

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TVA (cont'd)

- 19 state parks plus state wildlife refuges
- 110 county and municipal parks
- 111 camps (nonprofit organizations)
- 310 private marinas & resorts
- Land Between the Lakes, KY
- Environmental education facilities
- Over 70 million visitors!



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

National Wildlife Refuges

- 95+ million acres in 586 units.
- Primary purpose--Habitat for mammals, birds & fish (that cross state boundaries).
- Wildlife Observation, fishing, picnicking
 - (passive or non-consumptive recreation favored)
- Over 40 million visitors annually.
- Wildlife management has priority over public access for recreation.



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

- **National Wildlife Refuges**
- Many are located near urban areas.
- Have visitor centers & educational facilities.
- Refuges are often Off-Season destinations
 - Fall, winter & spring viewing is often best
 - 41 million Americans took trips to watch wild birds in 2008
- Educating the public an important component.

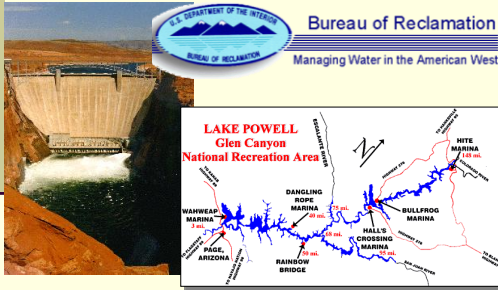
"Recreational use on national wildlife refuges generated almost \$1.7 billion in total economic activity during fiscal year 2006, according to a report released by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service."

Wildlife Refuges in Idaho?

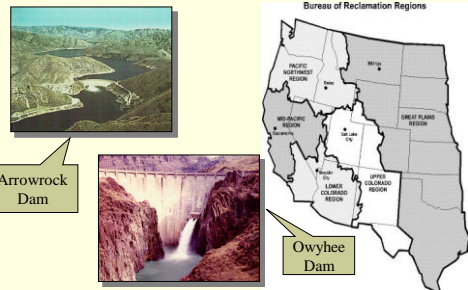
- Bear Lake National Wildlife Refuge (Montpelier)
- Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge (Nampa)
- Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge (Bonners Ferry)
- Minidoka National Wildlife Refuge (Rupert).



Bureau of Reclamation



Bureau of Reclamation



Bureau of Reclamation

- Reservoirs for irrigation.
- 17 Western states.
- 264 recreation areas.
- 1.7 million acres of water & 12,300 miles of shoreline.
- 70 million visitors/yr
- Irrigate 9.3 million acres + recreation values.
- Cooperate w/ NPS, USFWS, USFS, state fish & wildlife, county, city, irrigation districts.
- Controversy w/ new mandates (e.g. T&E)

In 2003, BuRec legally became a "multiple-use" agency.

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Bureau of Land Management



Bureau of Land Management



- The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), in the U.S. Department of the Interior, administers 262 million surface acres of America's public lands, located primarily in 12 Western States. The BLM sustains the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.
- Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA)
- Multiple-Use Sustained Yield Act of 1960
- The BLM administers 205,498 miles of fishable streams, 2.2 million acres of lakes and reservoirs, 6,600 miles of floatable rivers, over 500 boating access points, 69 National Back Country Byways, 300 Watchable Wildlife sites, 4,500 miles of National Scenic, Historic, and Recreational Trails, as well as thousands of miles of multiple use trails used by motorcyclists, hikers, equestrians, and mountain bikers.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Search

National Landscape Conservation System

Please view the recently unveiled 15-year NLC Strategy here.

Landscapes of the American Spirit

The Bureau of Land Management's National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS) contains some of the West's most spectacular landscapes. It includes over 886 federally recognized areas and approximately 27 million acres of National Monuments, National Conservation Areas, Wilderness Areas, Wilderness Study Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, National Scenic and Historic Trails, and Conservation Lands of the California Desert.

State NLC Pages (Click here) NLC Maps (Click here)

Urgent National Historic Trail, WY

What's New in the NLCS?

To download desktop wallpapers highlighting NLC areas, click here.

To view a brief video on the NLCS, click here.

Share photos and stories on BLM's Facebook Page

Share and watch videos on BLM's YouTube Channel

National Landscape Conservation System

- National Monuments
- National Conservation Areas
- Wilderness
- Wilderness Study Areas
- Wild and Scenic Rivers
- National Scenic and Historic Trails
- Conservation Lands in the NLCS
- Partnerships
- Learning Landscapes
- Take It Outside
- NLCS Resources

“Wilderness”—another unique idea

Why did we need a new land classification?

The Wilderness Act 1964

- Why did we need a new act?
 - lack of permanency, threats from dams & development
- Holistic solution (nationwide)
- It is a product of 8 years of compromise.
 - (65 different bills & amendments)
- Only Congress can designate a Wilderness.
- It has never been amended.
- We now have **776** Wildernesses totaling **109.5** million acres. (171,114 sq. mi.)

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National Wilderness Preservation System

States with greater than 1.5 million acres of Wilderness

States with less than 1.5 million acres of Wilderness

States with no Wilderness areas shown in white

Alaska (area scale 1:5,000,000) and Hawaii (area scale 1:1,000,000) are shown in white.

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National Distribution

- Western bias
- Not ecosystem-driven

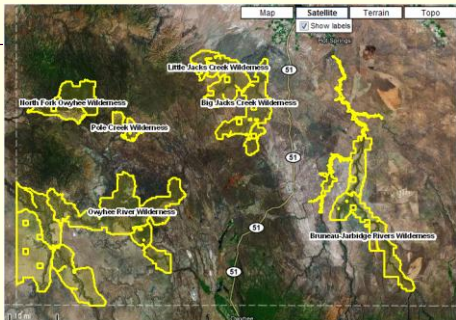
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Wilderness in Idaho

Big Jacks Creek	52,826 acres
Bruneau-Jarvis Rivers	89,779
Craters of the Moon	43,243
Frank Church-River of No Return	2,366,827
Gospel-Hump	205,796
Hells Canyon (ID/OR)	83,811/131,041
Total	214,852
Little Jacks Creek	50,929
North Fork Owyhee	43,413
Owyhee River	267,328
Pole Creek	12,533
Sawtooth	217,088
Selway-Bitterroot (ID/MT)	1,089,144/251,433
Total	1,340,502
Idaho Total Wilderness Acreage	4,522,717 acres (7,067 sq mi)
Idaho Total land area	(52,933,120 acres)
% of Idaho designated Wilderness	(8.5%)

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Idaho's newest additions



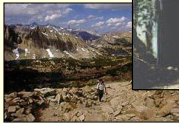
On 3/30/2009 President Obama signed the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public law 111-11) which designated 52 new wilderness areas & added acreage to 26 existing areas, a total addition to the NWPS of over 2 million acres.

Where do we rank?

State	Acres	Percent of Total Wilderness Acres	USA Rank	% of State / Acreage
Alaska	57,425,569	52%		
California	15,000,212	14%		
Arizona	4,529,613	4%		
Idaho	4,522,779	4%		
Washington	4,423,405	4%	Alaska	16% 57.43m
Colorado	3,707,338	3%	California	15 15.00
Montana	3,443,385	3%	Arizona	6 4.53
Nevada	3,368,796	3%	Idaho	9 4.52
Wyoming	3,111,232	3%	Washington	10 4.42
Oregon	2,471,951	2%		

The National Trail System

- 1968 included Appalachian & Pacific Crest Trails
- National Scenic Trails (11) -- Congress
- National Historic Trails (19) -- Congress
- National Recreation Trails (1,149 w/ 11,000 miles, 513 federal) -- created by Sec. Agr. or Interior
- Connecting or Side Trails
- "Rails-to-trails"
- 60,000 miles—now longer than Interstate Highway System



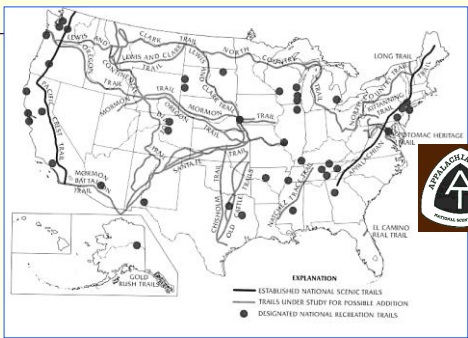
National Trails



- Appalachian Trail (Interior) 2,100 mi.
- Pacific Crest Trail (Agr.) 2,350 mi.
- Oregon N. H. Trail (Interior) 2,000 mi.
- Mormon Pioneer N. H. Trail (Int.) 1,300 mi.
- Continental Divide N. S. T. (Agr.) 3,100 mi.
- Lewis & Clark N. H. T. (Int.) 3,700 mi.
- Iditarod (Int) 2,000 mi.
- North Country N.S. T. (Int.) 3,200 mi.
- Nez Perce N. H. T. (Agr.) 1,170 mi.

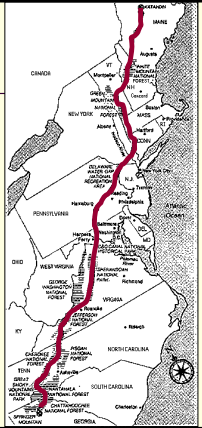
20,920 mi.

The National Trail System



The Appalachian Trail

- 2,146 miles
- From Georgia to Maine
- 4 million hikers
- Built by volunteers
- 1921-1937



The Pacific Crest Trail



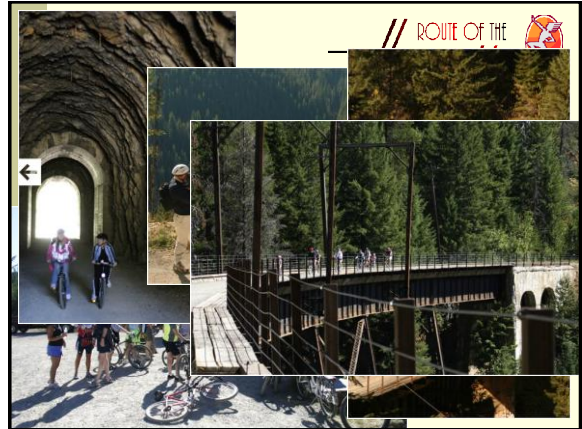
2,300 miles long
 Mexican border
 to
 Canadian border

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National Recreation Trails in Idaho

- National Recreation Trails
 - Cress Creek Nature Trail (1 mi.)
 - Mineral Ridge Trail (3.3 mi.)
 - Bald Mountain Trail (6 mi.)
 - Weiser River Trail (85 mi.)
- National Historic Trails
 - Lewis & Clark
 - Mormon Pioneer
 - Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo)
 - Oregon

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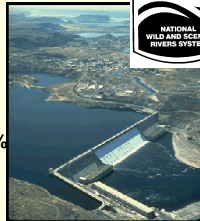


National Wild & Scenic Rivers Act of 1968

Established 3 classes of rivers:

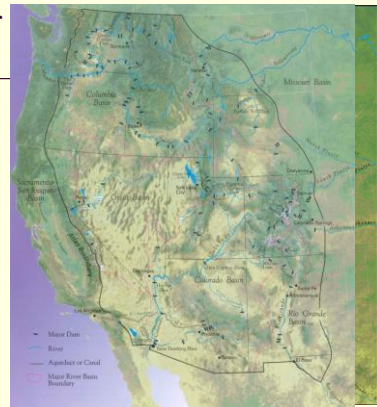
- **Wild Rivers**
 - **Scenic Rivers**
 - **Recreational Rivers**
- Primary purpose of Act was to stop impoundments.

(203 with 12,598 mi. = 0.25%
 75,000 dams impound
 600,000 miles or 17% of
 America's rivers.



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Major Dams



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National Wild & Scenic Rivers



Wild Rivers

- “Vestiges of primitive America”
- No road access
- No development
- No dams, impoundments, or diversions
- Afforded the highest level of protection.

National Wild & Scenic Rivers



Scenic Rivers

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National Wild & Scenic Rivers

Scenic Rivers

- Free of impoundments.
- Very little development—should blend with natural landscape.
- Limited access by roads (may be crossed by roads). Some private property.



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National Wild & Scenic Rivers

Recreational Rivers

- May have impoundments
- Limited development permitted
- Accessible by roads
- High recreational values.



Wild & Scenic Rivers in Idaho

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Battle Creek | 18. Salmon River |
| 2. Big Jacks Creek | 19. Salmon River (Middle Fork) |
| 3. Bruneau River | 20. Sheep Creek |
| 4. Bruneau River (West Fork) | 21. Snake River (See also Oregon) |
| 5. Clearwater River (Middle Fork) | 22. Wickahoney Creek |
| 6. Cottonwood Creek | |
| 7. Deep Creek | |
| 8. Dickshooter Creek | |
| 9. Duncan Creek | |
| 10. Jarbidge River | |
| 11. Little Jacks Creek | |
| 12. Owyhee River | |
| 13. Owyhee River (North Fork) | |
| 14. Owyhee River (South Fork) | |
| 15. Red Canyon | |
| 16. Rapid River | |
| 17. Saint Joe River | |



3,000 mi. of boatable whitewater.

10% of total whitewater miles in America!

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A Lasting Legacy of Public Lands

- 1st National Park in 1872
- Public access & outdoor recreation is a major multiple use on most public managed lands.
- Frequently, land management practices involve controversy & competing values.
- America's legacy of protected area management has spread around the world (but not without some controversy).
- America's public lands remain an important part of our heritage & national pride.

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