

Introduction



The Department is the steward of 20 percent of the Nation's lands including national parks, national wildlife refuges, and the public lands; manages the Nation's public lands and minerals including providing access to public lands and the Outer Continental Shelf for renewable and conventional energy; is the largest supplier and manager of water in the 17 western States and a supplier of hydropower energy; and upholds Federal trust responsibilities to Indian Tribes and Alaska Natives. It is responsible for migratory wildlife conservation; historic preservation; endangered species conservation; surface-mined lands protection and restoration; mapping, geological, hydrological, and biological science for the Nation; and financial and technical assistance for the insular areas.

Interior's budget request covers a broad spectrum of activities to protect the Nation's resources and to ensure equity in their use. These activities include: operation of the National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service; land management responsibilities of the Bureau of Land Management; delivery of quality services to American Indians and Alaska Natives; OCS management responsibilities of the Bureaus of Ocean Energy Management and Safety and Environmental Enforcement; research, data collection, and scientific activities of the U.S. Geological Survey; water management projects of the Bureau of Reclamation; regulatory responsibilities and reclamation activities of the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement; and support for U.S. territories and other insular areas.