

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS: A PRIMER



- National Public Lands
- Conservation Designations
 - Conservation Laws
 - How to Take Action



NATIVE LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



WHAT ARE NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS?



FOUR PRIMARY PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCIES



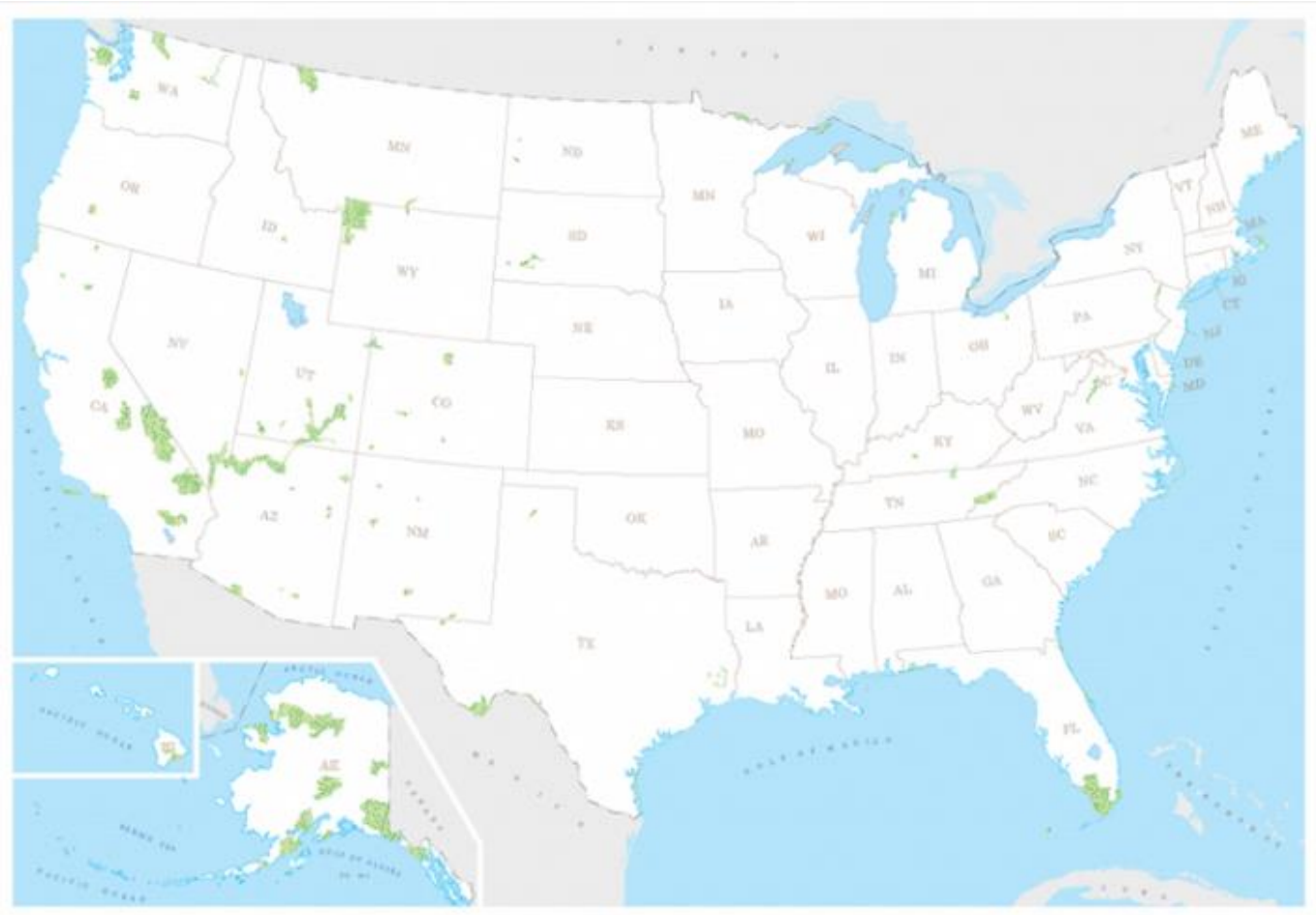
Department of the Interior



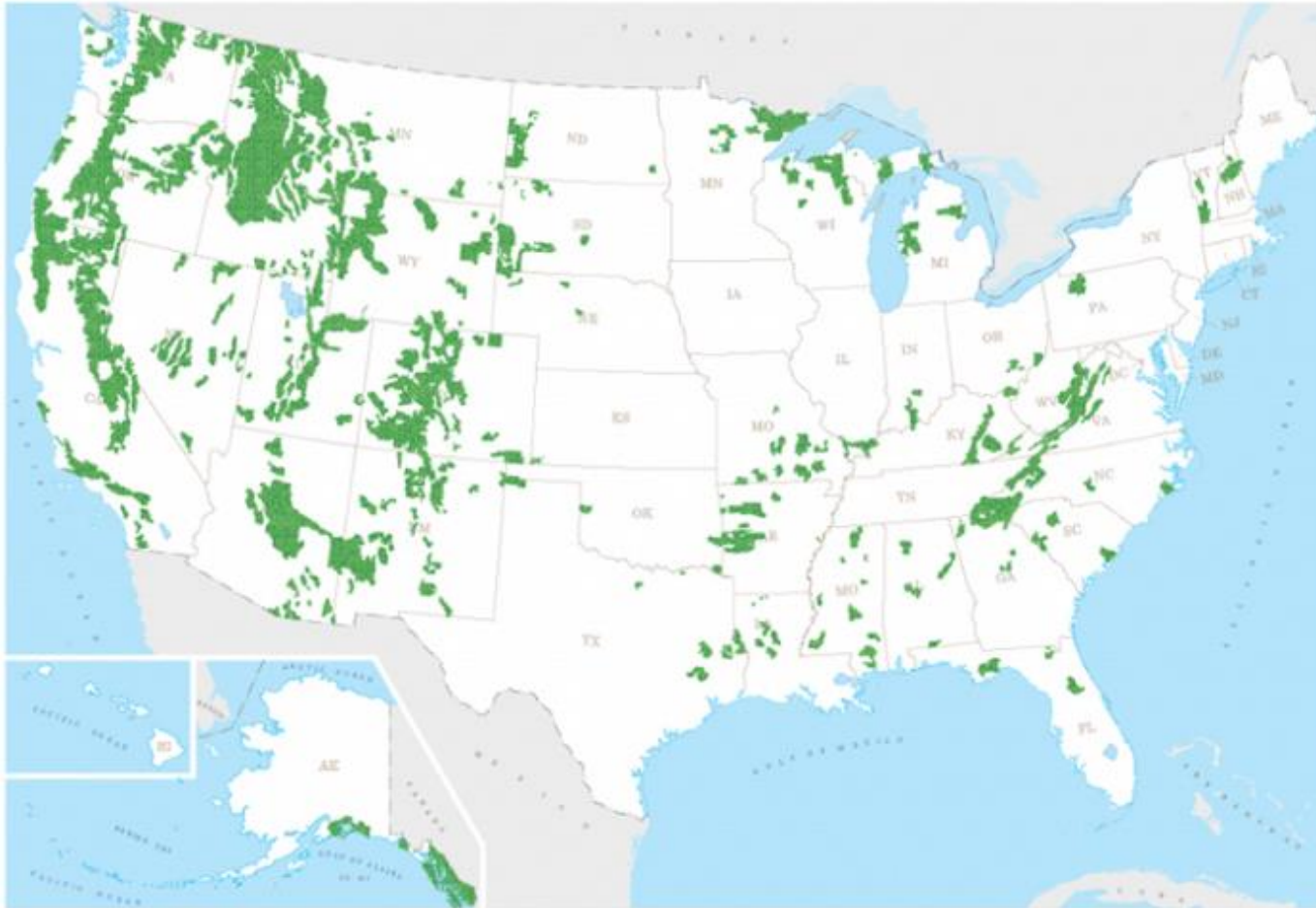
U.S. Department of Agriculture



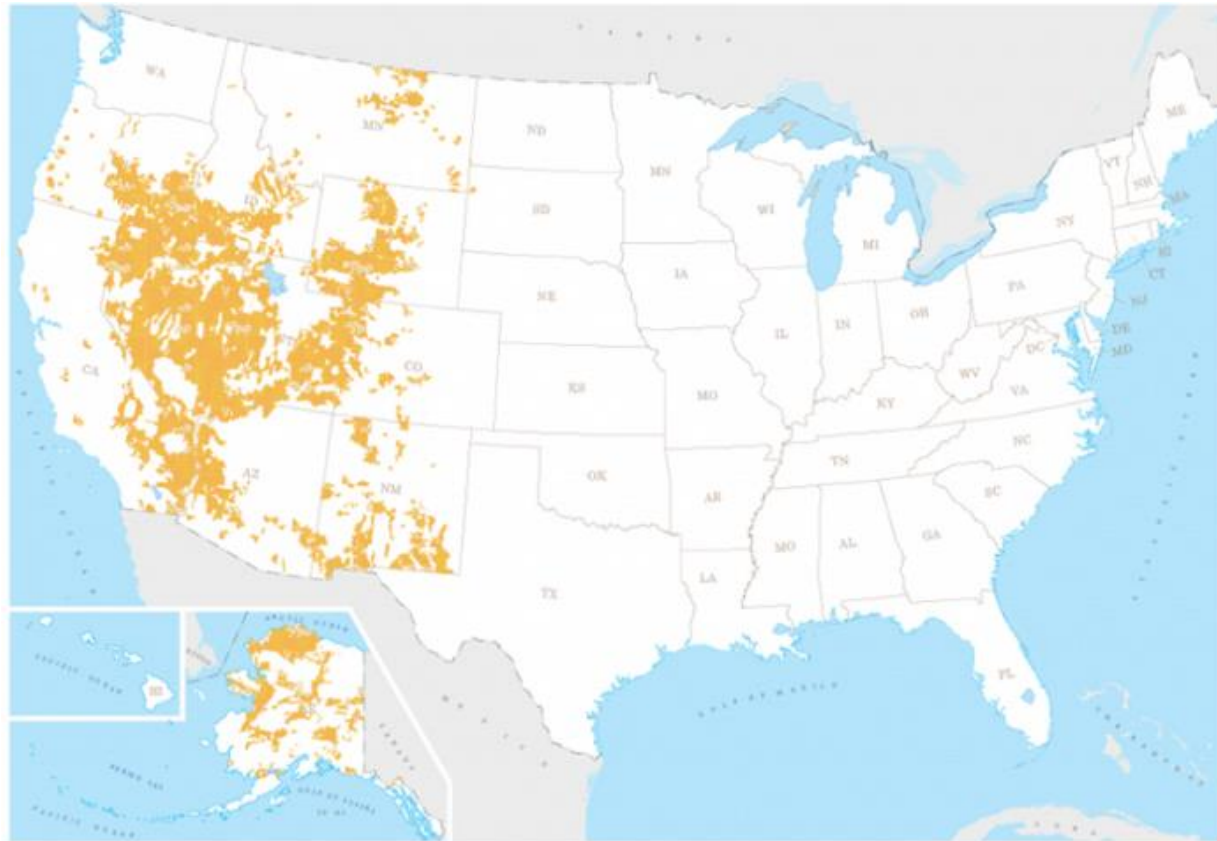
National Park Service



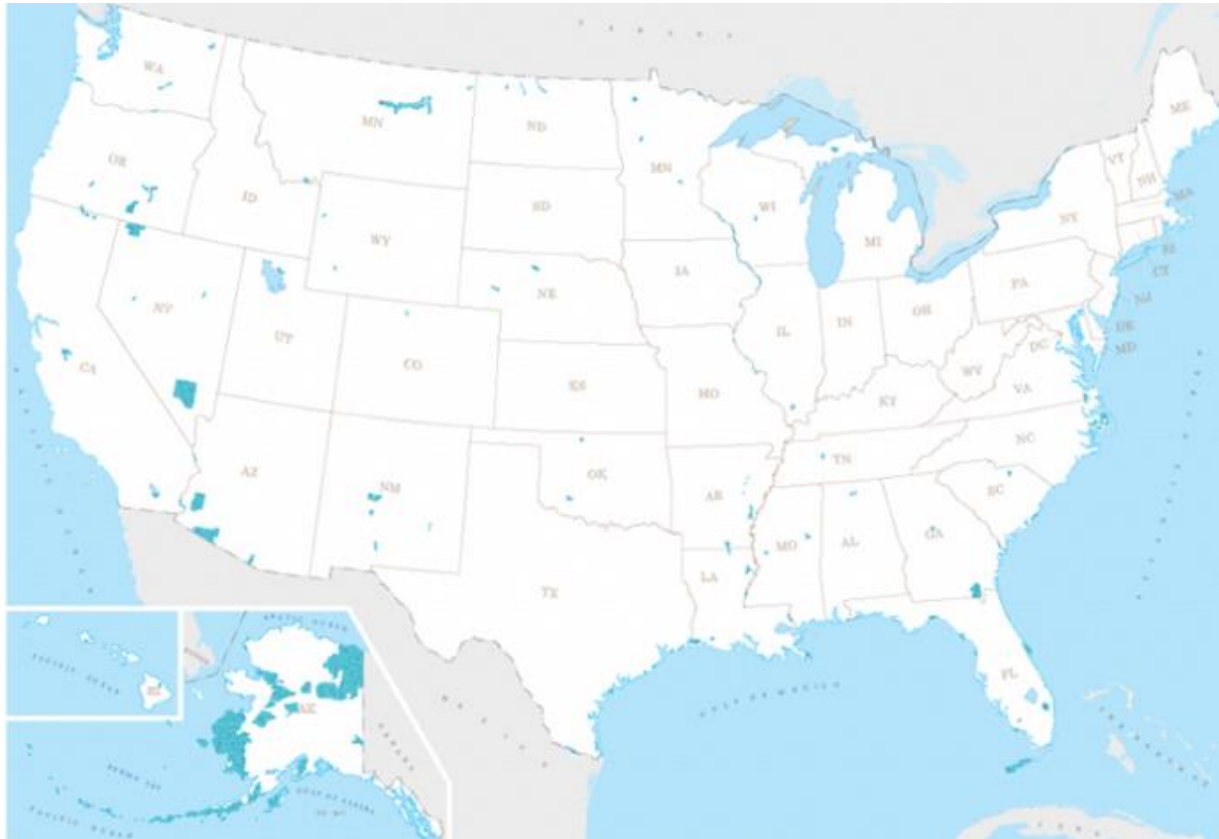
U.S. Forest Service



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



Conservation Designations

- Wilderness
- National Monuments
- Wild and Scenic Rivers
- Others: national recreation areas; national scenic trails; national heritage areas



Wilderness



National Monuments



Wild and Scenic Rivers



OTHER DESIGNATIONS

- National Scenic Trail
 - Pacific Crest Trail; Continental Divide Trail; Appalachian Trail
- National Heritage Area
 - Bill: Mountains to Sound Greenway designation



Conservation Laws

- Wilderness Act
- Antiquities Act
- Wild and Scenic Rivers Act
- National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA)



NEPA

Categorical Exclusion (CE)

If a proposal is judged to have no “significant effect on the human environment,” it receives a categorical exclusion, which allows for a streamlined, less in-depth environmental review.

A decision like making minor improvements at a trailhead might be done under a Categorical Exclusion.

Environmental Assessment (EA)

EAs are used to determine the significance of a proposal’s environmental impacts and to look at alternative means to achieve the agency’s objectives. EAs include public input. The EA concludes with either a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or a determination that an Environmental Impact Statement is required.

Building a new section of trail might be done under an Environmental Assessment.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

This is the big one. The EIS describes possible alternative actions, cites the project’s benefits, lists the environmental consequences, and requires public input. Depending on the proposal, agencies may elect to go straight to the EIS stage.

Expanding a ski area to add new lifts and terrain might be done under an Environmental Impact Statement.



How to Take Action



WRITE LETTERS

MAKE CALLS

TAP INTO THE POWER OF SLACKTIVISM

SAY THANK YOU





O U T D O O R

A D V O C A T E S

— NETWORK —

