

National Landscape Conservation System

History of *our* National Conservation Lands

1906	Congress passes the Antiquities Act, giving the President the authority to designate National Monuments.
1964	Congress enacts the Wilderness Act.
1968	Congress enacts the National Trails System Act and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Designated Trails and Rivers managed by the Bureau of Land Management will eventually become part of the National Conservation Lands.
1970	Congress passes the King Range Act, designating the King Range National Conservation Area in California, the first NCA that will later become part of the Conservation Lands.
1976	Congress enacts the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), which sets in motion the designation of hundreds of Wilderness Study Areas.
1976	Congress establishes the California Desert Conservation Area.
1980	Congress establishes the Klamath Wild and Scenic River and the Steese Mountain NCA in Alaska. Congress establishes the Yaquina Head Lighthouse and the surrounding area in Oregon as an “Outstanding Natural Area.”
1987	Congress establishes El Malpais NCA in New Mexico.
1988	Congress establishes the San Pedro Riparian NCA in Arizona and the North Fork Owyhee Wild and Scenic River in Oregon.
1989	Congress establishes the Gila Box Riparian NCA in Arizona and the Red Rock Canyon NCA in Nevada.
1993	Congress establishes the Snake River Birds of Prey NCA in Idaho.
1996	President Clinton designates Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Utah the first National Monument to be managed by the BLM.
1996	In the twenty years since the enactment of FLPMA, Congress designates 135 BLM Wilderness Areas.
1999	Congress establishes the Headwaters Forest Reserve in California and the Gunnison Gorge NCA in Colorado.



2000	President Clinton designates eight additional BLM National Monuments. Congress establishes Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument in California, Las Cienegas NCA in Arizona, Colorado Canyons NCA (later renamed McInnis Canyons NCA) in Colorado, Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trail NCA in Nevada, Steens Mountain Cooperative Management Protection Area in Oregon, and the Kiger Creek and Wildhorse Creek Wild and Scenic Rivers in Oregon.
2000	Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt signs an administrative order creating the National Landscape Conservation System in order to, “conserve, protect, and restore these nationally significant landscapes that have outstanding cultural, ecological, and scientific values for the benefit of current and future generations.”
2001	President Clinton designates Carrizo Plain, Pompeys Pillar, Upper Missouri River Breaks, Sonoran Desert and Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monuments.
2002	Congress establishes the Sloan Canyon NCA in Nevada.
2006	Congress establishes the bi-partisan National Landscape Conservation System Congressional Caucus. Twenty-two additional members of Congress join the caucus that year.
2007	The Conservation Lands Foundation is established to protect the cultural, ecological and scientific resources found in the National Conservation Lands.
2007	Congress introduces a bill to permanently establish the National Landscape Conservation System.
2008	The House of Representatives passes the National Landscape Conservation System Act. Congress establishes the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse and surrounding area in Florida and the Piedras Blancas Lightstation and surrounding area in California as Outstanding Natural areas.
2009	President Obama signs the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, which includes a bill to permanently establish the National Landscape Conservation System. Additionally, the legislation adds 30 Wilderness areas, four National Conservation Areas and one National Monument to the National Landscape Conservation System.
2010	The Conservation Lands Foundation in conjunction with board member Bruce Babbitt, begins identifying the National Landscape Conservation System as the National Conservation Lands, to better reflect the unique characteristics and attributes of the System.



Conservation
Lands
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