



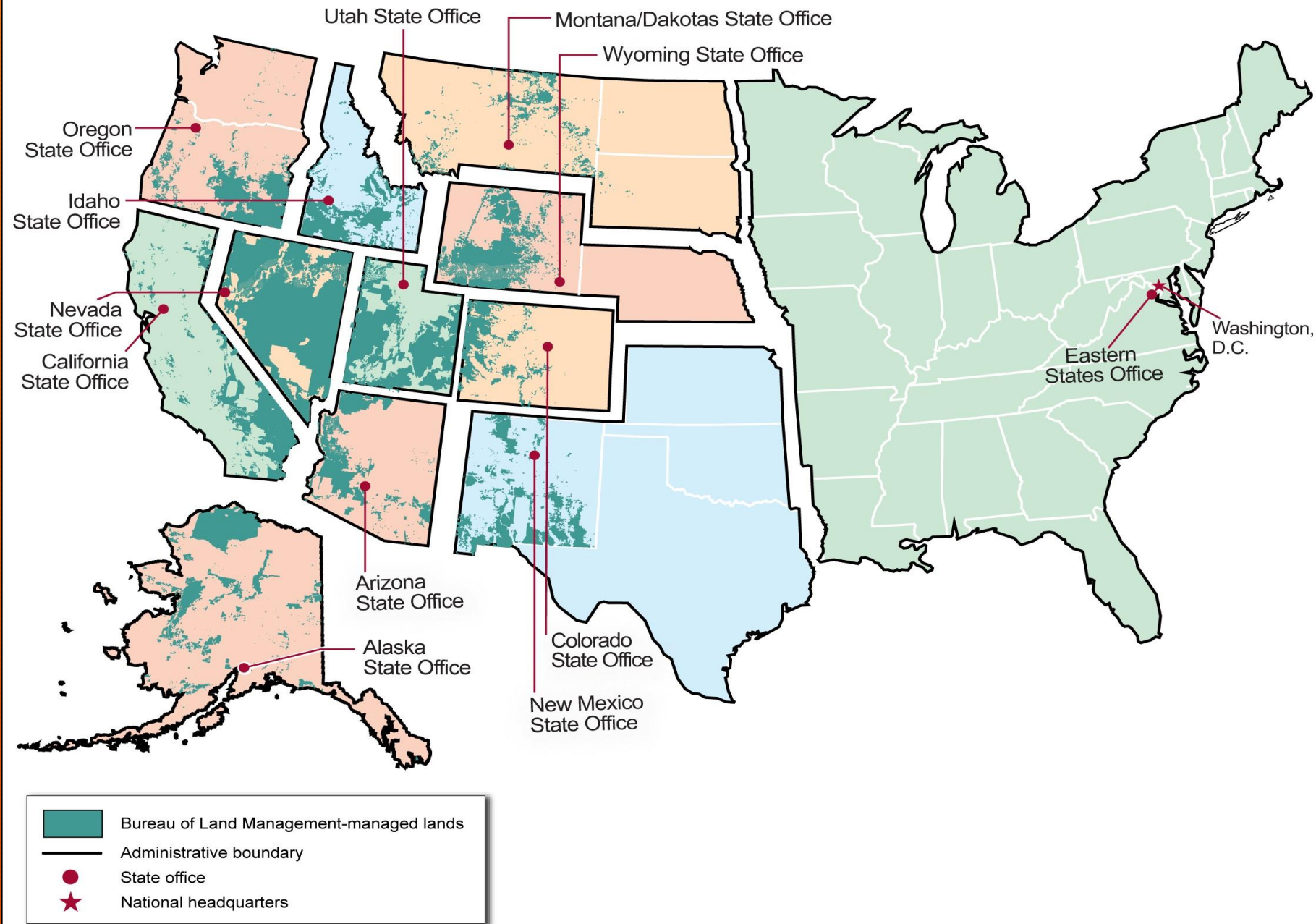
BLM's Abandoned Mine Land Program

October 18, 2019



BLM's Land Management Responsibility

BLM manages more than 247 million surface acres, and approximately 700 million subsurface acres, primarily in the western states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.



BLM in the West

- Over 80 million people now live in the west
- Approximately 30 million live within 25 miles of Federally-managed public lands (BLM and USFS)
- The ever expanding urban-wilderness interface means more pressure on water resources, recreation areas, and the environment

BLM's AML Program

- The BLM AML program addresses mine sites that were abandoned prior to January 1, 1981, the effective date of BLM's surface management regulations (43 CFR 3809)
- Specifically, the implementation of the “unnecessary or undue degradation” provision of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976

Background

- BLM initiated AML inventory activities during the 1980s in an effort to quantify the issue
- Funding for AML water quality related AML projects across the BLM began in 1999
- AML watershed projects are prioritized based on state impaired watershed listings

Main Strategic Programmatic Objectives

- Protect and restore watershed's through a risk-based approach using partnerships to leverage funding and facilitate projects
- Protect public safety and reduce liabilities
- Reduce environmental degradation to ensure compliance with applicable soil, water and air quality standards and laws

AML Watershed Approach

- State-identified high priority watershed or watershed segment
- AML site is causing, contributing to, or could contribute to 1) an impairment of one or more water quality standards, 2) a violation of Federal or state water quality law or regulation, 3) a threat to public health or safety, or 4) a threat to the environment
- Partnerships available within the watershed
- Site is on public land, or a mixed ownership site where BLM can work solely on public land

AML Sites on BLM-Managed Land

- BLM estimates that there are over 300,000 AML features located on BLM-managed land throughout the west yet to be inventoried
- Currently, there are 57,533 AML sites with over 80,000 features in the BLM Abandoned Mine Database

Current Number of AML Sites in the BLM Abandoned Mine Site Database = 57,533

AK	257
AZ	11188
CA	2665
CO	3589
ES	2
ID	1483
MT	1328
NM	12162
NV	18224
OR	978
UT	4504
WO	1
WY	1152





THANK YOU!

BLM NATIONAL AML/HAZMAT PROGRAM LEAD -

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