



BLM and State Partnerships on Migration Corridors and Habitat Connectivity Restoration and Conservation



The BLM participates in several committees and working groups of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (Federal Public Lands Committee, Energy and Wildlife Policy Committee) and the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (Wildlife Habitat Committee, Mule Deer Working Group, Nongame/Endangered Fish and Wildlife Species Committee, and Wildlife Movement and Migration Committee). Each BLM state office works with its corresponding state fish and wildlife agencies on wildlife habitat issues and holds regular meetings. Habitat restoration work and projects are often done in cooperation with state fish and wildlife agencies, and the BLM utilizes assistance agreements and Good Neighbor Authority agreements with state partners to complete work.

Some examples of partnerships and projects with state partners to improve migration corridors and habitat connectivity in fiscal year 2023 include:

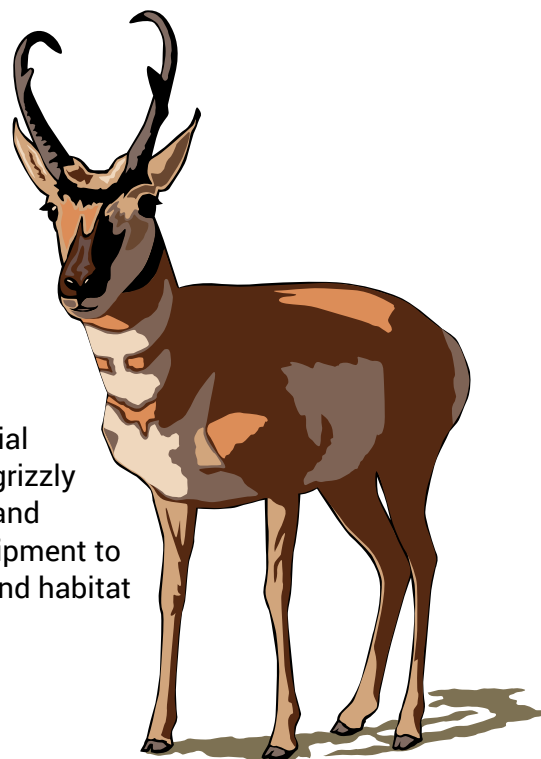
Arizona Game and Fish Department: Treated more than 8,200 acres of habitat in 6 areas; removed or made wildlife friendly more than 3 miles of fencing; installed or maintained 4 water developments; participated on the Sonoran Pronghorn Recovery Team; met on renewable energy project planning; and monitored 7 big game species populations in the Safford Field Office.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife: Made more than 21 miles of fencing wildlife friendly; developed a wildlife corridor alternative in the Redding Field Office Resource Management Plan; and entered final year of a pronghorn movement study in the Applegate Field Office.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife: Treated more than 5,000 acres of habitat in 17 areas; removed or made wildlife friendly more than 10 miles of fencing; installed or maintained 5 water developments; developed the statewide Big Game Resource Management Plan; participated in the Colorado Wildlife/Transportation Alliance; and supported GPS-collared elk movement data research in the San Luis Valley and Upper Arkansas River.

Idaho Department of Fish and Game: Treated more than 40,000 acres of habitat in 5 areas; removed or made wildlife friendly more than 3 miles of fencing; and utilized wildlife movement data to assess potential impacts and help in siting other renewable energy projects.

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks: Treated 5,000 acres of habitat in 2 areas; removed or made wildlife friendly more than 16 miles of fencing; and provided financial assistance for grizzly bear inventory and monitoring equipment to better understand habitat connectivity.



New Mexico Department of Game and Fish: Treated more than 56,000 acres of habitat in 2 areas; removed or made wildlife friendly more than 12 miles of fencing; assisted in research tracking pronghorn movements in solar development areas; supported a study of wind energy impacts on mule deer and pronghorn; and supported research on migration in the Taos Field Office area.

Nevada Department of Wildlife: Treated more than 60,000 acres of habitat in 25 areas; completed NEPA analysis for 10 new water guzzlers; assisted with collaring and tagging mule deer in the Battle Mountain District Office; and monitored mule deer movements in the Ely District Office.

North Dakota Game and Fish Department: Purchased radio collars for bighorn sheep utilizing BLM lands in Dunn County to assist in understanding impacts of development on their population.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife: Treated more than 35,000 acres of habitat in 5 areas; installed or maintained 3 water developments; monitored elk movement in the Deschutes Field Office; and paid for flight/airtime to better understand mule deer migration patterns and winter range use by Prineville Reservoir.

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources: Treated more than 80,000 acres of habitat in 25 areas; installed or maintained 5 water developments; collaborated with Utah's Watershed Restoration Initiative to conserve and restore habitat connectivity; and worked on a fence mapping initiative and database.

Wyoming Game and Fish Department: Treated more than 15,000 acres of habitat in 12 areas; removed or made wildlife friendly more than 7 miles of fencing; installed or maintained 4 water developments; established a protocol to drop fencing in the winter in migration corridors; and assisted in funding movement studies in 3 mule deer herds (Pinedale, Rock Springs, and Worland Field Offices).

