

The PUBLIC Lands Act

The *Protecting Unique and Beautiful Landscapes by Investing in California (PUBLIC) Lands Act* would increase protections for over 1 million acres of federal public lands throughout Northwest California, the Central Coast, and Los Angeles, including nearly 600,000 acres of new wilderness, more than 583 miles of new wild and scenic rivers, and the expansion of an existing national monument by more than 100,000 acres.

This legislation would protect California's iconic landscapes, provide critical access to open space for communities, support California's outdoor recreation economy, and fight the climate crisis. Guided by science and input from local communities, the bill also advances the nation's and California's goals of conserving 30% of our lands and waters by 2030.

Title I: Northwest California Wilderness, Recreation, and Working Forests Act would protect approximately 262,000 acres of public lands as wilderness, designate 379 miles of new wild and scenic rivers, require management plans for 101 miles of wild and scenic rivers, restore forests and fish habitat, and help cleanup lands and waters impacted by trespass marijuana grows.

The bill would also increase wildfire resiliency in northwest California, which has been severely impacted by more frequent and severe climate change-fueled wildfires, by requiring federal agencies to develop coordinated fire management plans with input from local communities.

Title II: Central Coast Heritage Protection Act would designate approximately 288,000 acres of public land in the Los Padres National Forest and Carrizo Plain National Monument as wilderness, about 159 miles of streams as wild and scenic rivers, and two national scenic areas totaling approximately 34,880 acres. It would establish a 400-mile long Condor National Scenic Trail, stretching from Los Angeles to Monterey County, which would enhance equitable access to the Los Padres and benefit local economies. It designates three new wilderness areas in the Carrizo Plain National Monument and one new wilderness area, and expands eight existing wilderness areas in the Los Padres National Forest.

These designations would provide lasting protections for California's abundant biodiversity, support clean drinking water, protect tribal cultural sites, and limit oil drilling and other industrial activities on these undeveloped lands.

Title III: San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection Act would expand the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument by over 109,000 acres to include the western Angeles National Forest and establish a National Recreation Area along the San Gabriel Valley foothills and the Rio Hondo and San Gabriel River corridors. The bill would designate over 30,000 acres as wilderness and over 45 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers throughout the San Gabriel range.

Los Angeles County is one of the most park-poor, densely populated, and polluted regions in the United States. This bill would increase equitable access to our public lands by increasing recreational opportunities for the 17 million people living in the Los Angeles region.



PUBLIC LANDS ACT: PROPOSED DESIGNATIONS



PUBLIC LANDS ACT: SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS, FOOTHILLS, AND



