



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Partnership and Collaboration Perspectives (Program Overview)

Encouraging Public Engagement in Support of America's Public Lands



Matt Magaletti, BLM National Partnership Coordinator

Presentation Overview

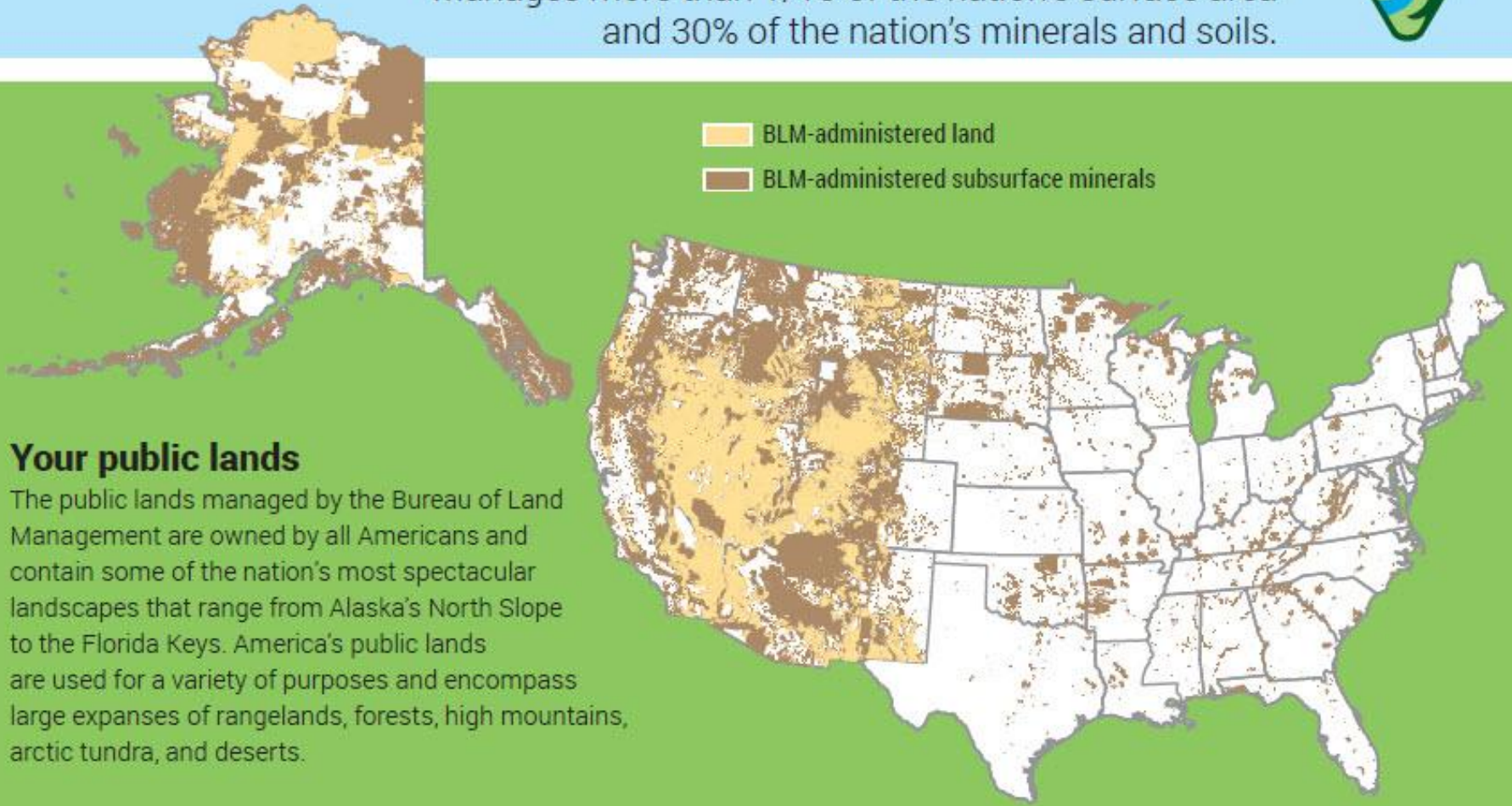
- ✓ My career path to partnerships and collaboration
- ✓ Who we are – The Bureau of Land Management
- ✓ Public Land Management Challenges and Leveraging Public Engagement
- ✓ BLM's Partnership Program's – what we do.
- ✓ 2025 Priorities for the BLM's Partnerships Program

Career Path to Partnerships



The Bureau of Land Management

Manages more than 1/10 of the nation's surface area
and 30% of the nation's minerals and soils.



Your public lands

The public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management are owned by all Americans and contain some of the nation's most spectacular landscapes that range from Alaska's North Slope to the Florida Keys. America's public lands are used for a variety of purposes and encompass large expanses of rangelands, forests, high mountains, arctic tundra, and deserts.

The Bureau of Land Management

Manage 245 million acres of public lands and 700 million acres of mineral estate (largest land management agency in the nation).

- *Multiple Use*: energy development; livestock grazing; hardrock mining, timber harvesting; and outdoor recreation.
- *Conserve and Preserve*: manage 35 million-acres of National Conservation Lands
- *Protect* wild horses and burros, rangeland, wildlife, fish, plant habitat, and cultural and paleontological resources.



Public Land Management Challenges

Increasing pressure/challenges on public lands from:

- ✓ Wildfires and spread of invasive weeds
- ✓ Increase public land usage and the wildland urban interface
- ✓ Competing interests on public lands
- ✓ Staffing and budget constraints
- ✓ Visibility and Messaging



Leveraging Public Engagement

As the nation's largest land manager, we face tremendous challenges. However, we do not face these challenges alone. Our friends and partners work with us to:

- ✓ Monitor natural resources (staffing)
- ✓ Recreation and Volunteers (visibility)
- ✓ Function as our eyes and ears on the land (staffing)
- ✓ Inspire us to think outside the box and so much more!



Our Authority to Partner with Others

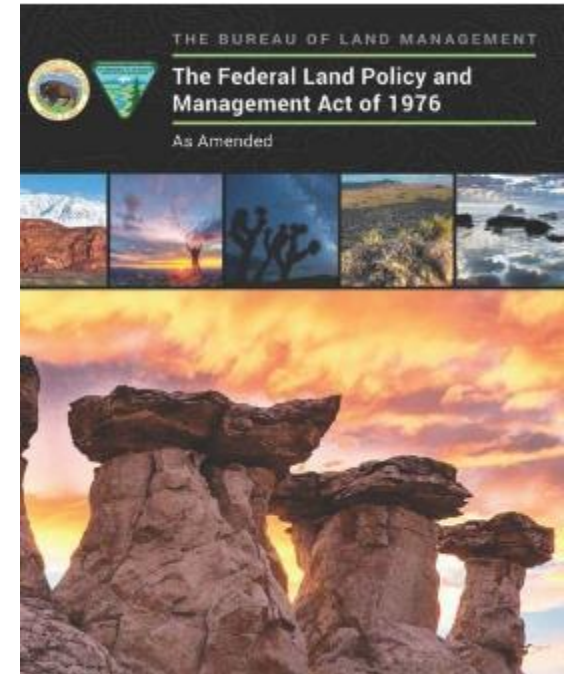


“Partnership” was the key word of the Eisenhower Administration’s public land policy.

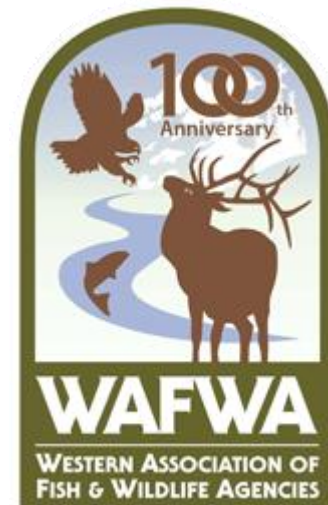
“The best national resources program for America will not result from exclusive dependence on the federal government. It will involve a partnership, a partnership of states and local communities, private citizens and the federal government, all working together.”

Federal Land Policy and Management Act (1976) – provides the BLM with the authority to engage in cooperative agreements with partners involving the management, protection, development, and sale of public lands.

Since 1976, congress has passed 18 separate authorities that allow BLM to enter into agreements with partners for specific purposes.




Sample Organizations that Partner with the BLM



**FRIENDS
GRASSROOTS
NETWORK**





“People value what they understand and they want to protect what they value. What makes BLM’s work with partnerships so special is that our partners are connected to the land and want to share in the stewardship of these special public spaces. That’s what makes my job so special.”

-BLM Recreation Planner

BLM's Partnership Program (What we do)

Mission: Advance, strengthen, and support the use of partnerships nationwide to improve the management, stewardship, and public enjoyment of the nation's public lands on a continuous basis.



Connect BLM staff with training resources and support to advance partnership activities across the agency.



Develop, streamline, and standardize guidance and tools to support BLM partnerships



Develop and support practitioner networks to maintain and sustain successful BLM partnerships.



Enhance philanthropic opportunities to support BLM's mission.



Connect staff with training resources to advance partnership activities across the BLM.

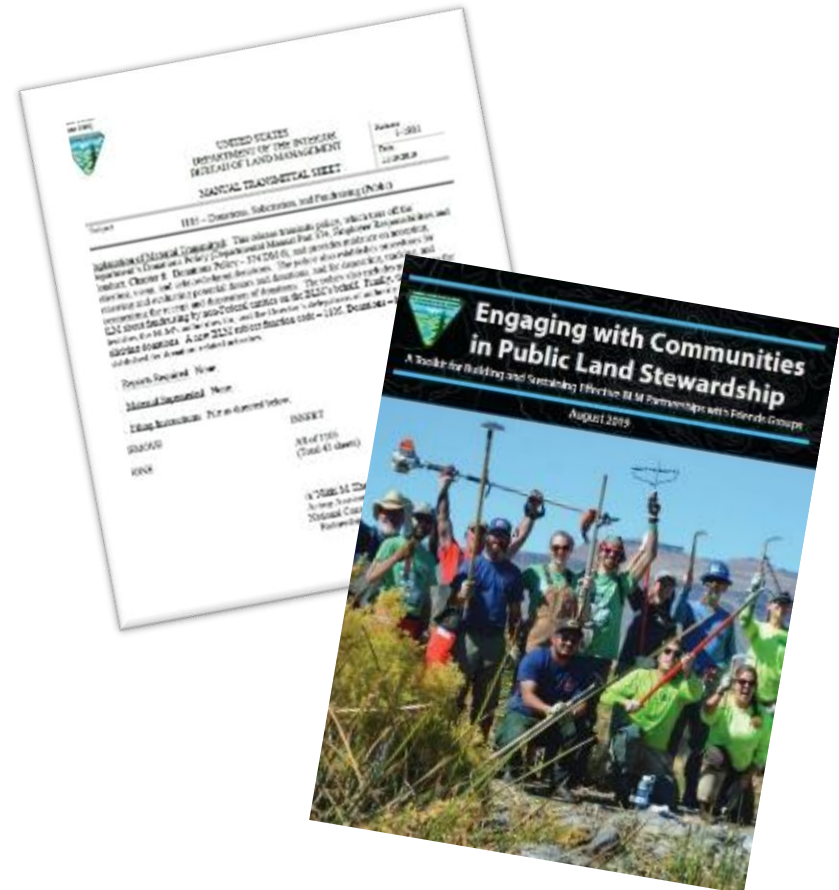
- Promote and support BLM staff attendance and successful completion of Managing by Network.
- Coordinate with the BLM's National Training Center to promote partnership and collaboration leadership competencies within BLM leadership training programs.



BLM employee training SharePoint (NTC). <https://doimspp.sharepoint.com/sites/blm-tc/lasp/SitePages/Home.aspx>

Develop, streamline, and standardize guidance and tools to support BLM partnerships

- Provide templates and partnership resources.
- BLM/Friends Partnership Toolkit:
 - Guidance, tools, best practices to help foster partnerships w/Friends' groups

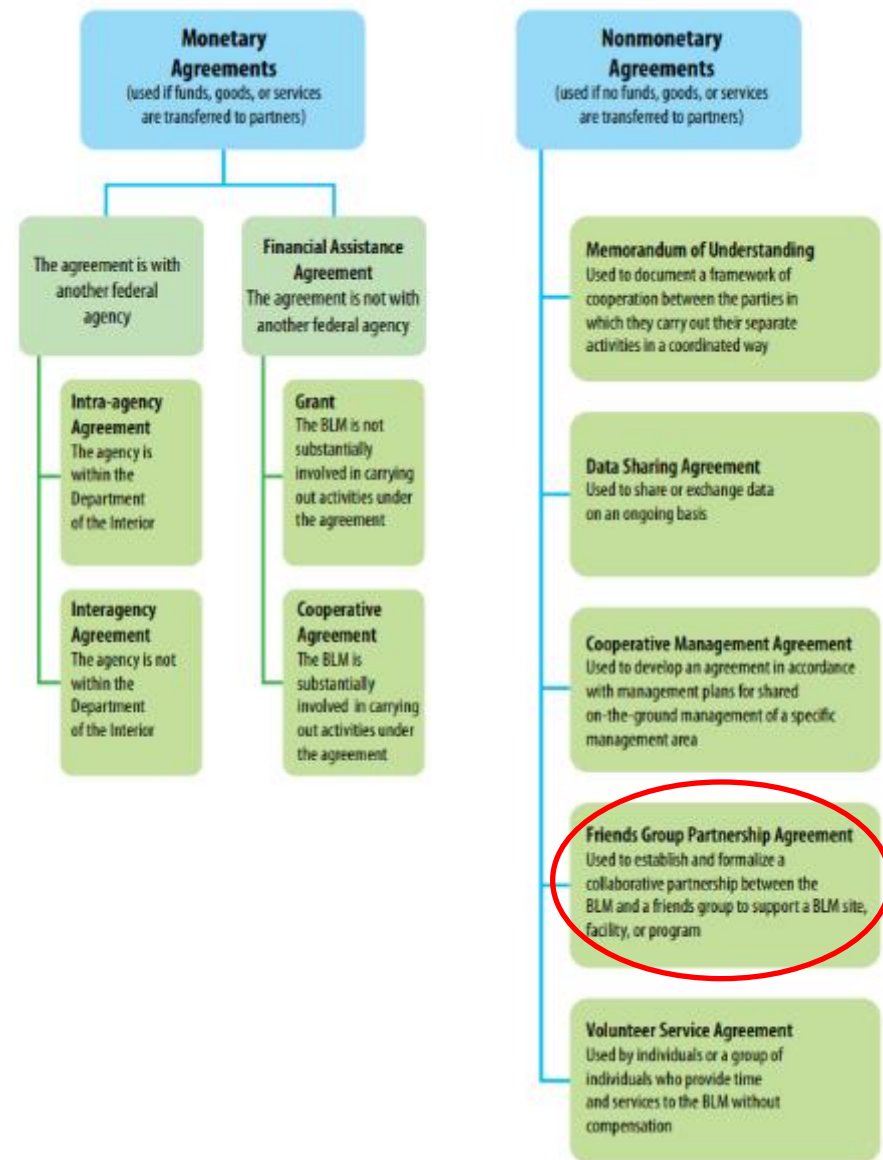




Partnership Toolkit

What's inside?

- Success Factors
- Frequently Asked Question
- Guiding Principles for BLM/Friends Group Relationships
- Friends Group Partnership Agreement Template
- Partnership Profiles





Partnership Toolkit

Partnership Profiles



Partnership between the Campbell Creek Science Center and the Friends of the Campbell Creek Science Center

About the Partners – At a Glance



Campbell Creek Science Center

- Description:** Constructed by the BLM in 1996, the Campbell Creek Science Center engages learners in hands-on, outdoor learning experiences that increase appreciation, connection, and stewardship of Alaska's public lands and natural resources. Located on a 730-acre tract of BLM-administered land near the urban center of Anchorage, the site also includes 12 miles of maintained trails. The science center serves about 40,000 visitors a year.
- Visit:** <https://www.blm.gov/learn/interpretive-centers/campbell-creek-science-center>

Friends of the Campbell Creek Science Center (FCCSC)

- Incorporated:** 2005
- Mission:** Dedicated to supporting initiatives of the Campbell Creek Science Center and providing education and interpretation support, and
- Activities/Events:** Interpretative support, and
- Visit:** <http://www.fccsc.org>



About the Partnership – At a Glance

Purpose: The partnership supports and enhances BLM Alaska's education, interpretation, and outreach goals through establishing opportunities for the diverse population of Alaska to receive outdoor education in natural resources.

Year started: 2005

Why the partnership was developed: The partnership was established as a way to support a broader audience at the science center, including programs and field trips for youth from and near Title I schools. The friends group supports science

center programs and provides access to students each year.

Resources used: The BLM and FCCSC provide the education and interpretation at the center. The FCCSC board of directors provides private grants and kind donations. The science center provides diverse programs and income-driven

of financial support to the science center with the FCCSC supplementing vital operational programming costs through memberships and grants.

Key programs/accomplishments:

The FCCSC helps secure funding and volunteers for the following programs:

- Diversity programs for community organizations:** In 2019, the FCCSC supported unique programs for Alaskan youth to experience the science center. This included sponsoring GRIT (Girls Riding Into Tomorrow) for middle school students to build individual and group leadership skills and supporting RAIS (Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services) for international young adults to develop outdoor hiking and backpacking skills.
- Underserved in the Outdoors:** The FCCSC secured funding to help underserved audiences (i.e., girls, refugees, and more) have transformational experiences in the outdoors.
- Eco-Explorers Program:** This 3-day program on ecosystems teaches newly arrived refugee youth ways to enjoy the outdoors in Alaska, as well as safety tips for recreating in moose and bear country.
- 21st Century Afterschool Program:** This afterschool program sends economically disadvantaged students and their families on field trips focusing on archaeology, paleontology, nature observation, journaling, and ecology, among other topics. The students also learn outdoor survival skills, teambuilding, and natural resources concepts.



Students attend field trips at the Campbell Creek Science Center.

- Outdoor Week:** education event stations such as awareness, archery, and more.
- Water Discoveries:** education event promote healthy water use.
- Moms, Pops and Kids:** provides families with their children a chance to learn about their local area. Some of the topics include paleontology, geology, and wild.
- Fireside Chats:** Science Series: scientists provide about their research. Some of the topics include paleontology, geology, and wild.

Partnership benefits

The FCCSC:

- Helps the center through fundraising.
- Connects local community with the center.
- Helps promote workshops, classes, and more.
- Helps bridge gaps between the center and the community.



The FCCSC provides science field trips at the center.

- Connects the community to outdoor science education at the Campbell Creek.

- Helps the BLM build good will within the community by offering programs that improve the quality of life for local residents.

Challenges, Lessons Learned, and Best Practices

Partnership challenges:

- BLM fundraising regulations:** The FCCSC can have difficulty working within BLM regulations for fundraising for the science center. Specific roles and responsibilities can be confusing for new members.
- Volunteer board member recruitment:** Since the friends group board is an all-volunteer board, it can be challenging to recruit and retain board members. It is particularly important to seek board members with a diversity of skills, connections, and understanding about the community in order to raise funds, seek grants, and raise support for the goals and initiatives of the organization and partnership.

- Alignment of goals and strategies:** As two separate organizations, it can be challenging to make sure goals and strategic plans are aligned.

Lessons learned and best practices:

- Understand BLM processes and nonprofit management:** To effectively collaborate, the FCCSC and science center have made an effort to become more knowledgeable about each other. The FCCSC has worked closely with the science center director and staff to learn about BLM processes and regulations, and the science center director and staff have worked to understand nonprofit governance.



"The friends board always gets energized when planning events with the center staff. Instead of two separate groups, it feels like a big team!"

Lisa Keller,
Board President,
Friends of the Campbell Creek Science Center

Support a practitioner networks to maintain and sustain successful BLM partnerships.

- Maintain an online portal (SharePoint) where BLM staff can interact with the program coordinator, ask questions, obtain resources and recorded training, and share best practices.

<https://doimspp.sharepoint.com/sites/blm-wo-400/410/SitePages/Partnerships.aspx>

The screenshot displays the SharePoint interface for the BLM HQ-410 Division of National Conservation Lands. The left-hand navigation pane includes links to 'HQ410 Home', '410 External Portal', 'Programs', 'National Monuments a...', 'National Scenic and Hi...', 'Wilderness', 'Wild and Scenic Rivers', 'Science', 'Partnerships' (which is highlighted), 'File Libraries', 'Recycle bin', and 'Edit'. The main content area features a large banner image of people working in a field, with the title 'Partnerships' and a profile for 'Magaletti, Matthew E', 'GS0301 - National Partnerships Program Lead'. Below this, a text block states: 'Partnerships and inclusion are vital to managing sustainable, working public lands. The BLM has long depended on working with others – through partnerships – to enhance public lands and to carry out its multiple-use mission. Meaningful engagement with diverse partners helps ensure that management decisions and efforts reflect the interests of affected communities while accomplishing shared or complementary goals.' To the right of this text is a thumbnail for a document titled 'Engaging with Communities in Public Land Stewardship', dated February 2020. On the far right, a 'Partnerships Resources' section lists several documents: 'Friends-Partnership-Agreement-Template', 'Partnership-and-Collaboration-Competencies', 'Guide-to-Agreements-Partnerships', 'Practitioners-Guide-to-Partnerships-2012', and 'BLM-Partnership-Program-Strategy-and-Plan-2014-to-2018'.

HQ-410 Division of National Conservation Lands

HQ410 Home + New Send to Promote Page details Analytics

410 External Portal

Programs

National Monuments a...

National Scenic and Hi...

Wilderness

Wild and Scenic Rivers

Science

Partnerships

File Libraries

Recycle bin

Edit

Partnerships

Magaletti, Matthew E
GS0301 - National Partnerships Program Lead

Partnerships and inclusion are vital to managing sustainable, working public lands. The BLM has long depended on working with others – through partnerships – to enhance public lands and to carry out its multiple-use mission. Meaningful engagement with diverse partners helps ensure that management decisions and efforts reflect the interests of affected communities while accomplishing shared or complementary goals.

Engaging with Communities in Public Land Stewardship
A Toolkit for Building and Sustaining Effective BLM Partnerships with Friends Groups
February 2020

Partnerships Resources

- Friends-Partnership-Agreement-Template
- Partnership-and-Collaboration-Competencies
- Guide-to-Agreements-Partnerships
- Practitioners-Guide-to-Partnerships-2012
- BLM-Partnership-Program-Strategy-and-Plan-2014-to-2018

Enhance philanthropic opportunities to support BLM's mission

- Donations, Solicitation, and Fundraising Policy (November 2019)
 - National framework for BLM's donation-related activities
 - Developed step-down guidance to ensure proper implementation of the policy.
 - Working with BLM's National Training Center, develop self-certified policy training in DOI Talent.
- Ongoing – Work with field staff and legal counsel to develop a template fundraising agreement between a BLM office and a nonprofit interested in fundraising on behalf of the BLM.
- BLM “digital” donation boxes on Recreation.gov for all BLM recreation sites.



Partnerships Program Priorities for 2025



EXPLORE Act

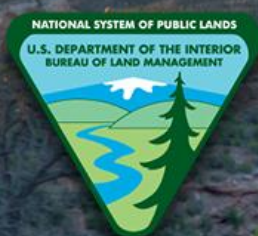
- Enhanced opportunities for outdoor recreation across federally managed lands.
- New BLM partnership authorities related to:
 - ✓ Expanding telecommunications near recreation sites.
 - ✓ Modernize recreational facilities.
 - ✓ Promote youth, military and veteran recreation on public lands.

Partnerships Program Priorities for 2025

In 2025, join the Bureau of Land Management in celebrating 25 years of National Conservation Lands!

Throughout the year, BLM will be celebrating its system of conservation lands that includes 31 National Monuments, 25 National Conservation Areas, 263 Wilderness Areas, 487 Wilderness Study Areas, 19 National Scenic and Historic Trails, and 81 Wild and Scenic Rivers.

- Podcasts available at www.blm.gov/media/podcasts
- Celebration events across the system coming soon!
- Of course – Stickers (available in the back of the room)



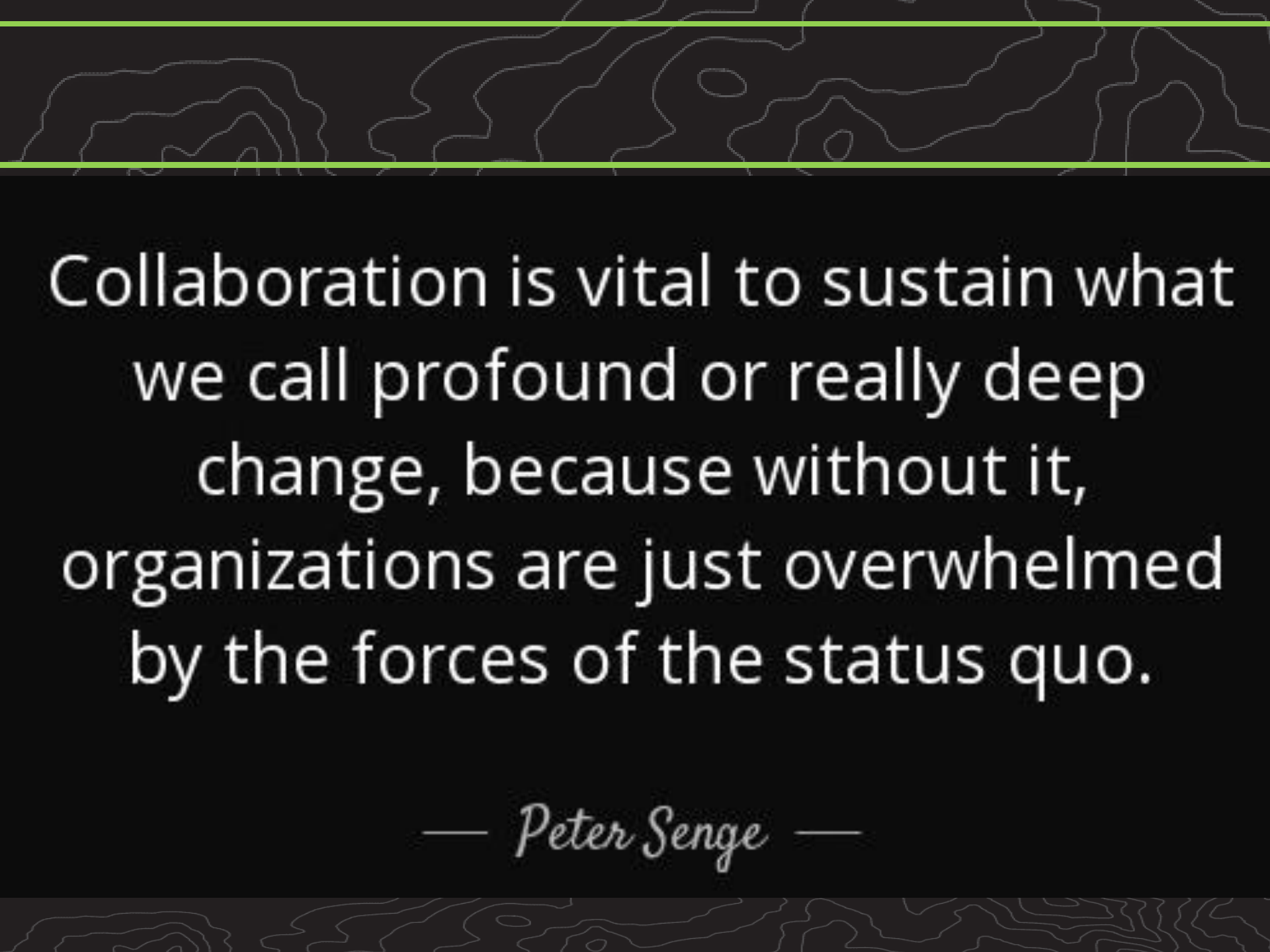
25TH ANNIVERSARY
NATIONAL CONSERVATION LANDS

Partnerships Program Priorities for 2025

In December, BLM completed a strategy that aims to engage people and communities in caring for public lands by fostering connections, cultivating knowledge, inspiring stewardship, and serving as a trusted partner.

The strategy will guide BLM's engagement programs in developing actions focused on: integration, connecting with communities, and providing training and tools to BLM staff and partners to further public land stewardship.





Collaboration is vital to sustain what
we call profound or really deep
change, because without it,
organizations are just overwhelmed
by the forces of the status quo.

— *Peter Senge* —



Thank you.



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