





Case Study: Mountain Biking in the Boulder-White Clouds Wilderness

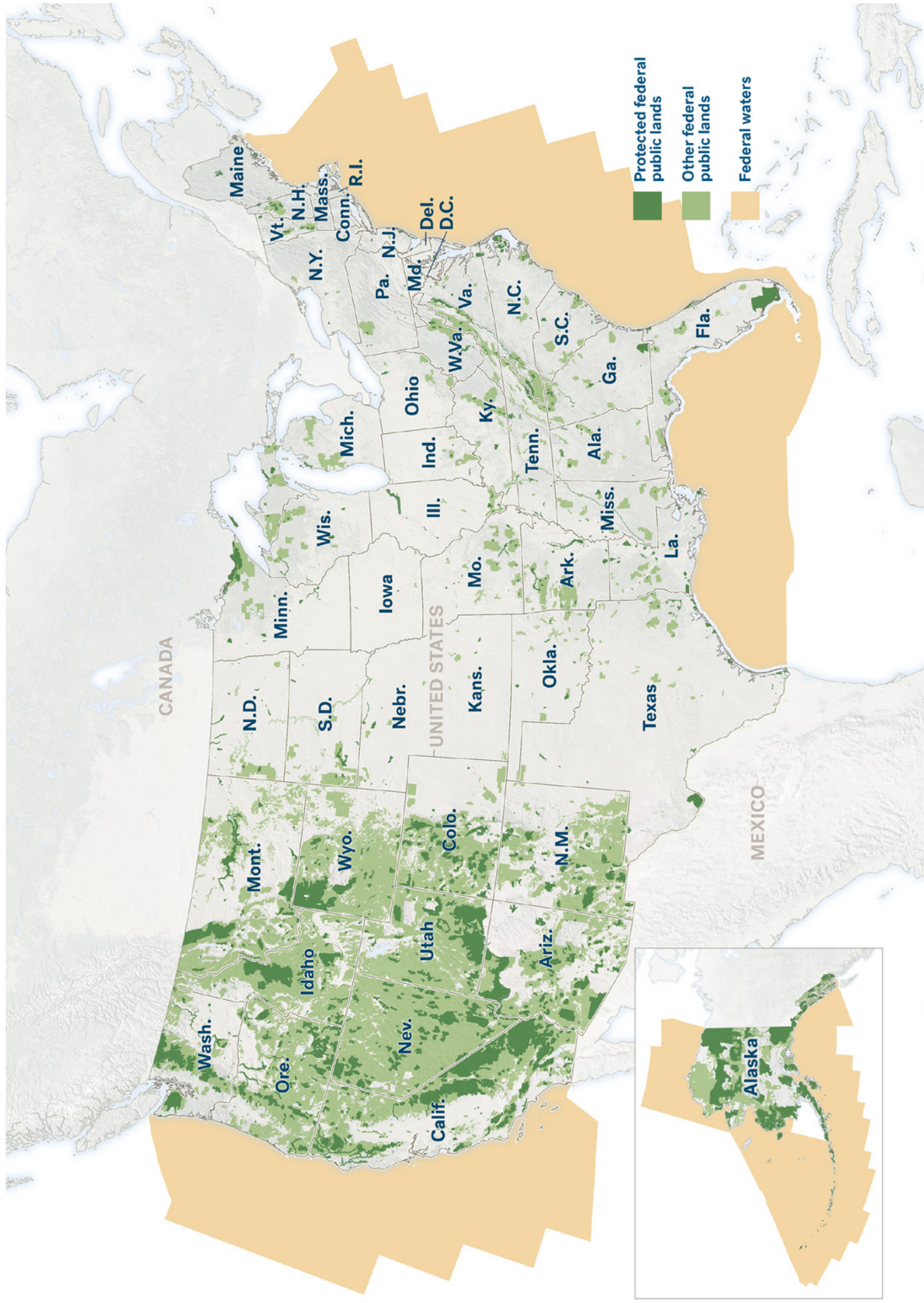
The White Cloud mountains in Idaho are a highly scenic and well loved place for many people. Over the years, this area has faced multiple threats from private industries who want to use the land to extract resources. For decades, the local conservation community has been advocating for the area, which is managed by the U.S. Forest Service, to be designated as a Wilderness area, which would make it off-limits for most types of travel that is not done on foot - including mountain biking. This designation would also ensure that the area would be permanently protected from uses that threaten the local ecosystem, such as mining. For many years, the area has been home to what some regard as the most beautiful mountain biking trails in the region. The mountain bike community argues that designating the area as a National Monument would protect the ecosystem while allowing them to continue using the land for mountain biking.

Case Study: Snowbowl

The San Francisco Peaks mountain range in Arizona has been a sacred site to the Hopi tribe since Time Immemorial. Hopi leaders say that the Peaks are home to spiritual beings who bring rain and snow to the Hopi reservation. In 1938 the U.S. Forest Service, who owns the land, made a deal with a private company to develop a ski resort. For the past 80 years, Snowbowl has been one of four ski areas in the state, and the closest to a major city, Flagstaff. Recently, the Hopi tribe has taken Snowbowl to court to contest their right to make artificial snow for use at the ski resort. The snow is made using reclaimed wastewater - otherwise known as treated sewage. The Hopi say that this practice is sacrilegious and an insult to the sacred mountains and the role they play in Hopi spirituality. Snowbowl says that making the artificial snow out of wastewater is their right, and that it is necessary to keep the resort open in light of the shorter and warmer winters that Arizona is experiencing.

Case Study: The Bundy Standoff

Nevada is one of many states in the west that contains a large amount of federally owned public lands that are managed by the BLM. Supporters of federal public lands say that keeping land under federal control is the best way to keep it out of the hands of private industries who may exploit and damage the land for their own gain. Critics of federal public lands say that local governments should decide what to do with public lands. The BLM allows for many different uses of the public lands that they manage, including cattle grazing, for which they require ranchers to pay fees. The Bundys are a family of ranchers who have been grazing their cattle on federally owned BLM land near their property in Nevada for several generations. When the Bundys failed to pay their fees to the BLM for use of the land they graze their cattle on for several years in a row, the federal government stepped in to seize the cattle. This action was met with protest from the Bundys and their supporters, many of whom showed up carrying guns. The Bundys say that they do not have to pay the fees because they claim that they inherited the right to use the BLM land for cattle grazing, without paying fees, through generations of use. The BLM points out that no laws grant ranchers the right to not pay grazing fees based on their family's historical use of that area, and says that the Bundys have to pay their fees just like everyone else who uses the land.



Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)



Mission:

Enhance the quality of life, to promote economic opportunity, and to carry out the responsibility to protect and improve the trust assets of American Indians, Indian tribes and Alaska Natives.

Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)



Mission:

Manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.

National Park Service (NPS)



Mission:

Preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.

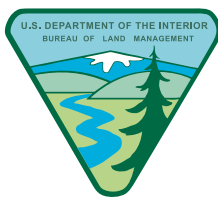
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)



Mission:

Work with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)



Mission:

Sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

U.S. Forest Service (USFS)



Mission:

Sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)



Mission:

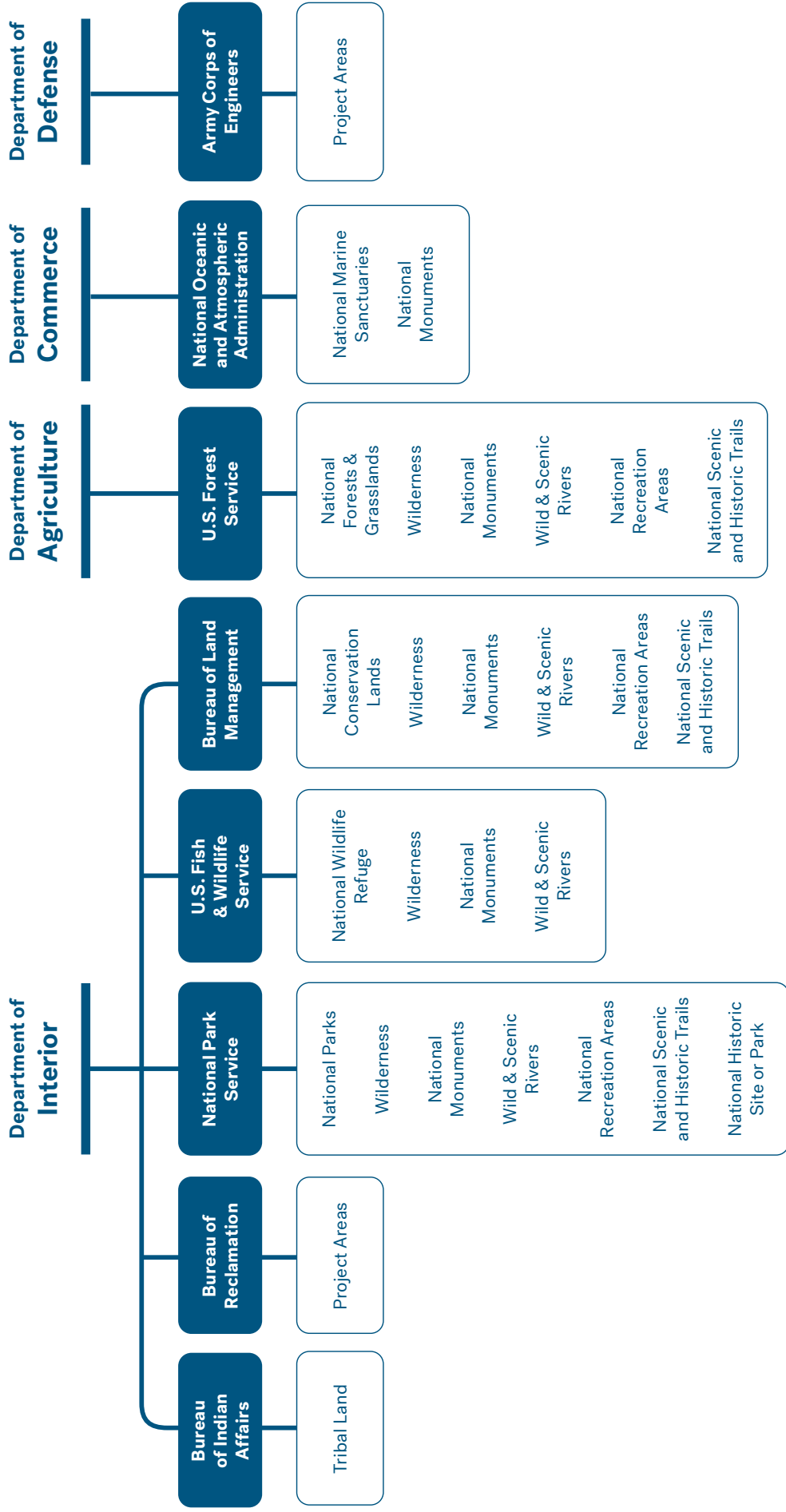
Understand and predict changes in climate, weather, oceans, and coasts, to share that knowledge and information with others, and to conserve and manage coastal and marine ecosystems and resources.

Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)



Mission:

Provide vital public engineering services in peace and war to strengthen our Nation's security, energize the economy, and reduce risks from disasters.



National Parks

Managed by NPS

Mission:

Preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.

Wild & Scenic Rivers

Managed by one of four agencies
(depending on the river)

Mission:

Designated to preserve outstanding natural, cultural, and recreational values; protected in a free-flowing condition for the enjoyment of present and future generations.

National Conservation Lands

Managed by BLM

Mission:

Designated to conserve, protect, enhance, and manage public lands for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Other BLM Land

Managed by BLM

Mission:

Designated to conserve, protect, enhance, and manage public lands for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

National Marine Sanctuaries

Managed by NOAA

Mission:

For the Nation's system of marine-protected areas, to conserve, protect, and enhance their biodiversity, ecological integrity, and cultural legacy.

National Wildlife Refuges

Managed by USFWS

Mission:

For the conservation, management, and restoration (where appropriate) of fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats. Wildlife-dependent recreation in refuges is facilitated where compatible.

National Recreational Areas

Managed by one of three agencies
(depending on the area)

Mission:

For conservation and recreation purposes; designated for a specific purpose, and may have other values that contribute to public enjoyment.

National Monuments

Managed by one of four agencies
(depending on the monument)

Mission:

Designated by Congress or the President to protect objects or areas of historic or scientific interest.

National Forests & Grasslands

Managed by USFS

Mission:

Provides for multiple use and sustained yield of products and services, including timber, recreation, range, watersheds, and fish and wildlife.

Wilderness

Managed by one of four agencies
(depending on the wilderness area)

Mission:

Wilderness is the most protective type of land designation and limits commercial activity, motorized equipment, and mechanized travel or tools.

