

UPDATE ON CONSERVING AND RESTORING AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

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GENESIS OF AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL PLAN

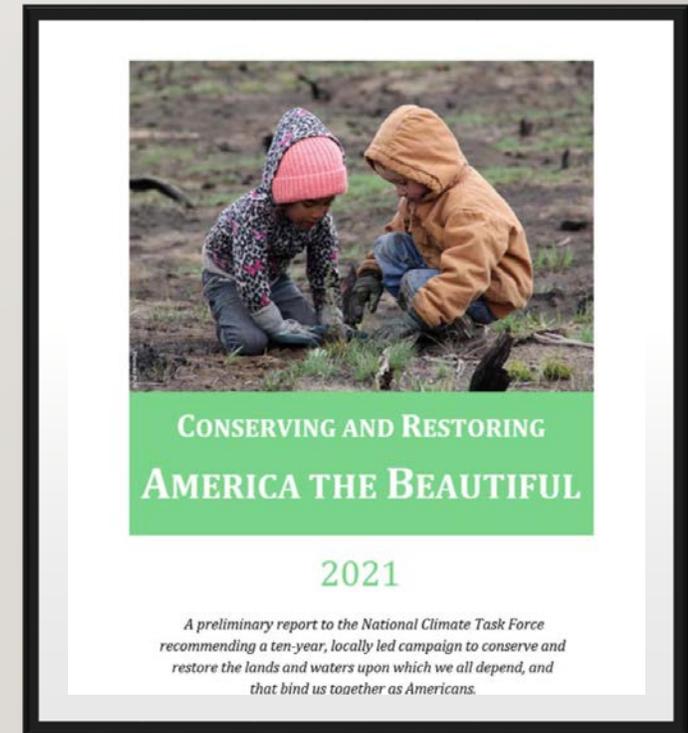
- Jan. 27, 2021, President Biden issued EO 14008 *Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad*

*“The [federal agencies] shall submit a report to the Task Force within 90 days of the date of this order recommending steps that the United States should take, working with State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments, agricultural and forest landowners, fishermen, and other key stakeholders, to achieve the goal of **conserving at least 30 percent of our lands and waters by 2030.**”*

- On May 6, 2021, the U.S. Departments of the Interior, Agriculture, Commerce, and the White House Council on Environmental Quality released a preliminary report, entitled *Conserving and Restoring America the Beautiful*.

SUMMARY OF AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

- 3 main problems identified:
 - The disappearance of nature
 - Climate change
 - Inequitable access to the outdoors
- Goal: “safeguard the drinking water, clean air, food supplies, and wildlife upon which we all depend; the need to fight climate change with the natural solutions that our forests, agricultural lands, and the ocean provide; and the need to give every child in America the chance to experience the wonders of nature.”
- Recommendation: a decade-long conservation effort based on 8 core principals



SUMMARY OF AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

8 Principles to fix the problems

- Pursue a Collaborative and Inclusive Approach to Conservation
- Conserve America's Lands and Waters for the Benefit of All People
- Support Locally Led and Locally Designed Conservation Efforts
- Honor Tribal Sovereignty and Support the Priorities of Tribal Nations
- Pursue Conservation and Restoration Approaches that Create Jobs and Support Healthy Communities
- Honor Private Property Rights and Support the Voluntary Stewardship Efforts of Private Landowners and Fishers
- Use Science as a Guide
- Build on Existing Tools and Strategies with an Emphasis on Flexibility and Adaptive Approaches



SUMMARY OF THE AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

- Near-term recommendations
 - More parks and outdoor opportunities, particularly for disadvantaged communities
 - Support tribal-led conservation
 - Establish and expand to conserve and restore wildlife migration corridors
 - Increased access to outdoor recreation
 - Incentivize voluntary conservation efforts
 - Create jobs by investing in restoration
- Progress is tracked through the “American Conservation and Stewardship Atlas”
 - Establish and aggregate a baseline of existing conservation efforts using existing resources
 - Issue an annual progress report

GOVERNOR LITTLE'S RESPONSE

- Gov. Little testified in front of Congress on March 23, 2021 (U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public lands).
 - Conservation does not mean preservation
 - Federal agencies must partner (not merely consult) with state and local stakeholders – Idaho has a history of successful public lands collaboration
- Gov little signed letters from western governors and republican governors
 - How will the 30 x 30 program be implemented and tracked?
 - State and local communities must be included.

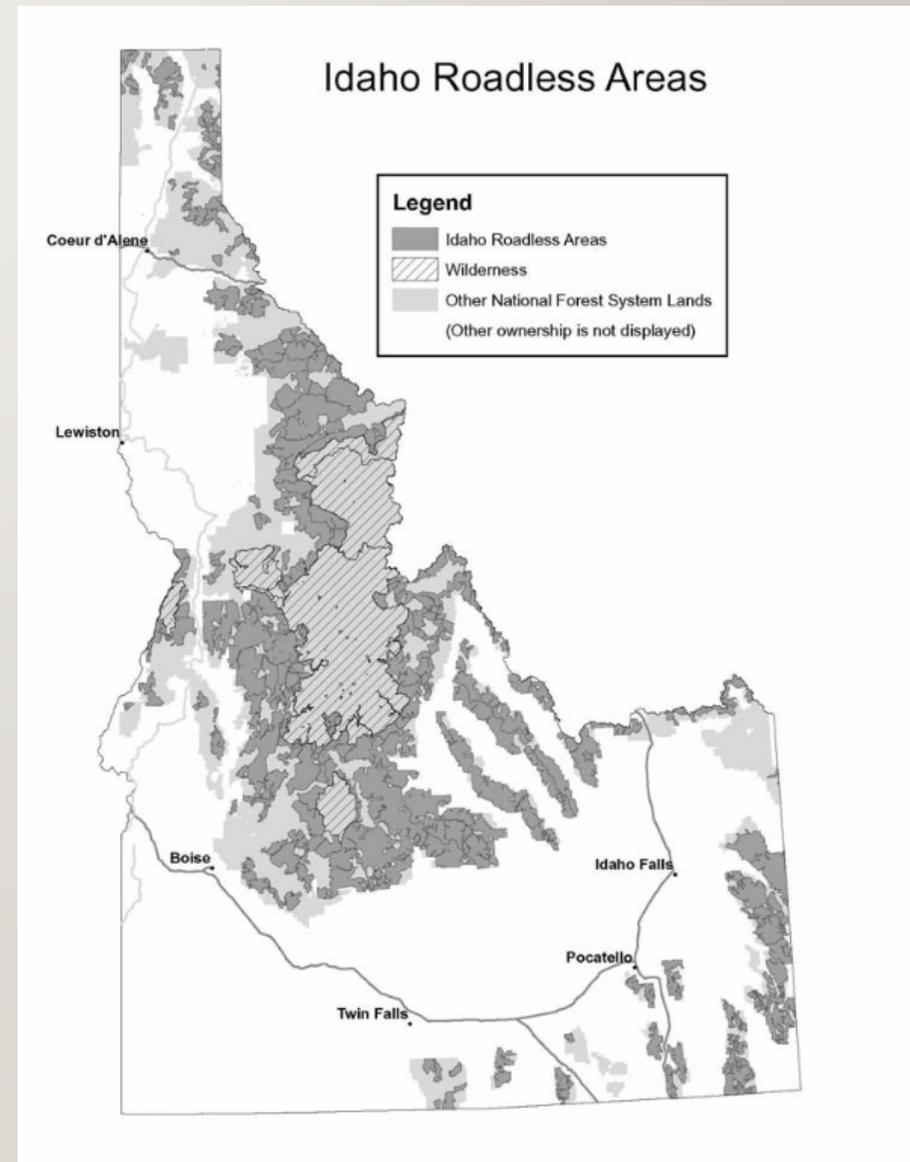
THE BIG QUESTION: WHAT DOES “CONSERVATION” MEAN?

- The enormous amount of designated wilderness and other protections in Idaho underscores the importance of keeping our remaining federally owned public lands as “working lands.”
- Idaho is a mostly rural state. The majority of our communities rely on access to public lands for multiple uses – such as grazing, timber harvest, mining, and outdoor recreation and tourism.
- In most cases, conservation – not preservation – will achieve healthy public lands that continue to provide benefits and promote a high quality of life for our people for years to come.
- Details are sparse on next steps.



SITUATION IN IDAHO

- Congratulations! We did it.
- Idaho has 53.5m acres
 - 4.8m acres Wilderness
 - 9.3m acres Roadless
 - In addition: proposed wilderness, ACECs, easements, private conservation, etc.



CONCLUSION

- Idaho cannot be the Nation's mitigation bank
 - We saw this with sage grouse
- Conservation must be collaborative and voluntary
 - Prior success with Idaho Roadless Rule, sage grouse.
- Proceed with caution
 - what is considered “conservation”?