

PUBLIC LANDS
(1967, R1992, R2000, R2001, R2010, R2016)



Policy Statement

The American Society of Landscape Architects believes that public lands are irreplaceable ecological reserves of biological diversity and can contain cultural, historical, and natural resources that enhance the public's quality of life. These lands are designated for, and held by the people, and managed by the government. Careful resource management consistent with long-term ecosystem and biodiversity sustainability will insure the greatest benefit to the present generation while sustaining the potential of public lands to meet the needs and aspirations of future generations.

Proper assessments shall require both broad public participation, cultural understanding, and scientific knowledge in guiding public policy, in efforts to balance multiple uses within relative ecosystems over the short and long-term. The continual assessment of the health of public lands, and investment in the care of these lands, is necessary to determine need of restoration, propose change in usage policy, and identify special lands of cultural or resource value that merit protection.