



The BRECC National Network

connecting coal communities

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**The BRECC
National Network**
connecting coal communities

How to Champion Your Coal Community's Natural Resources

November 21, 2024

TODAY'S AGENDA

Opening Remarks

The Conservation
Fund &
Community Panel
Discussion

Presentation
on NACO'S
Center for
Public Lands

Relevant
Resources

The BRECC National Network

connecting coal communities



Miles Kirksey
Program Associate, The Conservation Fund



NOVEMBER 2024



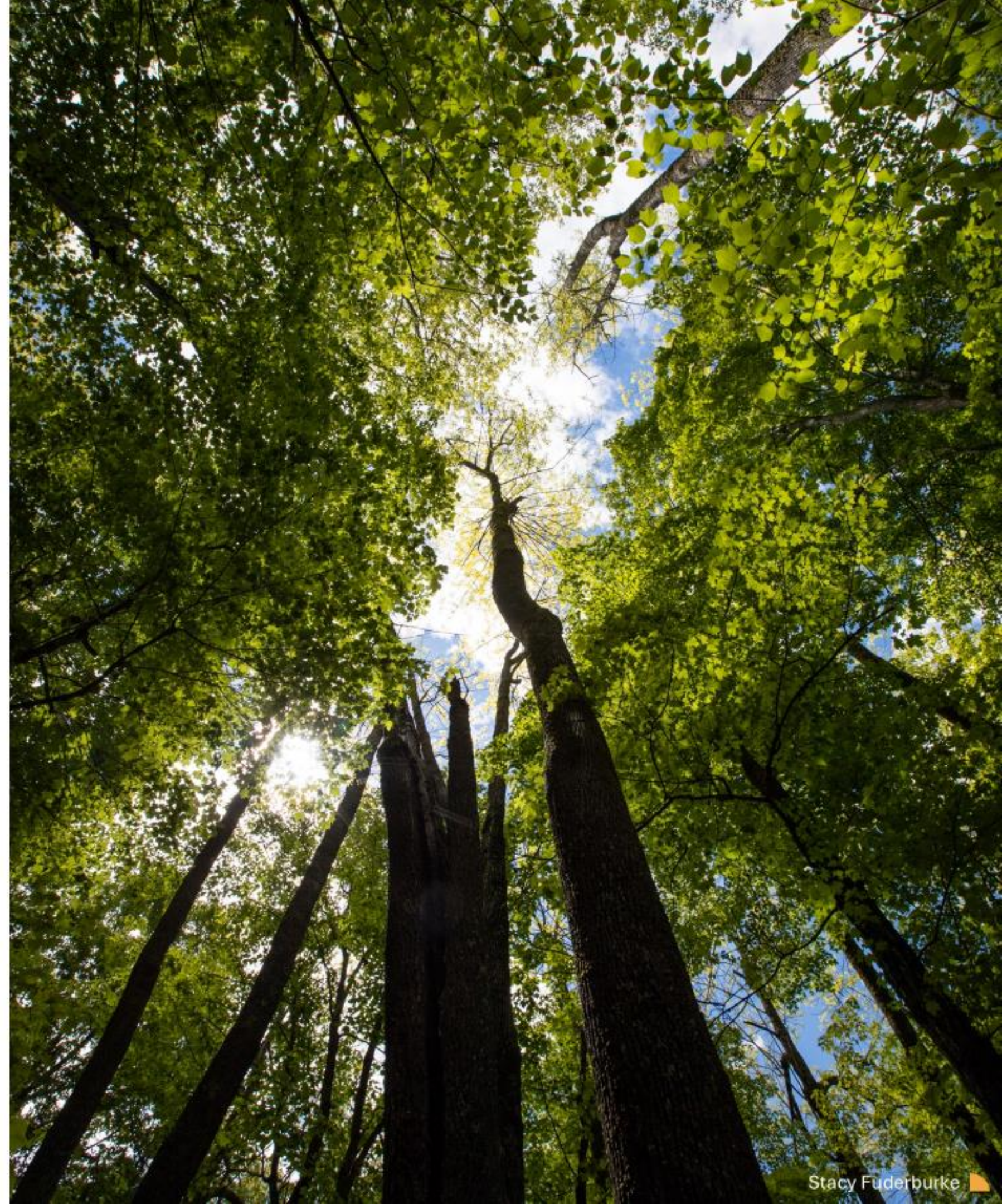
ACTIVATING THE NATURAL RESOURCE ECONOMY



The Conservation Fund

The Conservation Fund is in the business of protecting the land for all of us so nature and people can thrive together.

- Land Conservation
- Working Lands
- Resilient Communities
- Clean Energy Economy





Activating the Natural Resource Economy = Activation

Our Vision

- Rural economies that are:
 - Inclusive
 - Diversified
 - Prosperous
 - Conservation-compatible
- Build generational wealth, public health, and quality of life
- Expanded community of support and increased advocacy for conserved lands

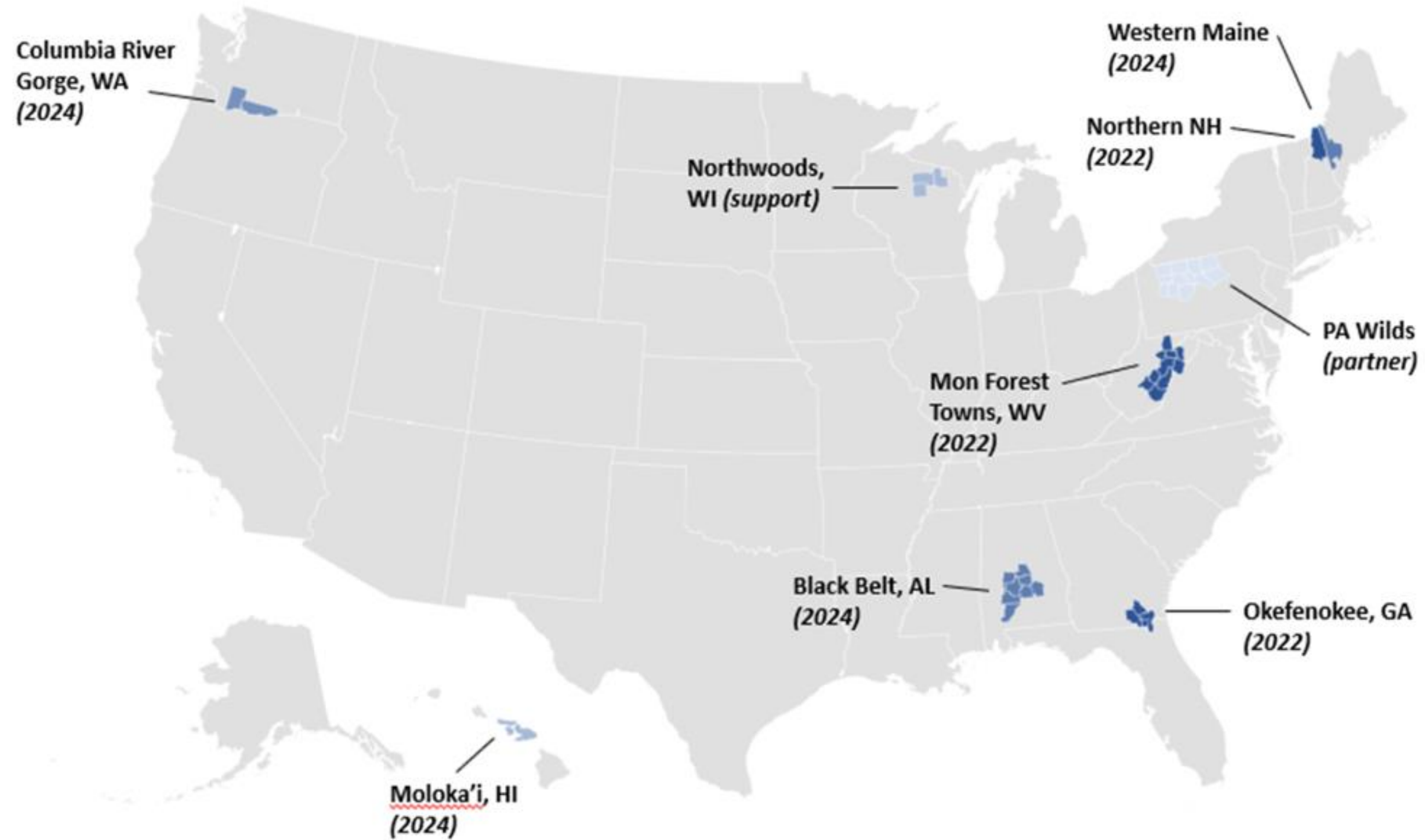




The Natural Resource Economy



Where We're Active



Today's Panelist



Gabe Perkins
Executive Director
Inland Woods + Trails



Jessie Powers
Executive Director
Outdoor Recreation Council of Appalachia
(ORCA)

Questions for our panelists?
Please share your questions in Q & A

The BRECC National Network

connecting coal communities



Teryn Zmuda
*Chief Research Officer & Chief Economist,
National Association of Counties*

How to Champion Your Community's Natural Resources / November 21, 2024

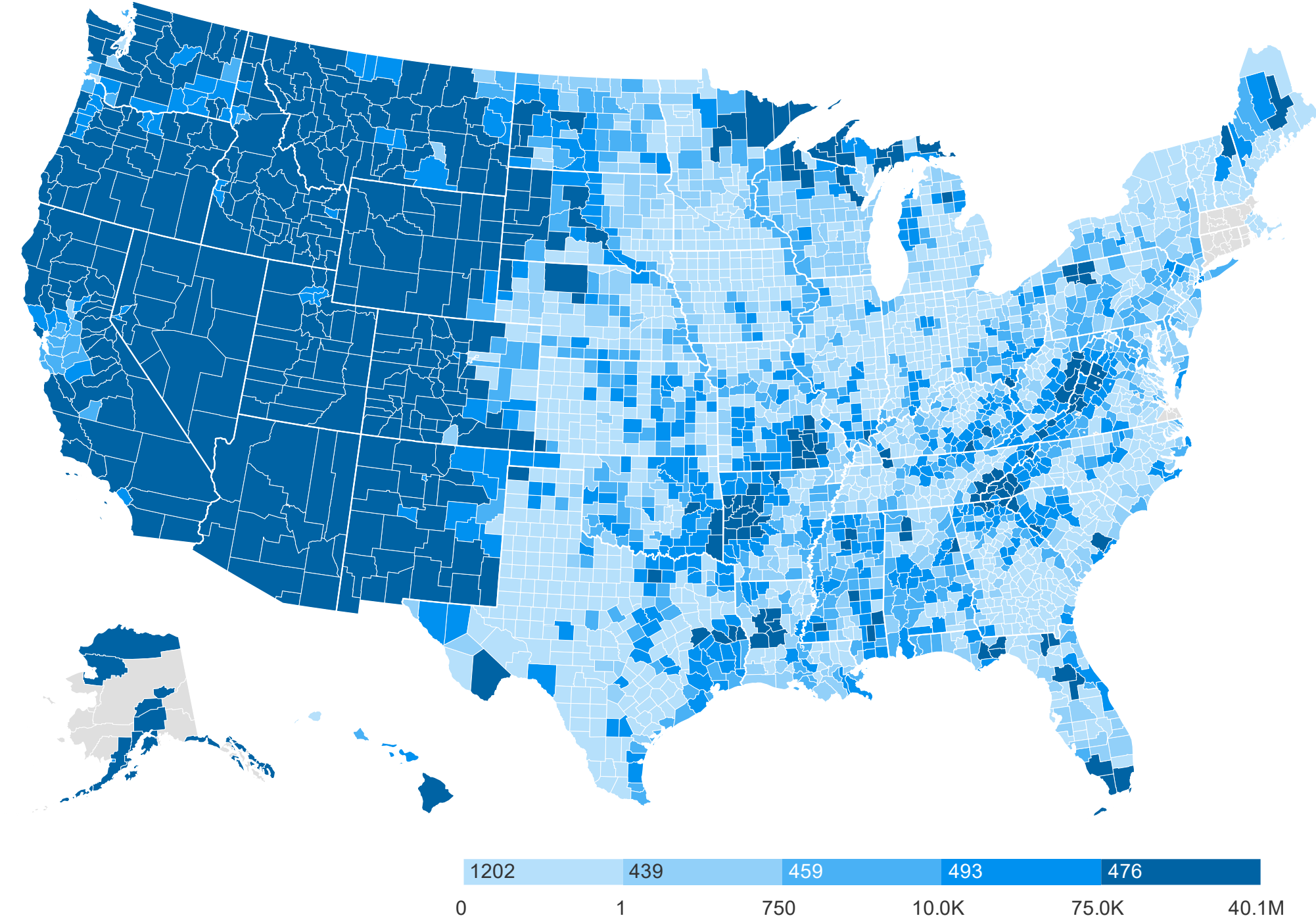


National Center for Public Lands Counties

Advancing the policy and practice study
of America's public lands counties



Our Context: County Role In Public Lands Management



Public Lands Counties...

- Work with federal partners to maintain and provide services for 610 million acres of land, or just over a quarter (28 percent) of all land acres in the country
- Are spread around the country; nearly two-thirds (62 percent) of counties have federally-owned lands within our jurisdictions
- Manage federal funding, including more than \$578 million in federal Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) funds and \$271 million from the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) funding program

Source: NACo Analysis of U.S. Department of the Interior Data.



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Scan to View Your Payment in Lieu of Taxes Profile on County Explorer



Public Lands in the East

- **In the US, public lands are primarily managed by five federal agencies**
- **In the 31 eastern states, BLM** manages over 40,000 acres of public land for multiple use
 - **Coal leasing on Federal mineral estates with development potential**
 - Approximately 39 million acres of federal mineral in the East
 - Generates over \$100 million a year for the Federal treasury in new rentals, royalties, fees and bonuses.
 - Works with the US Forest Service to analyze the potential for **developing new hard rock deposit sites**
 - **Livestock grazing**
 - Approximately 155 million acres of public lands
 - Administers nearly 18,000 permits and leases held by ranchers who graze their livestock on more than 21,000 allotments

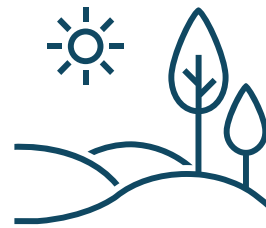


Our Why: The County Role in Public Lands Management

Coordinate with Federal Intergovernmental Partners



Practice Responsible Resource Management, Protect Visitors



Invest Federal Land Payments



....yet, Challenges Persist with Investment and Coordination

We must continue to address the mounting challenges and opportunities facing public lands counties, by:

- Forging intergovernmental and multi-sector partnerships
- Telling the county story
- Collecting and disseminating evidence-based practices and
- Building solution-oriented peer networks



NATIONAL CENTER FOR PUBLIC LANDS COUNTIES



Center Mission and Goals

Mission

Advance the policy and practice study for America's public lands counties.

Imperative

Elevate the long-term policy and practice research, capacity and knowledge exchange of elected and appointed leaders from America's public lands counties, including with federal and state policymakers, key influencers, the media and the public.

Objectives

- ✓ Enhance intergovernmental policymakers' grasp of unique challenges faced by county officials in areas with federal lands
- ✓ Conduct research, case studies, public forums and facilitate networks to inform policies and practices impacting public lands counties
- ✓ Foster dialogue between federal, state, tribal and local governments on key issues including landscape health, wildfire mitigation and economic development in public land counties

The Center is entirely funded by counties



NATIONAL CENTER FOR PUBLIC LANDS COUNTIES



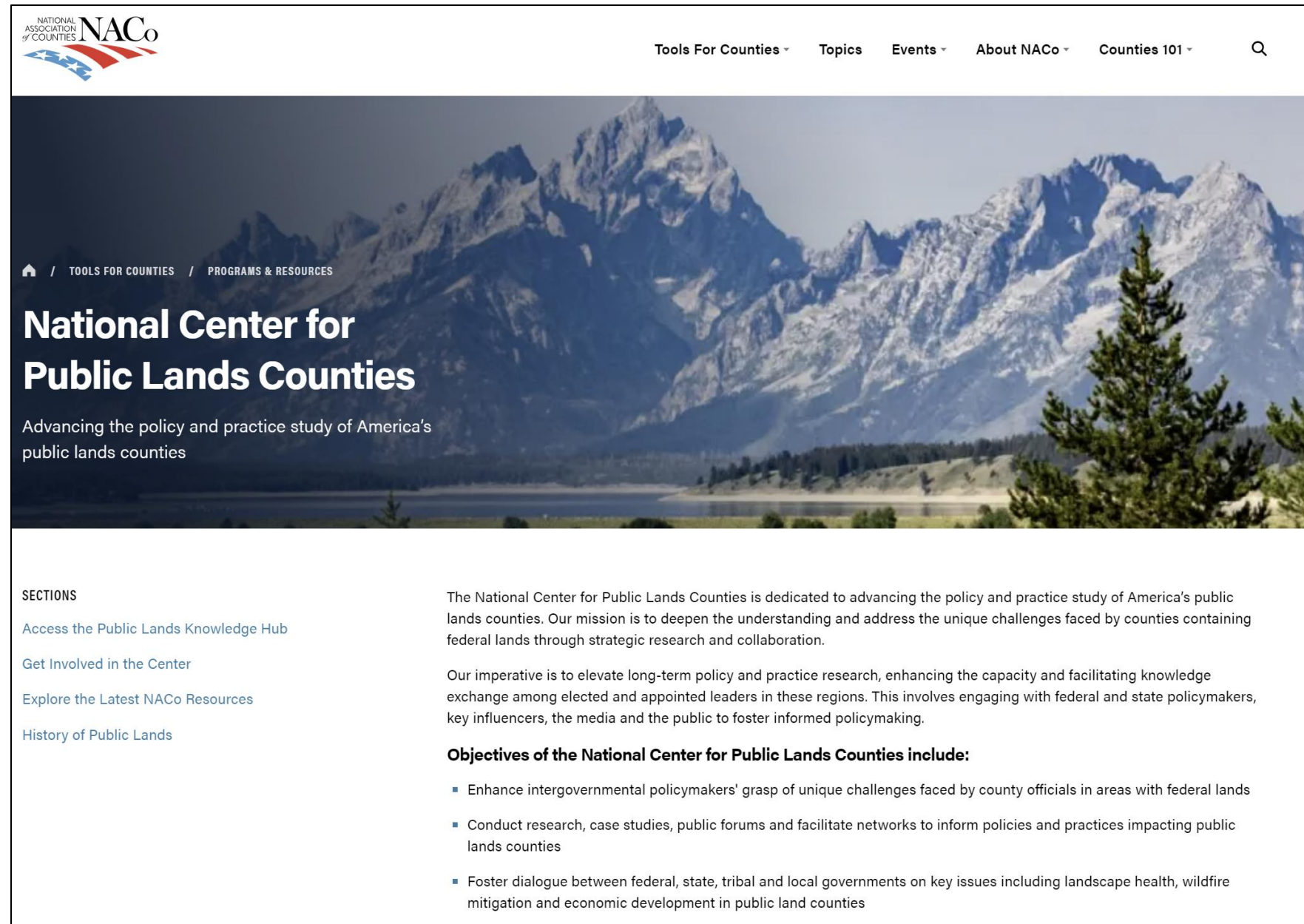
What We've Done

- **Public Lands Counties Knowledge Hub:** Peer online portal, modeled after the NACo Technology Xchange and new NACo Workforce Network, for county officials to share county practices, policies and solutions related to public lands management.
- **Intergovernmental Forum on Public Lands:** Brought together public lands leaders at the federal, state and county levels to discuss public lands issues and knowledge share. Held on the last day of NACo's PILT Fly-in.
- **Programming at NACo Conferences:** Highlighted public lands issues in the wider NACo environment through workshops at the 2024 Annual Conference.
- **County News Podcast Series:** Released six podcast episodes, interviewing public lands county officials on the priorities in their county.



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Join the Knowledge Hub



National Center for Public Lands Counties
Advancing the policy and practice study of America's public lands counties

SECTIONS

- [Access the Public Lands Knowledge Hub](#)
- [Get Involved in the Center](#)
- [Explore the Latest NACo Resources](#)
- [History of Public Lands](#)

The National Center for Public Lands Counties is dedicated to advancing the policy and practice study of America's public lands counties. Our mission is to deepen the understanding and address the unique challenges faced by counties containing federal lands through strategic research and collaboration.

Our imperative is to elevate long-term policy and practice research, enhancing the capacity and facilitating knowledge exchange among elected and appointed leaders in these regions. This involves engaging with federal and state policymakers, key influencers, the media and the public to foster informed policymaking.

Objectives of the National Center for Public Lands Counties include:

- Enhance intergovernmental policymakers' grasp of unique challenges faced by county officials in areas with federal lands
- Conduct research, case studies, public forums and facilitate networks to inform policies and practices impacting public lands counties
- Foster dialogue between federal, state, tribal and local governments on key issues including landscape health, wildfire mitigation and economic development in public land counties

Engage directly in conversation with colleagues from across the country via the discussion board functionality

Access original research and data analytics generated by the NCPLC team

Tap into existing agreements, contracts and other resources counties have shared related to federal lands management

Analyze peer county's land use plans including resource and forest management, including an executive summary of the key points

Share your own resources to help cultivate a repository of institutional knowledge for the next generation of public lands county leaders



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What We are Doing

- **Research Reports**

- **Federal Public Lands 101:** Provide an overview of public lands in the US, including the federal legislation crucial to understanding county governance in public lands counties (PILT, SRS, NEPA, etc.)
- **County Economies Research:** Examine different economic indicators (population change, economic output, and housing costs) and their effect on public lands counties and communities
- **Public Lands Leaders Boot Camp:** 101 overview of public lands in video format, meant to be used as a transitional resource for new county leaders with public lands
- **State Associations Level Network:** Quarterly “kitchen cabinet” style cohort call with public lands experts at the state level to discuss current issues in their states and knowledge share





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Scan for more
information
Questions or
comments?



Thank you for joining!

How can BRECC best support you?

Tell us what you'd like to learn more about! Email coal@naco.org