



Backcountry Hunters and Anglers

The Importance of OUR Public Lands

The voice for our wild public lands, waters & wildlife

ABOUT BHA

THE MISSION OF BACKCOUNTRY HUNTERS & ANGLERS IS TO ENSURE NORTH AMERICA'S OUTDOOR HERITAGE OF HUNTING AND FISHING IN A NATURAL SETTING, THROUGH EDUCATION AND WORK ON BEHALF OF WILD PUBLIC LANDS AND WATERS.

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OUR FOCUS

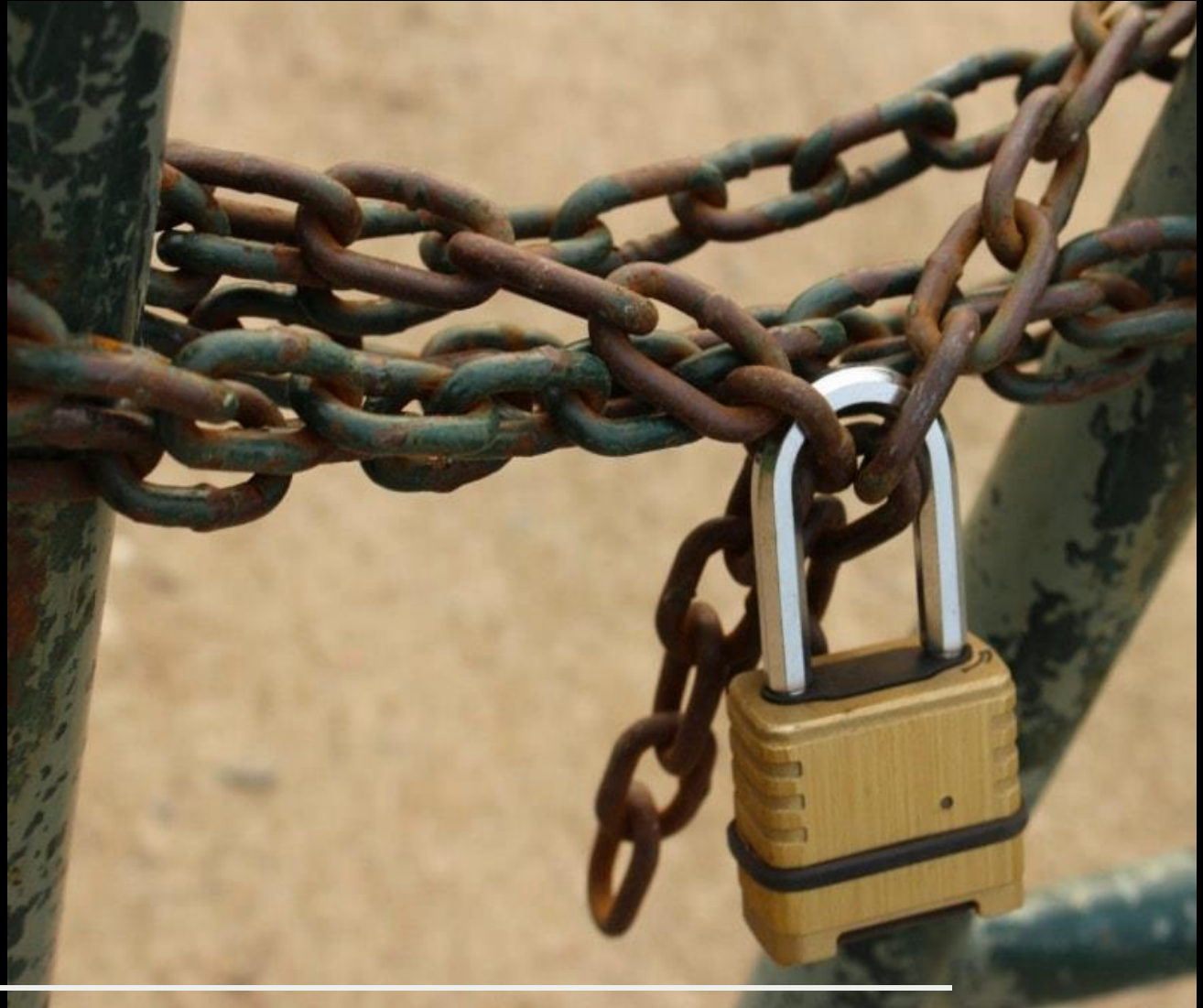
- ACCESS & OPPORTUNITY
- PUBLIC LANDS & WATERS
- FAIR CHASE



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Access and Opportunity

- The spirit of stewardship, along with the North American Model of Wildlife conservation and the Public Trust Doctrine make North America unique to the entire world.



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Since Time Immemorial

- Acknowledgment of first nations and Native American tribes:
 - Warm Springs, Wasco, Paiute
- It's not ours, but it is our turn



Image source: [wiki commons](#)

The Past

- Dwindling Natural Resources
 - Eradication of Bison, Elk, Big Horn Sheep, and other iconic North American species
- Privatization of Land
 - Over Grazing
 - Water Allocation

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Foresight

- Wild spaces are natural resources
- Conservation of public places, fish, and wildlife

President Theodore Roosevelt conserved more than 230 million acres of American lands and waters, establishing 150 national forests, 51 federal bird reserves, four national game preserves, five national parks and 18 national monuments





Today

- 568 National Wildlife Refuges
- 155 National Forests
- 16.43 million acres landlocked in the US

Oregon:

- 31 million acres of federal public land

Legacy

- We must continue to conserve our wild places and wild spaces
- We are all Public Land Owners
- Maintain opportunity, inclusivity, and community



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"THIS PUBLIC LANDS LEGACY THAT WAS GIFTED TO US DIDN'T HAPPEN BY ACCIDENT AND IT WON'T BE CARRIED FORWARD BY ACCIDENT, EITHER. IT IS BY PEOPLE IN THIS ROOM WHO ARE GOING TO CARRY IT FORWARD."

LAND TAWNEY
PRESIDENT & CEO



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