# POSITION DESCRIPTION

# Director of the bureau of land management, Department of the interior

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| **OVERVIEW** | |
| Senate Committee | Energy and Natural Resources |
| Agency Mission | The Department of the Interior protects and manages the nation’s natural resources and cultural heritage; provides scientific and other information about those resources; and honors its trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives and affiliated island communities. |
| Position Overview | The Director of the Bureau of Land Management is responsible for the oversight and management of the bureau’s mission of multiple use and sustained yield while maintaining relationships with stakeholders. |
| Compensation | Level V $145,700 (5 U.S.C. § 5316)[[1]](#endnote-1) |
| Position Reports to | Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, Department of the Interior[[2]](#endnote-2) |
| **RESPONSIBILITIES** | |
| Management Scope | In 2016, the Bureau of Land Management had a budget of $1.2 billion and about 10,000 full-time equivalents.[[3]](#endnote-3) |
| Primary Responsibilities | * Performs duties as the secretary may prescribe with respect to the management of lands and resources (43 U.S.C. § 1731) * Has responsibility for the oversight and management of the bureau’s mission of multiple use and sustained yield(43 U.S.C. § 1732) * Maintains critical relationships with other federal agencies, Congress, Native American authorities, state and local governments and private entities * Manages public land resources for a variety of uses, such as energy development, livestock grazing, recreation and timber harvesting, while protecting a wide array of natural, cultural and historical resources |
| Strategic Goals and Priorities | [Depends on the policy priorities of the administration] |
| **REQUIREMENTS AND COMPETENCIES** | |
| Requirements | * Broad background and substantial experience in public land and natural resource management (43 U.S.C. § 1731) |
| Competencies | * Strong communication and interpersonal skills |
| **PAST APPOINTEES** | |
| Neil Kornze (2014 to 2017): Principal Deputy Director, Bureau of Land Management; Senior Advisor, Bureau of Land Management; Senior Advisor, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid[[4]](#endnote-4) | |
| Robert Abbey (2009 to 2014): Partner, Abbey, Stubbs & Ford, LLCviii; Acting Director, Mineral Management Service; Nevada State Director, Bureau of Land Managementi[[5]](#endnote-5) | |
| James Caswell (2007 to 2009): Director, Idaho State Office of Species Conservation; various positions, Bureau of Land Management; Forest Supervisor, U.S. Forest Service[[6]](#endnote-6) | |

1. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 115-31, May 5, 2017), contains a provision that continues the freeze on the payable pay rates for certain senior political officials at 2013 levels during calendar year 2017. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. <https://www.doi.gov/whoweare/orgchart> [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. <https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/migrated/budget/appropriations/2016/highlights/upload/BH007.pdf>

   <http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/info/About_BLM.html> [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
4. <https://www.doi.gov/whoweare/blm-dir> [↑](#endnote-ref-4)
5. <http://abbeystubbsfordllc.com/robert-bob-abbey.htm> [↑](#endnote-ref-5)
6. <http://centerwest.org/archives/8588> [↑](#endnote-ref-6)