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The Mountain Pact Praises BLM Action on Wildlife Habitat Connectivity on Public Lands

DURANGO, CO -- In response to The Bureau of Land Management [releasing](#) an Instruction Memorandum on Habitat Connectivity on Public Lands today, **Anna Peterson, Executive Director of [The Mountain Pact](#), an organization that works with local elected officials in nearly 100 communities across the Western U.S., said,**

“We are thrilled to see the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) release an Instruction Memorandum(IM) to ‘ensure habitat connectivity, permeability and resilience is restored, maintained, improved, and/or conserved on public lands.’

Many BLM lands are at risk. For example, here in Colorado, BLM lands make up one-third of the federal public lands in our state, but only 8% of these lands are protected, significantly less than the amount of public lands managed by other agencies.

Climate change, fragmentation, and degradation have negatively impacted fish and wildlife habitat. Western local elected officials are excited to see the BLM taking this bold step and we look forward to working with the BLM, through the local planning process, to encourage them to manage these lands to maintain, improve, conserve, and restore degraded fish and wildlife habitat to increase habitat connectivity across the West.”

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Founded in 2014, [The Mountain Pact](#) mobilizes local elected officials in nearly 100 Western mountain communities with outdoor recreation based economies to speak with a collective voice on federal climate, public lands, and outdoor recreation policy.