



## KEY LANDSCAPES TARGETED BY BLM DRILLING/FRACKING PLAN FOR CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

[INTERACTIVE MAP](#)

### VENTURA COUNTY

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[Ojai Valley Land Conservancy's Ilvento Preserve](#) – This 80-acre parcel was the first land acquisition for OVLC, donated by the Ilvento Family in 1997. Located on a ridge near The Thacher School in the east end of Ojai Valley, the Preserve is host to diverse native plant communities and important wildlife corridors. The parcel is open to the public and features breathtaking views of the Ojai and Upper Ojai valleys, Topa Topa Bluffs, and Chief Peak.

**The Thacher School** – On the eastern edge of [The Thacher School](#)'s campus lies a 40-acre parcel between Thacher and Reeves creeks. The mineral rights below the parcel are owned by the federal government. The parcel contains a popular hiking trail near the school's Gymkhana Field where students practice their horsemanship skills and participate in annual competitions and races.

**Upper Ojai** – A privately-owned 40-acre parcel located between Sisar Canyon and Koenigstein Road.

**Lion Canyon** – A small isolated parcel between Sulphur Mountain and Black Mountain in the hills behind the Ojai Valley Inn and Villanova Preparatory School

**Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge** – Nearly 1,500 acres of federal public land adjacent to and within one mile of the [Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge](#), which serves as the hub for efforts to reintroduce endangered California condors into the wild.

**Point Mugu State Park & Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area** – A small parcel on Boney Mountain in [Point Mugu State Park](#) and within the [Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area](#).

**Heritage Valley Foothills** – Also opened to drilling and fracking are several parcels between Fillmore and Piru. These lands provide sources of clean water for homes and farms downstream.

**Red Mountain** – Four parcels totaling 136 acres atop Red Mountain between Lake Casitas and Highway 101. Some of these parcels are in the Lake Casitas watershed just a mile from its shore.

**Ventura Hillsides** – Seven parcels totaling 240 acres in the hills between the City of Ventura and Canada Larga.

**North Ventura Backcountry** – Several parcels in the Upper Cuyama Valley and at the base of Frazier Mountain in the far northern portion of the county.

**San Nicolas Island & Naval Base Ventura County** – The plan designates as “open” for drilling and fracking nearly all of three properties that comprise the [Naval Base Ventura County](#): the Port Hueneme Naval CBC, the Pt. Mugu Naval Base, and all of [San Nicolas Island](#) (one of the eight Channel Islands located offshore Ventura County).

**Frazier Mountain & Hungry Valley State Vehicular Recreation Area** – Frazier Mountain (8,017’ elevation) is one of the highest points in Ventura County. A 160-acre parcel on the eastern flank of the mountain is designated as “open” for drilling and fracking under the plan. The parcel is also within the Hungry Valley State Vehicular Recreation Area, along with an additional 384 acres that are slated for drilling and fracking inside the [Hungry Valley State Vehicular Recreation Area](#), underlying popular trails like the Tataviam Trail, Tejon Trail, East Frazier Trail, Sterling Canyon Trail, Backbone Trail, Pipeline Road, Rattler Trail, and Flying W Trail.

## **SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**

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**Carpinteria & Cate School** – A 40-acre parcel within 2,000 feet of [Cate School](#) and directly adjacent to the Los Padres National Forest. This is a privately-owned parcel with federally-owned subsurface mineral rights.

**Santa Ynez Mountains** – Two BLM parcels along the crest of the Santa Ynez Mountains. One (217 acres) is on the north face of Bald Mountain. The other (120 acres) is in the headwaters of Nojoqui Creek near [Nojoqui Falls County Park](#). Both are directly adjacent to the Los Padres National Forest.

**Scenic Highway 154** – Two small Bureau of Reclamation parcels (20 acres total) near Lake Cachuma along Highway 154, a California Scenic Highway.

**Lake Cachuma** – A 40-acre Bureau of Reclamation parcel on the north side of [Lake Cachuma](#) near Happy Canyon Road, adjacent to the Los Padres National Forest.

**Sisquoc River & San Rafael Wilderness** – Several parcels totaling 1,766 acres inside the national forest boundary near the Sisquoc River, including one parcel adjacent to the San Rafael Wilderness and another parcel straddling the Sisquoc River, which is critical habitat for endangered steelhead.

**Tepusquet Canyon** – several BLM parcels totaling 1,793 acres in a rural, remote canyon east of Santa Maria. One of the largest parcels straddles Colson Canyon Road, one of the few gateways into the Los Padres National Forest in northern Santa Barbara County.

**Cuyama Valley Foothills** – 13,375 acres along the foothills of the Sierra Madre Mountains in the Cuyama Valley. Most of these parcels are adjacent to national forest lands proposed for wilderness protection under the Central Coast Heritage Protection Act introduced in the House and Senate earlier this year. Two areas to be opened to drilling and fracking are major gateways into the Los Padres National Forest – Santa Barbara Canyon and Bates Canyon. Both have publicly-accessible trailheads and roads leading into the Los Padres National Forest.

**Purisima Hills** – several parcels between Los Alamos and Lompoc in the Purisima Hills, including 4 parcels totaling 160 acres owned by the Rancho Santa Rita Preserve, part of the state-and federally-approved [La Purisima Conservation Bank](#). The 853-acre bank – the first of its kind in Santa Barbara

County – provides a mechanism for developers and agencies to mitigate their impacts by purchasing mitigation credits at the property. The conservation bank contains a healthy population of endangered California tiger salamanders.

**Vandenberg Air Force Base** – Nearly the entire [Vandenberg Air Force Base](#)—102,650 acres—is slated as “open” for drilling. This includes Ocean Beach County Park—one of the few coastal access points for residents of the City of Lompoc. Portions of [Point Sal County Park](#) and [Point Sal State Beach](#) are also opened for drilling/fracking under the plan.

**City of Lompoc** – 3,158 acres within city limits of the [City of Lompoc](#), including farmland and open space west of Highway 1 and north of the Lompoc Airport.

**Ken Adam Park** – The 42-acre [Ken Adam Park](#) near Allan Hancock College features a large group picnic area, a children's playground, individual picnic areas, horseshoes, volleyball, nature trails, six primitive RV campsites, and restroom facilities. It also contains a magnificent three-poled flag monument which sits on a bluff overlooking Lompoc. The flag monument was developed as a project of the former Western Spaceport Museum project. The park is named after Ken Adam, the longtime owner and publisher of the Lompoc Record newspaper. It's part of a larger 118-acre property that contains 76 acres of undeveloped open space. The city's Parks and Recreation Department is developing a comprehensive master plan for the entire property.

**Allan Hancock College** – The college's [Lompoc Valley Center](#) is a satellite location to the main Allan Hancock College campus in Santa Maria. The Lompoc Valley Center provides courses for 34 degree and certificate programs, along with a Public Safety Training Complex that houses the college's police, fire, emergency medical services, and environmental technology programs. The state-of-the-art complex includes a six-story fire tower, one-mile Emergency Vehicle Operations course, a 'scenario' village, shooting range, fitness track, obstacle course and much more.

**Jalama Beach County Park** – Most of the federal mineral estate underneath this locally-popular beach is zoned for drilling and fracking. Fossil fuel development here would also affect the adjacent [Jack & Laura Dangermond Preserve](#), which was acquired by The Nature Conservancy in 2017 and covers 8 miles of coastline and 24,000 acres between Hollister Ranch and Vandenberg Air Force Base.

## **SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY**

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**City of San Luis Obispo Natural Reserves** – The BLM plan would open a 200-acre parcel just east of the City of San Luis Obispo to drilling and fracking. Much of it overlaps with the City of San Luis Obispo's [Reservoir Canyon Nature Reserve](#), where BLM mineral rights underlie a popular loop trail with panoramic views of the city and the Santa Lucia Mountains. Also, on Mine Hill southwest of the city limits, the plan would open a 76-acre BLM-owned parcel to drilling and fracking. This parcel is directly adjacent to the [Irish Hills Natural Reserve](#), a 720-acre open space administered by the City of San Luis Obispo with many popular trails.

**Cayucos & Whale Rock Reservoir** – The BLM plan opens 980 acres of BLM land upstream from [Whale Rock Reservoir](#) and adjacent to the Los Padres National Forest. Whale Rock Reservoir serves as a source of clean drinking water for the City of San Luis Obispo and the Cal Poly campus. The City and the

California Conservation Corps have also embarked on a multi-year effort here to eradicate invasive fish from the reservoir and restore steelhead that historically spawned in the area. The reservoir is popular with hikers, anglers, picnicking families, and bird watchers who flock to the area to view the reservoir's resident bald eagles, osprey, and migratory birds.

**Los Osos Middle School** – The BLM plan would open a 5-acre parcel to drilling and fracking directly across the street from [Los Osos Middle School](#) and within 300 feet of the southern boundary of [Morro Bay State Park](#).

**Montana de Oro State Park & Irish Hills** – The BLM plan would open 1,222 acres of federally-owned mineral estate within [Montana de Oro State Park](#), a coastal park popular with hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, campers, and beach visitors. The area slated for drilling and fracking covers nearly the entire southeastern corner of the park, including the popular Alan Peak Trail between Alan Peak and Oats Peak. The surface is owned and managed by California State Parks, but the underlying mineral rights are held by BLM.

**Carrizo Plains Ecological Reserve** – The [Carrizo Plains Ecological Reserve](#) is a 38,900-acre wildlife preserve that connects the Los Padres National Forest to the Carrizo Plain National Monument, and is owned and managed by the California Department of Fish & Wildlife. However, BLM owns portions of the mineral rights underlying the area. The BLM plan would open nearly one-third of the reserve (12,802 acres) to oil drilling and fracking, threatening several endangered species along with native grasslands, vernal pools, and reintroduced populations of tule elk and pronghorn antelope. Several hiking and equestrian trails pass through the lands slated for drilling.

**Carrizo Plain National Monument** – While the BLM's plan does not address drilling and fracking inside the [Carrizo Plain National Monument](#) (that area has its own separate management plan), it would allow drilling and fracking across 15,338 acres directly adjacent to the monument's eastern boundary in the Temblor Mountains, including several hundred acres directly adjacent to the Congressionally-proposed Temblor Wilderness Area.

**Machesna Mountain Wilderness** – The plan would open 480 acres of private land immediately adjacent to the [Machesna Mountain Wilderness](#) in the Los Padres National Forest. The wilderness area was established by Congress in 1984.

**Huasna Valley** – The BLM plan would open nearly 2,500 acres in the Huasna Valley and surrounding foothills to drilling and fracking. Included among them are several parcels alongside Huasna Road, one of the key gateways into the Los Padres National Forest.

**Lopez Lake** – The BLM plan would open a 4-acre parcel on the shore of [Lopez Lake](#) near the Dune Vista Trail, along with another 320 acres on a hillside a half-mile away that drains directly into the lake. These are mostly state-owned lands with BLM sub-surface mineral estate. The lake provides clean drinking water to the Five Cities and includes a popular recreation area administered by San Luis Obispo County Parks offering camping, fishing, boating, picnicking, hiking and equestrian trails, mountain biking, zip-lining, and birdwatching.

**Morro Rock** – The BLM plan identifies [Morro Rock](#), a volcanic plug at the entrance to Morro Bay Harbor, as an area open to drilling and fracking. It is protected as the Morro Rock State Preserve and is a State Historic Landmark.

**Santa Margarita Lake, Park Hill, and Calf Canyon Along Highway 58** – The BLM plan would open scattered parcels in the area bounded by Santa Margarita, Highway 58, and [Santa Margarita Lake](#) totaling more than 5,000 acres of mostly BLM-owned land. It includes several large parcels bordering and emptying into Santa Margarita Lake, which provides clean drinking water for the City of San Luis Obispo along with numerous outdoor recreation opportunities.

**La Panza Mountain Range** – The BLM plan would open more than 7,000 acres to drilling and fracking on BLM land in the La Panza Mountain Range along the San Juan River, between Los Padres National Forest and Carrizo Plain National Monument.

**Camp Roberts** – The BLM plan would open more than 43,000 acres of [Camp Roberts](#), a California National Guard post where units train annually. The national guard also opens these vast lands to the public for hunting and fishing opportunities.

**Lake Nacimiento & Santa Lucia Range** – The BLM plan opens more than 32,000 acres of parcels in the Santa Lucia Mountains between Highway 46 and the SLO-Monterey county line, including hundreds of acres surrounding [Lake Nacimiento](#). Some of these parcels are visible along Highway 1 near Pine Top Mountain at the gateway to the Big Sur coastline.

## **SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY & SOUTHERN SIERRA NEVADA**

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**Gateways to National Parks** – Almost 5,000 acres of land within one mile of [Sequoia National Park](#) are listed as “open” for fossil fuel leasing under the BLM’s proposal. This would be new drilling and fracking on federal land along the park’s boundary — an area where there’s currently no oil development. The plan could also open over 2,000 acres near the southern entrance to [Yosemite National Park](#).

**National Monuments** – The agency’s plan would allow oil and gas leasing of a combined 44 square miles of federal land along the boundaries of the [Carrizo Plain National Monument](#) and [Giant Sequoia National Monument](#) near Bakersfield. Both monuments only recently survived an attempt by the Trump administration to shrink or eliminate them.

**State Parks** – More than 25 square miles along the boundaries of state park system lands such as [Fort Tejon State Park](#), [Colonel Allensworth](#) and [Tomo-Kahni State Historic Parks](#), and [Onyx Ranch](#) and [Hungry Valley State Vehicular Recreation Areas](#) could be opened to leasing if the plan is approved.

**Nature Preserves** – Opens to drilling another 50 square miles of federally owned mineral estate below private preserves like [Audubon Kern River Preserve](#), [Tejon Ranch](#) and [Wind Wolves Preserve](#).

**National Wildlife Refuges & State Ecological Reserves** – The plan would also open over 70 square miles of land in and around national wildlife refuges and state ecological reserves to leasing, jeopardizing important habitat for many threatened, endangered and rare plants and animals. Areas such as [Bitter Creek National Wildlife Refuge](#) and the Bakersfield Cactus, [Canebrake](#) and [Carrizo Plains Ecological Reserve](#) are at risk of being opened to drilling and fracking.

**Lake Isabella**—The plan could even threaten Bakersfield’s water supply. Approximately 87 square miles surrounding [Lake Isabella](#) — one of the city’s primary sources of drinking water — would be open to

drilling and fracking leases under the plan. Not only would this have major implications for Bakersfield residents, much of the leasing in the Lake Isabella area would be in and around neighborhoods.

**Pacific Crest Trail** – Four parcels that overlap the [Pacific Crest Trail](#) are opened for drilling and fracking, covering more than four miles of this world-class trail that extends from Mexico to Canada.

**Millerton Lake State Recreation Area** – Millerton Lake was created by construction of the Friant Dam across the San Joaquin River in 1944. One of the most popular recreation areas in the San Joaquin Valley, the lake's 47 miles of shoreline are a magnet for families seeking high-quality recreational opportunities. The [Millerton Lake State Recreation Area](#) includes camping facilities along with opportunities for swimming, fishing, bicycling, and boating. Summer interpretive programs and Junior Ranger programs are provided during the summer, along with tours for school groups throughout the year. The hills around the lake provide excellent hiking; long segments of the San Joaquin River Trail are designated as "open" for drilling and fracking. In addition, Valley Oak Campground and Pincushion Mountain are slated for drilling and fracking, along with thousands of acres around the lake and immediately upstream.

Millerton Lake has the largest population of wintering bald eagles in the San Joaquin Valley, most having migrated more than 1,600 miles from summer breeding grounds in Canada. The park offers special tours to view the bald eagles during the winter. The park also contains the original Millerton County Courthouse built in 1867.