# **FISCAL YEAR** 2018-2019

# Annual Report

An innovative land trust funding Colorado schools since 1876.









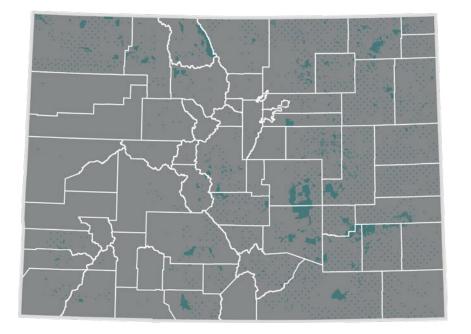






# The state of Colorado spans 66.5 million acres.

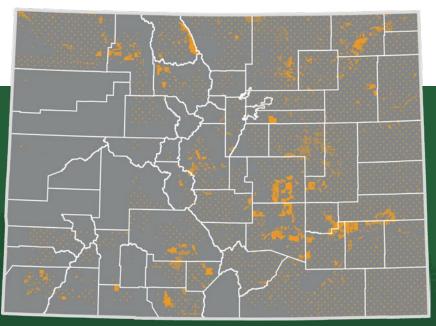
The State Land Board owns **2.8 million surface acres** (pictured below in blue) and **4 million sub-surface acres** (pictured below in orange), making us the second-largest landowner in our state.







Front cover photo: Pasture land at the Antero Spring Creek property in Park County.



## FY18-19 Annual Report

Greetings,

We're thrilled that fiscal year 2018-2019 proved to be a banner year at the Colorado State Land Board — we generated \$174 million on behalf of trust beneficiaries. We're incredibly proud of the important role our intergenerational trust has in supporting Colorado schools.

This marks the third highest revenue year in our agency's 143-year-old history and a record-setting high of \$29.6 million in Permanent Fund earnings.

The successes you'll read about in this report have been the result of teamwork and partnerships. I am grateful to our five dedicated Commissioners who volunteer countless hours serving on the Land Board. I'm equally appreciative of our effective staff, hardworking lessees, engaged citizens, and our many partners across the state.

Together we create opportunities to support state trust beneficiaries for generations to come.

Thank you.

Bill Ryan Director, State Land Board

## The 2026 Strategic Plan

In June 2019, the Commissioners at the State Land Board approved the agency's bold strategic plan. It serves as our compass as we look ahead to our agency's **150th anniversary** in **2026**.

#### **READ THE PLAN @**

colorado.gov/statelandboard/about-state-land-board

# WHAT YOU WILL FIND IN THIS REPORT

Agency mission and history 2
• Our impact on schools 3
■ Agency leadership 4
Contact us 5
■ Working with us 6
How revenue flows to schools 7
Stewarding the land
■ FY18-19 fun facts10
■ Finance summary12
■ The trust14
<ul> <li>Permanent Fund Investment Board15</li> </ul>
Income statement

#### **CONTACT US!**



303.866.3454 colorado.gov/statelandboard

### We generated \$174 million in FY18-19



### **Mission and History**

#### MISSION

The State Land Board manages an endowment of assets held in perpetual, intergenerational public trusts for the financial support of Colorado's public schools and other public institutions.

Generate reasonable and consistent income over time.

Protect and enhance the long-term productivity and sound stewardship of working trust lands.

#### 

Make possible capital funding for the modernization of all Colorado public schools.

Rooted in Our Country's Founding



Our agency was created at statehood (1876) when President Ulysses S. Grant signed Proclamation 230 to make Colorado the 38th state to join the Union. Through the Colorado Enabling Act, Congress gave federal land grants to Colorado to support public beneficiaries primarily public schools.

The Colorado State Land Board has been funding Colorado's public schools since statehood. This schoolhouse was operational in Gilpin, CO, circa 1900. Courtesy of the Gilpin History Museum.

# Our Impact on Colorado's Schoolchildren

The State Land Board is the primary funding source for the Department of Education's Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) program. BEST offers competitive grants to school districts for the construction of new schools or the renovation of existing facilities.

We've contributed \$717 million to BEST since the program began in 2008.



### BEST construction projects have created **37,000 jobs.**

(Source: DOLA, 2018)



#### **BEST GOALS**

✓ Build safe, secure, and healthy 21st-century, high-performing schools.

✓ Give students superior learning opportunities.

 Equip teachers with the best modern teaching tools.

Buena Vista High School in Chaffee County received a \$21.4 million BEST grant and hosted a groundbreaking ceremony.



The Land Board contributed \$82.4 million to BEST in FY18-19.

ents helped

shovel dir

\$28 million grant. Stud

at the ceremonio

The majority of **BEST grant** recipients are located in rural areas of the state.

# 225,000

Colorado school kids have attended BEST schools.



3

# Leadership

Our agency is led by a Board of Commissioners. The Board is made up of five citizen volunteers, chosen by the Governor, and confirmed by the Colorado State Legislature. Commissioners are appointed to four-year terms and are limited to two consecutive terms. As fiduciaries, our Commissioners are responsible for prudently taking care of trust assets on behalf of beneficiaries, who are primarily Colorado schoolchildren.

Our agency was founded at statehood (1876). The Colorado Constitution requires that four of the five Commissioners have substantial experience in four separate areas: public K-12 education, production agriculture, local government, and natural resources. The fifth Commissioner serves as a citizen-at-large. The Commissioners do not represent the interest of a particular sector. Instead, they apply their industry experience when they make decisions on behalf of beneficiaries.

Commissioners are supported by 45 agency employees who are located in seven offices throughout the state.

Learn more about our leadership @ colorado.gov/statelandboard/commissioners-director



Board President Bynum and Staff Director Ryan review ownership maps during a public meeting.



### Our Board of Commissioners



Gary Butterworth Natural Resources



Education



**Tyler Karney** Ordway, CO



Greg Moffet Local Government Vail, CO



John M. Shaw Citizen-at-large

Staff toured the Noble Energy Field Office and Training Facility in Greeley, CO.





4

### **Contact Us**

Electronic fence facilitates grazing management at Lowry Ranch in Arapahoe County. Courtesy of Raquel Wertsbaugh.

#### **RECEIVE OUR E-NEWSLETTER**

Stay in touch! Please contact us to sign up to receive our quarterly e-newsletter, *Field Notes*. View our past issues @ colorado.gov/statelandboard/fieldnotes



Spring 2018

#### WELCOME TO YOUR NEW NEWSLETTER

The Colorado State Land Board is now providing a quarterly enewsletter, *Field Notes*, sent via email to replace the mailed newsletter. Let us know what you'd like to read about.

BIG HORN SHEEP RELOCATED VIA HELICOPTER Population now exceeds 400 in southeastern Colorado

The State Land Board partnered with <u>Colorado Parks fi</u> <u>Wildlife</u> in January to relocate 15 big horn





sheep Pen Canyon (Stewardship Trust property, n Las Animas County.

#### **LINES OF BUSINESS**

Agriculture 303.866.3454 x3325 Commercial Leasing 303.866.3454 x3327

Ecosystem Services 303.866.3454 x3318

Mining 303.866.3454 x3313

Oil and Gas 303.866.3454 x3326

Recreation 303.866.3454 x3342

Renewable Energy 303.866.3454 x3327

Rights-of-way 303.866.3454 x3328

Tower Sites 303.866.3454 x3328

#### LOCATIONS

We have seven offices throughout the state.

Alamosa | Southwest 719.589.2360

Denver | Main Office 303.866.3454

Eaton | North Central 970.454.5279

Lamar | Southeast 719.336.3031

Pueblo | South Central 719.543.7403

Steamboat Springs | Northwest 970.879.9992

Sterling | Northeast 970.522.0975

### Working With Us

### What We Do

The State Land Board generates revenue for schoolchildren and other beneficiaries by leasing state-owned trust lands and minerals. 95% of the income we earn supports beneficiaries; less than 5% funds our internal operations because we receive \$0 tax dollars. In FY18-19 we had 7,660 active leases, and we earned \$151.9 million from operations.

We are entrepreneurial in our pursuit of income. While our recent success remains largely due to extractive leases, such as oil and gas development, we are pushing ourselves to be innovative by increasing recurring revenues. The growth of recurring long-term revenue streams is critical to helping our agency fulfill our forward looking, intergenerational mission. That's why we have expanded renewable energy, recreation, ecosystem services, commercial real estate, and agriculture leasing. This year we also began exploring commercial ground leases for affordable housing.

We also layer leases as a strategy to maximize revenue. For instance, one parcel of land might have an agricultural cattle grazing lease as well as a right-of-way lease for a power line. We ensure that layered leases have minimal impact on one another.

#### Lines of Business

- Agriculture (grazing, dry land crop production, and irrigated farming)
- Commercial real estate
- Ecosystem services (environmental mitigation of impacts on water, biodiversity, and carbon)
- Mining (limestone, gypsum, coal, precious metals, and more)
- Oil and gas
- Recreation (hunting, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, and more)
- Renewable energy (solar, wind, hydropower, geothermal, and biomass/bioenergy)
- Rights-of-way
- Tower sites
- Water resources



### Visit us @ colorado.gov/statelandboard



"Grazing leases are a huge part of land stewardship for us. Grazing improves the land over time if you do it right. We expect lessees to maintain the long-term quality of trust lands because our agency needs to earn money not only for today's students, but also for future generations of children."

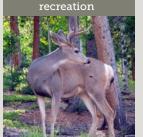
- William Woolston, Field Operations Supervisor

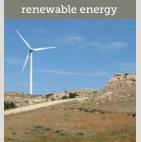
### We're proud that...

95% of our income supports beneficiaries; we use only

5% to fund our operations.

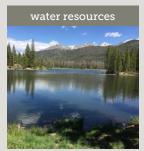












**FY18-19 ANNUAL REPORT** 

#### The State Land Board uses a variety stewardship tools for the responsible management of trust land.

We use these tools individually or in tandem to identify and protect the land's important natural values and resources. The stewardship tools enable us to protect resources for the long-term benefit of beneficiaries while continuing to generate revenue in the short-term. Our Commissioners strive to find a balance between stewarding the land and earning income from it.

#### **STEWARDSHIP TRUST**

A special management designation placed by our Board on 10% of state trust lands with the highest natural values to preserve the long-term benefits of, and returns from, those assets to the trusts. The Stewardship Trust was created by Amendment 16 to the State Constitution.

#### COLORADO DESIGNATED NATURAL AREAS

The Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) program that recognizes and monitors the state's finest examples of biodiversity, rarest plants, and geological or paleontological features.

#### **ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANS (AMPs)**

A management plan prepared by our agency for a specific state trust property (generally a large property asset of 25,000 acres or more).

#### **STEWARDSHIP ACTION PLANS (SAPs)**

A management plan prepared by our agency for a specific species or resource of concern on a landscape scale (i.e. greater than 20,000 acres).

#### LEASE STIPULATIONS

Timing and surface use restrictions applied to new leases, typically oil and gas leases, to protect wildlife and/or rare plants. The lessee is in violation of the lease and subject to termination if the stipulations aren't followed.

#### HOLISTIC GRAZING PRACTICES

Grazing leases designed to reward lessees for utilizing certain stewardship practices, such as holistic grazing or flexible AUMs (animal unit months).

#### BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

On-the-ground practices or procedures that lead to enhanced stewardship outcomes on state trust lands.



**104** # of properties in Stewardship Trust **10** percent of trust lands in the Stewardship Trust



### Stewardship:

an ethic that embodies the responsible planning and management of resources.

### **296,131** # of acres in the Stewardship Trust



Amendment 16, Section 10

In 1996, the passage of Amendment 16 to the state Constitution by Colorado voters established a new emphasis in how our agency carries out our mission, particularly with regard to long-term productivity and sound stewardship of state trust lands. Amendment 16 specifically directed the Board to develop new tools that would promote sound stewardship and land management practices; long-term agricultural productivity; community stability; natural resource management practice; and conservation easements.

"As trustees of a perpetual trust, we should recognize and seek balance between the needs of today's schoolchildren the needs of the generations of children to come. Responsible stewardship of the land assets protects those assets and their value for both current and future generations of beneficiaries."

Mike Bloom, Former Commissioner (2007-2015),
 State Land Board

### Protected Natural Values Include:

- ► Rare plants
- Important wildlife habitat
- Geologic formations
- Important cultural sites
- Important archaeological sites
- Beauty





#### FY18-19 ANNUAL REPORT

### FY18-19 By the Numbers

### 1st

The State's first wind turbine was on trust land



Animal Unit Months (AUMs) on trust land



P

number of acres of surface land owned



1 .....

<u>a</u>7

number of miles driven by State Land Board staff





Money generated for beneficiaries

# 480,000

Trust land acres enrolled in the Public Access Program Percent of Colorado's renewable energy megawatts are generated on trust land

# **5 1,800,000** Dollar value of

Dollar value of trust water assets



Pupil attendance at BEST schools (since 2008)

**12** Percent of extraction leases actually drilled

ĺ₿

# FY18-19 Financial Overview

Colorado state trust lands generated \$151.9 million in revenue for distribution to the beneficiaries in FY18-19 via 7,660 active leases. This revenue flows to eight trust beneficiaries, primarily public schools. Of the eight beneficiaires (listed on page 16), Colorado public schools received 98.4% of all revenue.

In total, we generated \$174.1 million, which reflects gross leasing revenue and Permanent Fund interest. View the annual income statement of page 17.

The oil and gas markets continue to be unpredictable. The volatility of those markets underscores our agency's strategic efforts to diversify our revenue streams. Read more on page 6.

Mineral extraction revenues increased by 20.9% to \$125.2 million compared to last year. But revenues were down 39.7% relative to FY14-15.

The \$1.15 billion Permanent Fund generated \$29.6 million in interest, reflecting a 12% annual increase in earnings.

#### **NON-RECURRING REVENUE**

= income earned from extractive resources, such as leases for solid minerals, oil, and gas.

#### **RECURRING REVENUE**

= income earned from renewable resources, such as leases for wind turbines, solar gardens, commercial real estate, and agriculture.



VIEW OUR COMPLETE INCOME AND INVESTMENT REPORT @ colorado.gov/statelandboard/reports-2



The State Land Board generated \$174M in FY18-19



### FY18-19 Trust Revenue Allocations



#### CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION FOR COLORADO'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Since 2008, 50 percent of our revenue has been directed to the Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) program. We generated \$82.4 million for the BEST program in FY18-19. See page 3 for a description of BEST.



13

#### PUBLIC SCHOOL PERMANENT FUND

Every year, the balance of revenue after BEST contributions and agency operations flows to the Public School Permanent Fund (Permanent Fund). We deposited \$64.7 million into the fund in FY18-19, which brought the yearend balance to \$1.15 billion. This endowment fund is managed by the State Treasurer's Office. The body of the Permanent Fund is inviolable; the interest it generates is used to support K-12 education annually. In FY18-19 the Permanent Fund generated \$29.6 million in interest. Read more on page 15.



#### **AGENCY OPERATIONS**

The State Land Board is a self-funded state agency. We receive no taxpayer dollars. Rather, money for our operations comes entirely from trust gross revenues. The State Land Board employed 45 people and had \$7.6 million in operating expenses in FY18-19.



#### INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FUND

Per statute, the I&D Fund allows the agency to invest up to \$5 million per year of School Trust revenue back into School Trust assets in order to increase or maintain the value and/or income of these assets for the trust. In FY18-19 we spent \$2.1 million on trust asset improvements.





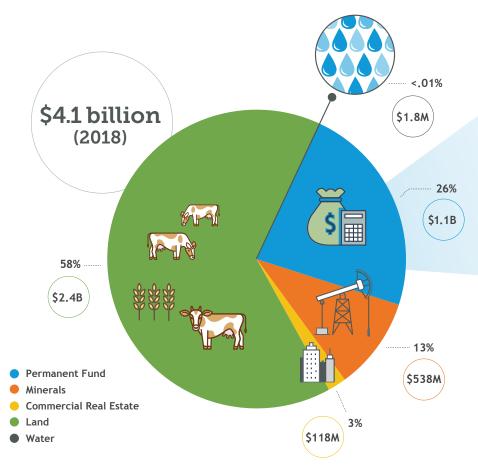
The State Land Board owns 2.8 million acres of trust land located throughout Colorado.



## The School Trust

The Colorado State Land Board manages trust assets that are valued at \$4.1 billion. We earn income annually for beneficiaries by managing the assets that comprise the trust: land, water, minerals, commercial real estate, and the Permanent Fund.





# The Trust is valued at \$4.1 billion



### TRUST:

a legal agreement in which one entity (trustor/federal government) agrees to transfer assets (land and mineral estate) to another entity (trustee/Colorado State Board of Land Commissioners) who manages the assets for the benefit of a third party (beneficiary/Colorado schools).

### The Public School Permanent Fund

### The Public School Permanent Fund comprises the financial assets of the State Land Board's trust.



As of June 30, 2019, the endowment totaled \$1.15 billion. These funds are managed by the State Treasurer's Office and the Permanent Fund Investment Board (PFIB).

The corpus of the Permanent Fund is inviolable. The interest and earnings generated

from the endowment is used to support beneficiaries (K-12 public schools) annually. Every year, the balance of the State Land Board's annual revenue after BEST contributions and agency operations flows into the Permanent Fund. Excise tax from marijuana sales also flows into this endowment.

The PFIB was created in 2016 to ensure reasonable growth of the endowment. The board directs the State Treasurer on how to securely invest the money for the intergenerational benefit of Colorado's public schools.

The board members have a fiduciary duty to preserve, protect, and grow the principal of the endowment with a prudent level of risk over a long-term horizon.

The PFIB reports to the Commissioners of the State Land Board. Per Statute, the chair of the PFIB is the State Treasurer, and one member is a Commissioner from the State Land Board. The remaining three positions are filled by financial industry experts and are selected by the State Treasurer.



Gross Revenue for Trust Beneficiaries (FY18-19)						
TRUST	BENEFICIARY FY18-19 REVENUES		% OF TOTAL			
School Trust	Common Schools \$149,511,840		98.40%			
Internal Improvements Trust	Colorado Parks and Wildlife	\$1,275,990	0.84%			
CSU Trust Common Schools	Colorado State University	\$740,122	0.49%			
Public Buildings Trust	Public Buildings	\$258,710	0.17%			
CU Trust	University of Colorado	\$54,564	0.04%			
Forest	Multiple	\$44,856	0.03%			
Saline Trust	Colorado Parks and Wildlife	\$40,641	0.03%			
Penitentiary Trust	Colorado Department of Corrections	\$19,922	0.01%			
Hesperus Trust	Fort Lewis College	N/A	N/A			
Total Trust Revenues		\$151,946,655	100.00%			

16

#### MESSAGE FROM OUR CFO

"The data presented in this annual report have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted government accounting standards by the hardworking staff of the Colorado State Land Board and the Office of the Treasurer. This report accurately represents the activity of the trust assets during fiscal year 2019."

Nick Massie, CFO-COO, Colorado
 State Land Board

**FY18-19 ANNUAL REPORT** 



Indian paintbrush, yucca, and coreopsis wildflowers.

Annual Income Statement for All Trusts (Cash Basis)						
REVENUE	FY14-15	FY15-16	FY16-17	FY17-18	FY18-19	
Minerals						
Oil Royalties	\$79,241,180	\$42,071,794	\$44,023,788	\$56,046,618	\$86,794,449	
Gas Royalties	\$26,126,529	\$17,481,817	\$20,714,628	\$25,154,539	\$26,288,944	
Oil and Gas Rentals	\$1,970,488	\$1,616,604	\$1,185,520	\$1,296,410	\$1,246,924	
Solids Royalties and Rentals (coal, limestone, sand, gravel, water)	\$9,112,913	\$4,536,874	\$8,942,276	\$5,689,805	\$7,589,570	
Bonus	\$50,700,406	\$42,675,252	\$20,292,014	\$15,343,624	\$3,246,400	
Total Mineral Revenue	\$167,151,516	\$108,382,341	\$95,158,225	\$103,530,996	\$125,166,287	
Surface						
Agricultural Rental	\$3,657,610	\$3,876,351	\$3,908,112	\$3,866,369	\$3,370,571	
Grazing Rental	\$6,570,484	\$7,850,888	\$8,348,545	\$8,826,661	\$8,885,800	
Recreation	\$1,330,075	\$1,649,409	\$1,717,003	\$1,951,707	\$1,973,781	
Rights-of-Way	\$1,802,261	\$2,348,797	\$1,301,113	\$2,833,525	\$1,535,169	
Other#	\$7,045,545	\$8,706,926	\$3,665,988	\$3,634,759	\$5,558,956	
Total Surface Revenue	\$20,405,974	\$24,432,371	\$18,940,761	\$21,113,021	\$21,324,277	
Commercial						
Buildings (Net)	\$2,099,478	\$2,372,291	\$2,962,950	\$3,930,976	\$2,243,223	
Ground Lease	\$745,110	\$897,290	\$1,022,149	\$1,095,940	\$1,140,622	
Tower Sites (cell, etc.)	\$302,614	\$390,892	\$361,809	\$359,828	\$414,722	
Renewable Energy	\$650,134	\$801,217	\$956,440	\$1,791,986	\$1,657,523	
Total Commercial Revenue	\$3,797,336	\$4,461,690	\$5,303,349	\$7,178,730	\$5,456,091	
Total Trust Gross Revenue	\$191,354,826	\$137,276,402	\$119,402,334	\$131,822,748	\$151,946,655	
Non-Trust Fee Revenue	\$100,145	\$117,811	\$102,324	\$140,435	\$130,759	
Total Agency Revenue	\$191,454,971	\$137,394,213	\$119,504,658	\$131,963,183	\$152,077,414	
Operating Expenses	\$6,449,210	\$6,654,083	\$6,394,613	\$6,971,524	\$7,589,975	
Net Operating Income	\$185,005,762	\$130,740,130	\$113,110,046	\$124,991,659	\$144,487,439	
Permanent Fund Interest*	\$22,448,806	\$22,486,730	\$21,260,018	\$25,536,748	\$29,597,290	
Total Revenue^	\$207,454,568	\$153,226,860	\$134,370,064	\$150,528,407	\$174,084,729	
5-Year Cumulative					\$819,664,627	

^ Reflects prior period income adjustments. Total revenue = net operating income + Permanent Fund interest.

\* This trust asset is managed by the State Treasurer.

# Other = fees and penalties; interest from account funds; expired land disposal income; and income from CRP, ecosystem services, homesites, subleasing, surface asssignments, surface use agreements, and temporary access permits.

View of the Sand Dunes from Zapata Falls



Stay in touch! 303.866.3454 | colorado.gov/statelandboard | 1127 Sherman Street, Suite 300, Denver, CO 80203



The Colorado State Land Board staff and Commissioners appreciate your partnership and welcome your continued feedback. Visit us at one of our seven offices throughout the state. Or join us in person or virtually at one of our monthly board meetings. Our meetings are live-streamed, and we hold our meetings in alternating locations throughout the state to make it easier for citizens from all areas of Colorado to attend. Learn more @ colorado.gov/statelandboard/public-meetings

