



# Summary of Action Alternatives

Action Alternatives	Alternative 1 (Resource-Based Exclusions Only)	Alternative 2 (Resource-Based Exclusions and >10% Slope)	Alternative 3 (Transmission Proximity)	Alternative 4 (Previously Disturbed Lands)	Alternative 5 (Previously Disturbed Lands and Transmission Proximity)
What lands are open to application for solar energy development?	Solar application areas are all lands in 11-state planning area except for the excluded areas described below.	Solar application areas are lands in 11-state planning area except for the excluded areas described below.	Solar application areas are lands within 10 miles of existing and/or planned transmission lines >100 kV except for the excluded areas described below.	Solar application areas are previously disturbed (which have diminished resource integrity) except for the excluded areas described below.	Solar application areas are previously disturbed lands (which have diminished integrity) within 10 miles of existing and/or planned transmission lines >100 kV except for the excluded areas described below.
What lands are excluded from solar energy development?	No slope-based exclusion	<b>10% Slope Exclusion</b> applies to Alternatives 2-5 as a general resource protection measure.			
	<b>Resource-Based Exclusion Criteria</b> are applied to all Action Alternatives. For example, exclusion criteria would prohibit solar energy development in all designated and proposed critical habitat areas for species protected under the ESA or in BLM National Conservation Lands.				
What about remaining lands that are not solar application areas or excluded under resource-based exclusion criteria or the slope restriction?	Not applicable (no remaining lands)	Not applicable (no remaining lands)	No development outside of these areas. Remaining areas are excluded.		
Do design features apply to the solar application areas?	<b>Design Features are applied to all Action Alternatives.</b> Design features are project requirements incorporated into the alternatives to avoid, minimize, and/or compensate for adverse impacts. For example, an ecological design feature could require turning off all unnecessary lighting at night to limit attracting wildlife, particularly migratory birds.				

The 11-state planning area consists of Arizona, California (excluding the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Planning area), Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.



# Alternative Land Use Allocations

Planning Area State	BLM Planning Area	No Action Alternative			Alternative 1		Alternative 2		Alternative 3			Alternative 4			Alternative 5		
		Priority Areas	Lands Available for Application (variance areas in six state area)	Exclusion Areas	Lands Available for Application	Resource-Based Exclusion Areas	Lands Available for Application	Resource-Based Exclusion Areas	Lands Available for Application	Resource-Based Exclusion Areas	Additional Areas Not Meeting Transmission Proximity Criteria	Lands Available for Application	Resource-Based Exclusion Areas	Additional Areas Not Meeting Disturbed Lands Criteria	Lands Available for Application	Resource-Based Exclusion Areas	Additional areas Not Meeting Transmission Proximity or Disturbed Lands Criteria
Arizona	12,109,337	198,948	2,861,429	9,048,960	4,886,293	7,223,044	3,285,400	8,823,937	2,292,321	8,861,753	955,263	887,183	8,823,937	2,398,218	725,628	8,861,753	2,521,955
California	4,150,345	0	117,933	4,032,412	1,145,205	3,005,140	220,088	3,930,257	157,698	3,932,003	60,664	116,417	3,930,257	103,671	89,258	3,932,003	129,084
Colorado	8,354,306	22,038	135,548	8,196,717	2,281,931	6,072,374	813,551	7,540,775	548,225	7,561,299	244,782	329,854	7,540,755	483,697	235,270	7,561,299	557,738
Idaho	11,774,992	0	7,055,043	4,719,949	2,650,929	9,124,063	1,835,601	9,939,392	1,473,202	10,005,023	296,767	942,187	9,939,392	893,414	866,830	10,005,023	903,139
Montana	8,043,025	0	4,011,886	4,031,139	1,229,774	6,813,252	715,863	7,327,163	209,796	7,328,457	504,772	513,232	7,327,163	202,631	149,389	7,328,457	565,179
Nevada	47,272,125	61,834	6,863,590	40,346,702	18,332,220	28,939,905	12,371,628	34,900,497	6,988,748	35,096,891	5,186,487	2,424,286	34,900,497	9,947,342	1,587,446	35,096,891	10,587,789
New Mexico	13,493,392	29,716	3,915,370	9,548,306	6,301,088	7,192,304	5,000,154	8,493,238	2,987,559	8,525,548	1,980,285	1,765,014	8,493,238	3,235,140	1,301,315	8,525,548	3,666,529
Oregon	15,718,197	0	10,965,383	4,752,813	2,553,861	13,164,335	1,125,451	14,592,746	714,957	14,611,765	391,475	408,071	14,592,746	717,380	308,340	14,611,765	798,093
Utah	22,767,896	17,659	1,815,742	20,934,494	9,883,743	12,884,153	6,562,857	16,205,038	3,768,382	16,273,746	2,725,767	1,938,117	16,205,038	4,624,740	1,570,779	16,273,746	4,923,370
Washington	437,237	0	412,062	25,175	355,229	82,008	125,135	312,103	106,458	312,103	18,676	94,975	312,103	30,159	81,211	312,103	43,923
Wyoming	18,047,498	0	9,139,769	8,907,717	5,417,541	12,629,957	4,124,996	13,922,502	2,980,130	13,971,708	1,095,661	1,779,148	13,922,502	2,345,848	1,444,249	13,971,708	2,631,541
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>162,168,351</b>	<b>330,195</b>	<b>47,293,756</b>	<b>114,544,384</b>	<b>55,037,816</b>	<b>107,130,534</b>	<b>36,180,723</b>	<b>125,987,628</b>	<b>22,227,475</b>	<b>126,480,296</b>	<b>13,460,580</b>	<b>11,198,484</b>	<b>125,987,629</b>	<b>24,982,238</b>	<b>8,359,715</b>	<b>126,480,295</b>	<b>27,328,341</b>



# BLM's Preferred Alternative – Alternative 3, Close to Transmission



Transmission line on public lands in California, source: BLM

- Guides applications to lands with lower resource conflicts that are also closer to existing and potential transmission
- Seeks to avoid and minimize land disturbance and reduce habitat fragmentation, resource degradation, and environmental and cultural resource impacts
- Provides broad land area to support siting for 20-year development scenario
- Supports national renewable energy goals
- **Final Plan can incorporate aspects within the range of all alternatives**

