

COLORADO State Land Board

Department of Natural Resources

The **Colorado State Board of Land Commissioners** (also known as the State Land Board) manages lands which were granted to Colorado at statehood for the purpose of generating revenue for public education and some of the state's institutions. Currently, the State Land Board manages about three million of surface acres and four million acres of mineral estate, and is the second largest landholder in Colorado behind the federal government. Revenue is generated through leasing surface lands for uses such as agricultural, recreation, rights-of-way, renewable energy, and leasing our mineral estate for oil, natural gas, coal and other solid mineral extraction uses.

While approximately 95% of the State Land Board's assets are part of the state **School Trust**, the remaining lands are distributed across **seven other trusts**: the Public Buildings Trust; the Penitentiary Trust; the Land for University and the Land for Agricultural University Trusts (University of Colorado and Colorado State University, respectively); the Hesperus Trust, also known as the Fort Lewis Grant; and the Internal Improvements and Salt Springs (Saline) Trusts, which benefit the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife.

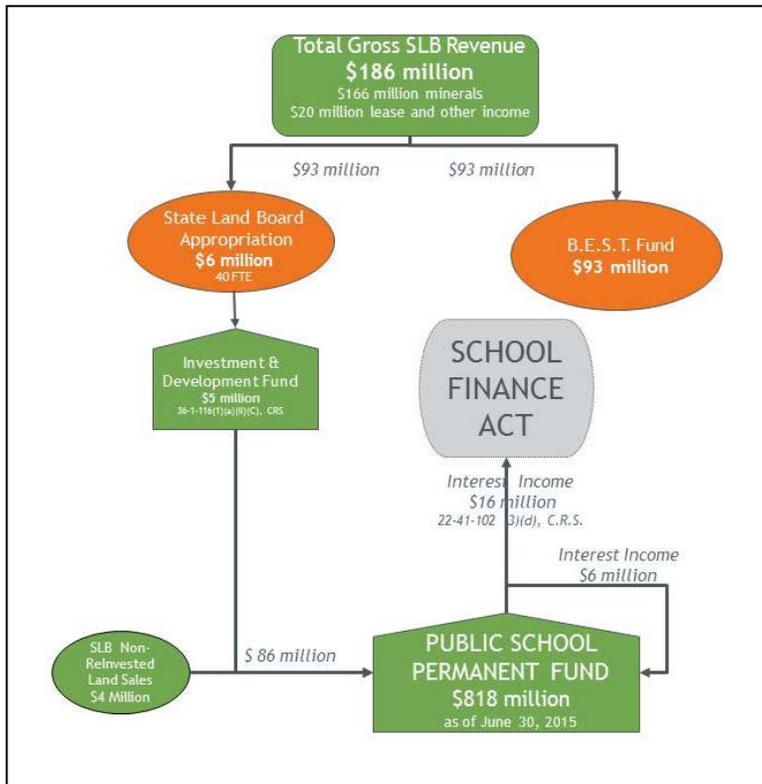
In Fiscal Year 2014-15, trust assets generated a record **\$186 million in revenues**. This compares to revenues of \$66 million in Fiscal Year 2009-10. These staggering revenue increases have largely been due to increased activity in minerals development.

Trust lands are managed by our staff in cooperation with our lessees and the State Land Board works very closely with other state and federal agencies regarding natural resources and land management issues. Although an entity of the state of Colorado, the **State Land Board is required to follow local land use laws and regulations in managing our lands.**

The State Board of Land Commissioners is a **five person citizen group representing education, agriculture, local government and natural resources, plus one citizen-at-large commissioner**. Appointed by the Governor and approved by the Colorado Senate, board members serve four year terms, with no more than three members from one political party.

For more information about the State Land Board, please visit our website at www.colorado.gov/trustlands.

Fiscal Year 2014-15 Revenues



Through managing trust lands, the State Land Board generates revenue to support our beneficiaries, primarily the School Trust for K-12 Public Education.

The initial \$11 million of trust lands revenues support the operations and investments of the State Land Board. The agency's operating budget comes directly from revenues earned from the lands and not from taxpayer dollars. The Investment and Development Fund reinvests revenue back into assets and opportunities for the trusts.

Remaining funds are invested into the Public School Permanent Fund, the School Finance Act, and the BEST (Building Excellent Schools Today) Capital Construction Program.

While the majority of revenues are from oil and gas royalties, additional revenue is generated from agricultural and grazing rents, rights-of-way, and commercial real estate. The State Land Board is also pursuing additional revenue in ecosystem services, water, recreation, renewable energy and solid minerals.



Because of our responsibilities to future generations, stewardship is a critical component of our land management mission. The State Land Board has a dual mission to generate revenue and to care for our lands, achieved through responsible and sustainable land management practices. While properties held by the State Land Board are state lands, they are managed to generate revenue for beneficiaries and are generally not open to public access except where recreational leases for public use exist.