



Annual Meeting 2025: Public Lands Workshop

The Hythe Vail, Colorado

September 10, 2025

What: A comprehensive public lands workshop as part of the Annual Meeting. The goal is to roll up our sleeves and figure out some practical solutions while getting committee members to work together in person to improve committee interaction. We will welcome Jacob Tyner, Deputy Solicitor, Energy and Mineral Resources to participate in our discussions. *Chatham House Rules apply.*

When: September 10th from 1:00 – 4:30

Where: Western Energy Alliance's Annual Meeting at The Hythe Vail. [Registration for the Annual Meeting](#) is required, which includes the working group sessions on the 10th, dinner and speaker that evening, and the full program on the 11th. There is no partial registration option for just the Wednesday workshop.

Workshop Topics:

Session 1 - 1:00-2:00 Fixing Bureaucracy and Permitting Bottlenecks Through Process Solutions and Strategic Use of Staffing: Stronger Interior. Smarter Policy. Stronger Returns.

To unleash American energy, operators need a reliable, consistent, and efficient BLM process for permitting. Recent staff reductions and retirements, combined with lingering systemic process deficiencies, have affected the ability of field offices to timely to conduct environmental analysis under NEPA, and approve permits, rights-of-way, sundries, assignments of record, title and operating rights, communitization agreements, unit agreements, and make paying well determinations. This discussion will focus on developing proposals for BLM to streamline permitting and approvals through innovative approaches including ensuring timely permit completeness, concurrent third-party agency consultations, improvements in information technology, and remote processing.

Discussion leads:

Joe Icenogle, Wave Petroleum Operating, LLC

Spencer Kimball, FourPoint Energy, LLC

Beth Ryan, ConocoPhillips

Session 2 - 2:15-3:00 Building Collaboration with BLM and BIA to Build Stronger Balance Sheets: Cutting the Red Tape to Grow the Bottom Line

In today's complex energy and natural resources landscape, efficiently navigating the nuances of Native American Tribal business relationships and the increasingly backlogged regulatory processes of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) can be the difference between stalled projects and sustained profitability. This session will explore practical strategies for fostering productive

working relationships with Tribes and the federal agencies to reduce permitting delays and unlock efficient development of Tribal assets. Through real-world examples and actionable guidance, our panel will highlight how early engagement, best management practices, and collaborative problem solving with Tribes, BIA and BLM can help companies cut through bureaucratic bottlenecks. Attendees will leave with a roadmap to reduce regulatory risk and ultimately strengthen your company's balance sheet for its Tribal assets.

Discussion leads:

Alex Campbell, Enduring Resources, LLC

Kristen Lingley, KODA Resources

Tracy Opp, EOG Resources

Bret Sumner, Beatty & Wozniak

**Session 3 - 3:15-4:30 Public and Private Partnerships: Visible Investments
Building Credibility in Communities**

Lori McCullough from The Great Outdoors Fund and Kimberly Mendoza-Cooke from Occidental Petroleum will share how their strategic public-private partnership makes sustainable community investments while enhancing credibility for energy companies operating on public lands. This session will showcase examples of successful collaborations that balance environmental stewardship, economic growth, and community engagement. Attendees will explore innovative approaches to align corporate objectives with community needs, fostering trust and delivering measurable outcomes that strengthen local relationships and advance corporate social responsibility.