Overview

For state legislators, the goal of conserving 30% of land and water by 2030 offers the opportunity to protect critical wildlife habitat, increase outdoor access for underrepresented communities, boost local economies, and prevent continued ecosystem degradation and loss. Bookending the release of the DOI’s America the Beautiful Report, which outlines early recommendations for achieving 30x30, a number of state and local governments have introduced legislation in support of this goal. As federal momentum continues to build, states can play a key role in protecting lands and waters that support ecosystem, economic, and community health.

Legislation

- **Illinois HB 3928 (2021)** - Would create the Illinois Thirty-By-Thirty Conservation Task Force, which would make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding conservation of Illinois land and implementation of the 30x30 goal.

- **Michigan SR 0072 / HR 0025 (2021)** - Would urge the Governor to establish a statewide 30x30 goal and to update the state land management plan accordingly.

- **Hawaii HB 1019 (2021)** - Establishes a fund to help implement Hawaii’s 30x30 marine management goals.

- **Nevada AJR 3 (2021)** - Expresses support for various actions related to implementing 30x30 in Nevada.

KEY POINTS

- **By the numbers**: 12% of U.S. lands and 26% of the ocean is currently protected; 86% of global biodiversity is contained in Indigenous lands/protected areas.

- **A 2021 poll** of registered voters found 4 out of 5 in support of the plan.

- **30x30 was included as a key goal** in one of the current administration’s first Executive Orders.

- **A 2020 report** from the Campaign for Nature found the economic benefits of protecting 30% of the planet’s land and ocean outweigh the costs at least 5-to-1. (Campaign for Nature)

Other Resources

- [NCEL 30x30 Blog](#) highlighting state action.

- [Fact sheet](#) about 30x30 and conserving oceans by the American Nature Campaign.

- Defenders of Wildlife’s [30x30 Guidelines for Decision Makers](#)

- [Tribal Leader Statement](#) on 30x30.

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