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IT'S ALL CONNECTED

Inspiring ↔ Informative ↔ Actionable
presented by



Journey Into Forgotten Lands

We all need someone to advocate for us from time to time, especially when it comes to those who have no way to speak for themselves. Just like the Lorax who speaks for the trees, I'd like to introduce you to a man on a mission to help us discover some of our most unused and unprotected public lands.

You've heard of the National Park Service and the US Forest Service which manages all of our national forests. But did you know that there is another land management agency that manages more public land than either the National Parks or National Forests? This overlooked agency is the Bureau of Land Management, or BLM.

Josh Jackson is enthusiastic about BLM lands and wants people to see them. These places are not in danger of becoming overcrowded. But they may, in fact, become the first public lands to be sold or to permit destructive mining operations. The fact is, BLM suffers from severe underfunding, so enticing more visitors is actually a positive outcome from a legislative perspective...more visitors often creates more funding.



Courtesy of Josh Jackson

Through his [Forgotten Lands Project](#), Josh uses storytelling and photography to beautifully introduce folks to these overlooked landscapes. As a writer and conservationist, his advocacy work has been featured by the Los Angeles Times and SFGate. Josh is also the author of [The Enduring Wild: A Journey into California's Public Lands](#), coming out this month.

Follow Josh Jackson on his [book tour and speaking events](#), and if you are in the Los Angeles area, please join me this weekend at the [Trails Forever](#) event featuring

Josh Jackson as the guest speaker.

For those of you who cannot find him in person, please listen to our [Nature's Archive episode #88](#) from last year, when he and Michael Hawk discussed what turned Josh onto these fascinating places. In the podcast, Josh provides an overview of BLM lands, what they're like, the amazing sites and plants and animals you may see, and how you can enjoy them too. Josh's new book will fill a much needed void in outdoor literature...since there are numerous options that cover National Parks, state parks, and national forests, but very little about BLM lands. Thank you, Josh!

The Great Outdoors is For Everyone!

Summer is here and visions of splashing in the water, picnics, taking hikes, beachcombing, ice cream cones, and lazy days outside fill our minds. The sad reality though is that those activities rarely come to pass as we often fall victim to the ever-present cell phone, computer, and TV screens right there at our fingertips.



More and [more evidence](#) points to the fact that we all need nature and time outdoors. **Nature deficit disorder** refers to the lack of time outdoors which is taking a toll on our health, both physically and emotionally. Getting outside is especially important for young people and kids who need to play and connect with nature.

Give [Green Hour](#) a try, because expert findings suggest kids need about one hour of unstructured outdoor playtime each day. Follow any or all of the links below for more outdoor activities and information about enjoying the great outdoors:

- Audubon society tips for [introducing kids to birding](#)
- ideas for [beginning nature journaling](#) good for kids and adults alike
- Zooniverse is an online community science platform offering [remote learning resources](#) curated for 5-12 year old and teens
- Reef Check has [Scuba certification scholarships](#) for underprivileged youth
- Respect, Connect, Protect with "[Spokespebble](#)" who delivers a message about recreating outdoors. [Watch and share.](#)
- Or, take Josh Jackson's lead and get out camping with your family on some of our beautiful public lands. Just please remember to [Leave No Trace.](#)

Quick Connections

Books, websites, documentaries, podcasts, events, quotes, and more



Getting bugged trying to figure what type of insect you observed? Download this [free insect category guide](#) from Madison Audubon Society.



Quote we're pondering

"Our ancestors viewed the Earth as rich and bountiful, which it is. Many people in the past also saw nature as inexhaustibly sustainable, which we know is the case only if we care for it." - **Dalai Lama**



Kids' Corner

Download these [free nature-themed activity pages](#) and get a start on your summer fun.



Get a handle on those pesky mosquitos by joining the [mosquito bucket challenge](#) with Homegrown National Park.

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Thank you,

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