

For America's Heritage

THE PUBLIC LANDS *Monitor*

Address: P.O. Box 7226 Arlington, VA 22207

Website: www.publicland.org

Phone: 971-832-3945

Email: sssstrl@comcast.net

Editors:

Glen Collins

Patricia Harvey

VOLUME XXVI, No. 3

FALL QUARTER 2013

Board of Directors:

President Ed Shepard

Vice Pres. Ed Spang

VP- DC Affairs Elena Daly

(appointed)

VP-Ops. Beau McClure

Secretary Glen Collins

Treasurer Dwight Hempel

Past Pres. George Lea

Henri Bisson

Term members:

Mat Millenbach

Tom Allen

Dean Bibles

Mike Ferguson

State Representatives:

AK Don Meares

Sharon Wilson

AZ Elaine Zielinski

Beau McClure

CA John Fields

Vacant

CO Eric Janes

David Stout

ID Deane Zeller

Anna Steele

MT Kemp Conn

Dave Mari

NV Ev (Butch) Hayes

Ed Tilzey

NM Curt Jones

Sally Wisely

OR Dick Prather

Richard Whitley

UT Bill Lamb

Roland Robison

WA Geoff Middaugh

Van Manning

WY John Kwiatkowski

Bill LeBaron

E. States Bob Anderson

Elena Daly

Midwest Sue Richardson

Vacant

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PLF'S ANNUAL MEETING Medford, Oregon, September 11 - 13, 2013

TOUR & BARBEQUE - Wednesday

The Annual Meeting began with a tour of the Pilot Joe Ecological Forestry Project on O&C lands west of Medford. The tour was coordinated with staff from the Ashland Resource Area of the BLM's Medford District. The Pilot Joe Project was one of three initial demonstration projects designated by Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar to demonstrate the application of the Dry Forest Restoration principles as developed by Drs. Jerry F. Franklin (University of Washington) and K. Norman Johnson (Oregon State University).

The field tour stopped at several locations throughout the Pilot Joe Project where the group could observe the implemented project work carried out under the Pilot Joe Project, including harvested timber sale units and areas of hazardous fuels reduction. The project utilized a variable density thinning silvicultural prescription, with an emphasis on increasing structural heterogeneity at both the landscape and stand scales, increasing resistance/resilience of forest stands and landscape to disturbance events (i.e. wildfire, drought, insects, etc.) by reducing stand densities and ladder fuels, and increasing tree species diversity post implementation.

The group had several good discussions throughout the day, on topics including: landscape design of the project, economic return and project costs, sustainability of this type of prescription, impacts to sensitive wildlife species such as the Northern Spotted Owl and planning to avoid adverse impacts, and public perception of the project. The tour ended with the PLF members meeting with a group of students from the University of Washington led by Dr. Jerry Franklin himself also touring the project area. It was a serendipitous meeting that brought two groups of people interested in public land management together: one group of mostly retired federal employees that have spent their whole careers dedicated to public land

(Continued on Page 3.)

Retiring?

Join PLF & keep in touch
with BLM and friends.

FIRST YEAR IS FREE!
Subsequent years only \$35

Join NOW by sending name, mailing address, email address and phone number to Public Lands Foundation, P.O. Box 7226, Arlington, VA 22207.

The Public Lands Foundation advocates and works for the retention of America's Public Lands in public hands, professionally and sustainably managed for responsible common use and enjoyment.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



Ed Shepard

Fall is here; and as I try to think of what to write in this quarter's column, I find myself in disbelief that three quarters of 2013 are already behind us. Can it possibly be? Well, with the talk of continuing resolutions and government shutdowns, it must be Fall! As tempting as that subject is, I will resist the temptation to pontificate on it and write on other subjects.

PLF had a very successful annual meeting in Medford, Oregon, September 11-13. Over 70 people attended, and it was a great opportunity to see former coworkers and bosses that I had not seen in years, some in over 20 years. It made me appreciate that one of the reasons to be active in the PLF is to stay connected with old friends. It was also an opportunity to recognize and present awards to some of our best. Congratulations to Bob Conquergood, recipient of the Volunteer of the Year Award and to Elaine Zielinski and Al Wright, who were presented with Lifetime Service Awards. The Board of Directors meeting was fruitful. At the Board meeting we had the opportunity to discuss the report prepared for the "Nation Possessed" conference and to recognize Elaine Zielinski, Mike Ferguson, Beau McClure, and Lee Barkow for their hours of work preparing the report. We also voted to create a new scholarship program, called the "George Lea Founder Scholarship" to be awarded to a student in a field related to natural resources, and decided to reorganize PLF's governance structure. More on the annual meeting can be found in this edition of *The Monitor*.

The theme of the annual meeting this year was the future of the O&C. The topic was very relevant and current. As we were attending a field trip to look at

some of the pilot forestry projects directed by former Secretary Salazar and discussing the topic in the plenary session, the House of Representatives was preparing to debate and vote on H.R. 1526, the Healthy Forests for Healthy Communities Act. In fact, this bill passed the House of Representatives on September 20, 2013. This bill proposes major nationwide changes on how the Forest Service manages their lands and is very controversial from that aspect. The bill also contains a title that would split the 2.8 million acres of O&C land, now managed by the BLM and Forest Service, based on the age of individual stands. Stands less than 125 years of age would go into a trust for intensive management to produce timber for local economies and revenues to the counties (the original purpose of the O&C Act) and stands over 125 years old would be transferred to the Forest Service to be managed for conservation oriented values, such as northern spotted owl recovery.

The genesis of this title to H. R. 1526 comes from years of frustration with the BLM's inability to provide the economic outputs envisioned by the Northwest Forest Plan. Years of litigation has hampered the BLM in fully implementing the plan. Congress replaced timber receipts with direct payments to the counties. These programs ramped down over time and have now expired. The loss of adequate "safety net" payments and very low receipts from timber sales resulted in some of the counties facing insolvency. H.R. 1526 was developed and introduced by a bipartisan group of three Oregon congressmen, led by Representative Peter DeFazio, as a solution that would provide some certainty to the timber industry and counties while, at the same time, protecting other forest values.

Obviously, the PLF has some concerns with this bill in the form it passed the House. Most simply put, it goes against our mission to maintain public lands in the

(Continued on Page 3.)

PUBLIC LANDS FOUNDATION CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

American Forest & Paper Association
American Hiking Society
Bureau of Land Management (liaison member)
Independent Petroleum Assn. of Mountain States
Izaak Walton League of America
National Association of Counties

National Environmental Education Foundation
National Rifle Association
National Wildlife Federation
Northwest Mining Association
Public Lands Council
Western States Tourism Policy Council
Wilderness Society

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

(Continued from Page 2.)

public's hands under professional management. Beyond that, in my humble opinion, it just will not work from a practical or ecological point of view. The O&C lands are already fragmented in a checkerboard from the railroad land grants. Further subdividing the land into thousands of 5- to 200-acre tracts adds to inefficiency, complexity of management, and confusion to the public. Ecologically, managing such small tracts of lands, based solely on age class, for opposing outputs (timber vs. conservation), will not provide the ecosystem values envisioned by the bill, especially when northern spotted owls are presumed to require large blocks of older forests. The solution lies with managing for all of these values, simultaneously, across the O&C landscape as a whole; not fragmenting the land further and placing it under two different and new managers. The lands should be left in the capable hands of the agency that has developed the expertise to manage this complicated landscape over the past 76 years.

Although I do not believe that the proposed bill is the right answer, I do share some of the frustration people have over the management of these lands. The BLM has tried for decades to find a solution through the Resource Management Plan process and has not been able to come to an acceptable, implementable plan. Oregon/Washington BLM is making another go at it and I wish them luck. However, I do not believe that a new RMP will be successful unless there is more clarity to the many statutes that the BLM and the regulatory agencies are trying to implement. As much as I hate seeing sausage being made, I believe it's time for Congress to make some sausage. The House has dished up the first ingredients with H.R. 1526, and the Senate is likely to add its own ingredients. If or when the sausage ever gets into a casing and to the White House, only time will tell.

The status quo is not working and the health of the forest and the communities is being affected by inaction. Congress must act on something and the PLF must weigh in on how we feel these lands should be managed. We have a good start based on the input made by PLF members at the annual meeting and the on-going work of the Oregon and Washington representatives. Today this title is limited to western Oregon, but the rest of the country is watching and similar legislation is, or will be proposed for other areas of public lands.

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

(Continued from Page 1.)

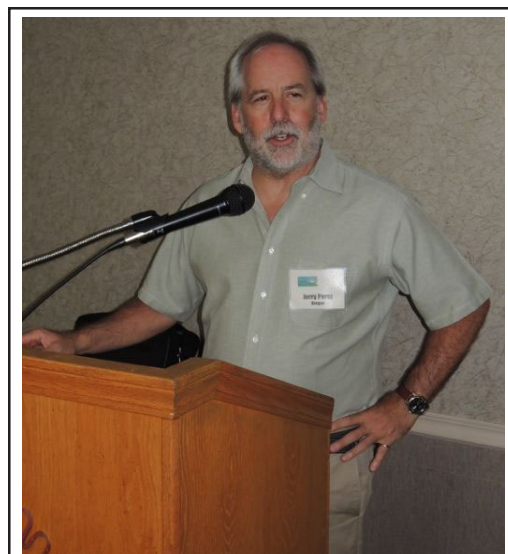
management, and another group of enthusiastic young students embarking on the initial stages of their careers. It was a unique moment of reflection for both groups and a great conclusion to the field tour.

The day's events ended with the PLF's annual barbeque and social hour on the lawn behind the hotel. A group photo follows on Page 4.

GENERAL MEETING - Thursday

PLF President Ed Shepard welcomed the PLF members and guests to the Annual Meeting, and thanked the BLM Medford District staff and members of the Oregon/Washington PLF Chapter for their good work in planning and making arrangements for this meeting at Medford. **The theme of the meeting was "The Future of the O&C Forests."**

BLM Oregon/Washington State Director Jerome (Jerry) Perez welcomed the PLF to Oregon. There is a lot of interest and passion in Oregon over the O&C lands. BLM is the appropriate manager of the O&C lands. He and the BLM staff are working on a planning effort for these lands that will bring the good work that has been done in the past together with the current needs and issues to get a new plan for these O&C lands to the Secretary of the Interior by the summer of 2015.



Jerry Perez

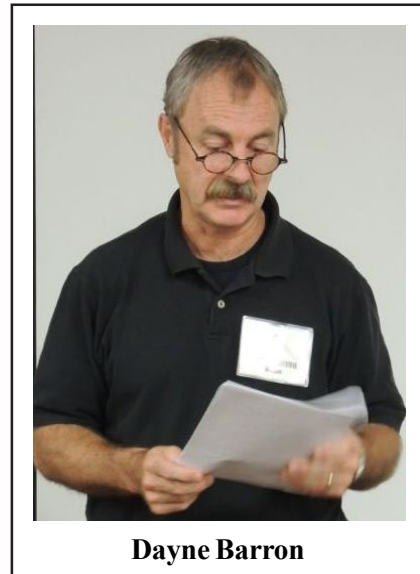
(Continued on Page 4.)

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

(Continued from Page 3.)

Dayne Barron, BLM Medford District Manager, explained that the current issue is how these O&C public lands should be managed, and who should manage them. These issues should have been settled years ago. The latest proposal is that half of the O&C lands would be managed by a Trust for timber production with income going to County governments, and the other half would be managed by the Forest Service for conservation purposes. He reviewed the history of the management of the O&C lands by the BLM. Timber harvest has been significantly reduced in recent years because of the spotted owl and other environmental issues. Revenues to the O&C Counties have therefore declined significantly.

(Continued on Page 5.)



Dayne Barron



PLF'S 2013 ANNUAL MEETING GROUP PHOTO

First Row (kneeling, L to R): Wayne Winterton, Ed Shepard, Terry Shepard (standing), Patty Conn, Michele Jones, Bob Conquergood, Ed Spang, Gregory Foster, & Dick Prather.

Second Row (L to R): Kathy Prather, Kathy Eaton, Catherine Humphrey, Kemp Conn, Van Manning, Dave Jones, George Lea, Elaine Brong, Jo Berreth, Sylvia Gerber Bruce, E. Lynn Burkett, & Jon Raby.

Third Row (L to R): Bill LeBarron, Deanna LeBarron, Sharon Wilson, Bill McLaughlin, Roland Robison, Paul Kangas, Janice Kwiatkowski, Elaine Zielinski, Andrea Foster, Glen Collins, Rich Whitley, Dwight Fielder, & Stu Carlson.

Last Row (L to R): Henri Bisson, Gene Day, Mel Chase, Robert Ohrn, Hank Nolden, John Kwiatkowski, Geoff Middaugh, Mike Ferguson, Bill Zielinski, Jerry Perez, Dean Bibbes, Beau McClure, Eric Janes, & Betty Janes."

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

(Continued from Page 4.)

Phil Hall, a retired BLMer, presented a history of the O&C lands. The O&C land grant was one of 27 similar land grants made by Congress during the post-Civil War era to assist the development of railroads and wagon roads and settlement of the West. The O&C grant consisted of every other section in a 40-mile wide swath (20 miles on each side of the railroad) stretching from Portland south to the California border. The grant totaled about 2.5 million acres. The grant required the O&C Railroad Company to construct the railroad and sell the lands to bona fide settlers to encourage settlement. The Railroad Company built the railroad, but did not sell the lands as required by the law, so the Federal government, after a lengthy court battle, revested (took back) the lands in 1917.

In 1937, the Congress passed the Oregon and California and Coos Bay Wagon Grant Lands Act which provided that the O&C lands "Shall be managed... for permanent forest production, and the timber thereon shall be sold, cut and removed in conformity with the principle of sustained yield for the purpose of providing a permanent source of timber supply, protecting watersheds, regulating stream flow, and contributing to the economic stability of the local communities and industries, and providing recreational facilities." The 1937 O&C Act also provided that 50% of the gross timber harvest revenues be paid to the O&C counties.



Phil Hall, retired BLM

An "O&C Revested Lands Administration" was created in the Department of the Interior in 1937 to manage these revested O&C Lands in Oregon. In 1946, the O&C Revested Lands Administration, the General Land Office, and the U.S. Grazing Service were merged

to form the Bureau of Land Management, the agency which still manages these O&C lands.

A Resources Panel, consisting of Dr. Gordie Reeves from the Pacific Northwest Research Station; Dr. Tom Atzet, a retired Forest Service employee; and Jon Raby, BLM Butte Falls Field Manager, briefed the audience on the water conservation strategies, the forest and wildlife resources, and the impacts that wildfire has on these western Oregon forest lands. Wildfires and floods play vital roles in maintaining the ecosystems. Important wildlife species in the O&C forests include black-tailed deer, Roosevelt elk, northern spotted owl and 381 special status species. The spotted owl and other endangered species have major impacts on how the lands can be utilized and managed. The economic importance of deer and elk hunting to the local economy was also discussed.



Dr. Gordie Reeves, Pacific Northwest Research Station



Dr. Tom Atzet, Retired U.S. Forest Service

(Continued on Page 6.)

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

(Continued from Page 5.)



Jon Raby, BLM Butte Falls
Field Manager

A Social Economic Panel consisting of Nick Smith, Executive Director of “Healthy Forests, Healthy Communities;” Jack Shipley, member of the “Applegate Partnership;” Tom Partin of the “American Forest Resource Council;” and Tim Vredenburg representing the Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe, described and discussed the impacts that reduced timber harvest is having on local communities in western Oregon. Healthy forests provide the jobs which sustain healthy communities. The residents of Western Oregon want solutions to the economic problems created by the spotted owl. Sawmills are closing. Jobs are lost. Schools are closing. Families are not making enough money to support themselves. People are moving from communities like Medford to Portland to find work. Western Oregon is moving from a natural resource economy to a service economy. The social fabric of the communities is falling apart. Jobs are decreasing in the public sector as well as in the private sector. Counties have cut back on public services including law enforcement and fire protection.

Prosperity is not reaching rural Oregon. The forests are the lifeblood of the local communities, and Western Oregon is at risk. The condition of the federal forests continues to decline. More money is spent on fighting fires than treating the forest.

The advocacy efforts of the American Forest Resource Council include working for the passage of new legislation (H.R. 1526) that recouples forest man-

agement to county payments, defending against extremist litigation, and re-creating the Forest Service and the BLM into land management organizations, not wildfire fighting organizations.

County governments need to make sure they are assessing a fair share of private property tax receipts, as well as advocating for increased revenues from federal timber sales. The Native American community faces the same economic hardships, and is also concerned about preserving the cultural values of the forest lands—their ancestral homelands.



Nick Smith



Jack Shipley



Tom Partin



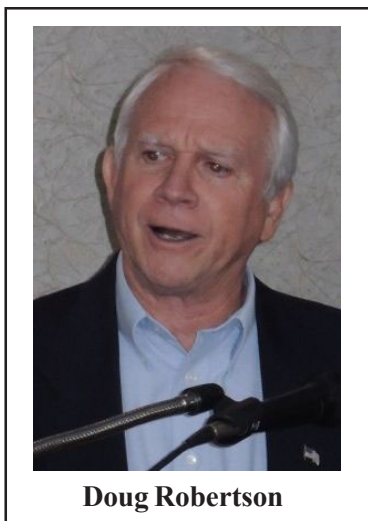
Tim Vredenburg

(Continued on Page 7.)

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

(Continued from Page 6.)

Luncheon Speaker Doug Robertson, Douglas County Commissioner and President, Association of O&C Counties, delivered a message similar to the previous panel. Timber sale volumes are now at about 10% of what they were 20 years ago. There has been a loss of 128,000 jobs in Western Oregon. Timber sales are down. Wildfires are up. Counties are getting only about 40% of the income which the O&C lands used to provide. Food stamps and assisted living costs have increased dramatically. Drawing lines around areas that need protection is not working. We need to be developing new public/private partnerships for managing these O&C lands, and reform the Endangered Species Act and National Environmental Policy Act procedures for dealing with public protests. If a forest does not benefit a community, the community that lives within the forest will disappear.



Doug Robertson

Chris Cadwell, retired BLM Forest Analyst, spoke on the “Status Quo Policy—Sustained Yield Management” on Western Oregon BLM forests. He defined Sustained Yield as “the volume of timber that a forest can produce continuously at a given intensity of management.” He described many changes that have occurred since 1995 in land management planning and timber harvest on the O&C lands and the reduction in payments to the counties.. He concluded that:

- The status quo policy for Sustained Yield Management does not reflect the intent of the O&C Act.
- Simultaneous achievement of the goals of the

O&C Act, Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act is possible.

- A unique solution is needed that recognizes the unique legal, physical and biological capabilities of the O&C Forest.
- Contributing to the economic stability of local communities is achieved by forest management that creates jobs, supports the local industry infrastructure, and revenues for the counties, and
- Only Congress can assure a solution will be implemented.



Chris Cadwell

Breakout Sessions

The General Session ended with the PLF members and guests dividing into five table groups, each of which was asked to develop a list of concepts which should be included in new legislation for the O&C lands. The five groups reported discussion of the following options and concepts.

- The O&C lands must be retained in Federal ownership.
- Lands must be professionally managed by the BLM. BLM has the experience and expertise to efficiently manage these scattered checkerboard lands.
- Continue to manage the lands following the principle of sustained yield. Amend the current O&C Act to clarify how it interacts with other

(Continued on Page 8.)

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

(Continued from Page 7.)

laws such as, NEPA, ESA, Clean Water Act, etc. while still maintaining the objectives established by the O&C Act. Consider adding wildlife to the list of purposes for sustained yield management. Look at the legislative history to see the intent of the wording at that time.

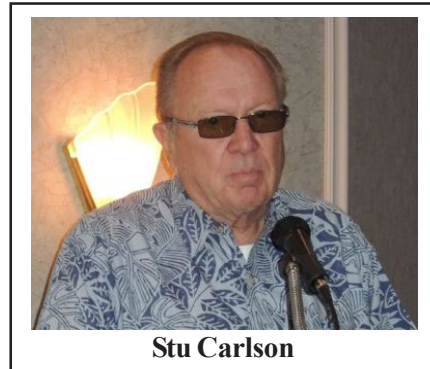
- Transfer management of the lands to the Association of O&C Counties.
- Restate the intent of sustained yield management is to help stabilize the social and economic conditions in the O&C counties by providing jobs and sharing revenues.
- Add sufficiency language to provide certainty of implementation. Example of language can be found in Homeland Security Secure Fence Act of 2006 for building the border fence and delisting of the wolf. An alternative would be to place some limits on litigation.
- Prescribe management through legislation.
- Management should be dynamic and not static.
- Re-examination of the Endangered Species Act to focus on a multi-species approach.
- Consider third party monitoring or “green certification” to ensure effectiveness of management.
- Have a referendum and let the citizens of Oregon decide how the O&C lands should be managed.
- Exchange or sell O&C lands to better meet the purpose of the Act.

This listing is just ideas and concepts from the several table groups. They were lumped together when that made sense. There was no effort to reach consensus or agreement on any of the ideas. The Oregon and Washington PLF Chapter will discuss the ideas and concepts and use some of them in preparing a formal position for approval by the Board.

AWARDS BANQUET - Thursday evening

The Awards Banquet included the showing of a documentary film on the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) program of public works on public lands during the 1930s, which had been prepared by the Oregon Public Broadcasting TV station in cooperation with the Oregon Historical Society; Mark Lawrence’s recollections of his career with the BLM; Stu Carlson recited two poems he and George E. Whalen had written - “Just

Who Do You Know?” and “My Overdue Guest,” and the presentation of the PLF’s Lifetime Service and Volunteer of the Year Awards.



Stu Carlson



Mark Lawrence

PLF Volunteer of the Year Award

Bob Conquergood was recognized by President Ed Shepard as **PLF’s Volunteer of the Year** for his good work in taking over and managing PLF’s **Remembering BLM** website.



Ed Shepard and Bob Conquergood

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

(Continued from Page 8.)

PLF Lifetime Service Awards

Elaine Y. Zielinski and **Alfred W. Wright** were honored with **PLF Lifetime Service Awards** with citations which read:

Elaine Y. Zielinski Lifetime Service Award

The Public Lands Foundation (PLF) grants Elaine Zielinski its Lifetime Service Award for excellence in public land management. The Foundation provides this award to deserving members who have perpetuated and enhanced the proud tradition of public service. Elaine, you have exemplified that tradition through a lifetime of service in managing and protecting America's National System of Public Lands.

Your education included a bachelor's degree in Mathematics from Blackburn College in Carlinville, Illinois, and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from the University of Colorado in Denver. Your Federal career experiences spanned 36 years, of which 32 years were with the Bureau of Land Management. This career all started with employment in the General Services Administration and then on to a planning and environmental coordination position in the BLM's Colorado State Office. The legacy began, and many milestones followed that recognized your performance and leadership as acknowledged by such assignments as State Director in two widely diverse locations - Oregon/Washington and Arizona. As a graduate of the Department of the Interior's Management Development Program, you served 16 years in the Senior Executive Service.

Upon retirement, you continued your support of the Nation's National System of Public Lands as a volunteer and Chair of the Public Lands Foundation's History Committee and served as General Manager of two major events commemorating the 200th anniversary of the establishment of the General Land Office and the 150th anniversary of the Homestead Act in 2012. Your vision and foresight were most significant in assuring the success of these commemoration events.

Your dedication to public service is reflected in the

two Presidential Rank Awards, the Department of the Interior's Meritorious Service Award and the numerous performance awards you received throughout your career. Through a career of tireless work and perseverance, you have contributed solidly to natural resource policy and programs and influenced the next generation of leaders.

The Public Lands Foundation is honored to recognize you with this Lifetime Service Award.



Elaine Zielinski and Ed Shepard

Alfred W. Wright Lifetime Service Award

The Public Lands Foundation grants to Al Wright its Lifetime Service Award for excellence in public land management. The Foundation provides this award to deserving members who have perpetuated and enhanced the proud tradition of public service. Al, you have exemplified that tradition through a lifetime of service in managing and protecting America's National System of Public Lands.

A native of California and a graduate from the University of Nevada, Reno, with a degree in Agriculture and a major in Renewable Natural Resource Management in 1967, you joined the Bureau of Land Management as a Natural Resource Specialist in Ely, Nevada in 1967, and retired as BLM's Associate State Director in California in 2000.

(Continued on Page 10.)

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

(Continued from Page 9.)

During the intervening 33 years, you served in a variety of BLM management positions – Area Manager in Ely, Nevada and Glenwood Springs, Colorado; Management Analyst in Washington D.C.; District Manager in Ukiah, California; and Associate State Director in Sacramento, California. Because of your diversity, knowledge and talents, you served on details such as Acting Denver Service Center Director; Acting Assistant Director in the National Headquarters Office; and Special Assistant to the BLM Director. You also served on the Board of Directors for the Tejon Ranch Foundation and as a principal on the California Biodiversity Council, in addition to numerous other special assignments.

You have been awarded eight Special Achievement and Unit Citation Awards, most prestigious of which was the Department of the Interior's Meritorious Service Award. In addition, your services outside the Bureau, while still an employee, were recognized by letters of appreciation from the Boy Scouts of America, the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, County Commissioners from Nevada and Colorado, the Trust for Public Lands, and the Commonwealth of California, to name a few. You have been effective in developing those under your supervision for completing complex assignments and for future managerial positions, as noted in several of your awards.

After 33 years of exceptional dedicated public service to the Bureau of Land Management, you dedicated the next six years as Executive Director of the California Wildlife and Conservation Board, in which you are still active. During your term as Executive Director from 2000-2006, 853,256 acres of sensitive wildlife habitat were restored and protected.

The Public Lands Foundation is honored to recognize you with this Lifetime Service Award.

Special Award to Beau McClure

A special award was given to PLF Vice President for Operations Beau McClure for his untiring work over the years in providing expertise and guidance in the conduct of PLF's business and the holding of the annual meetings, as well as many other quietly performed contributions to the organization.



Ed Shepard and Al Wright



Beau McClure and Ed Shepard

BOARD MEETING - Friday

Twenty-two Board members and officers from 12 States met for 7 hours on Friday to discuss a wide range of issues involving the PLF, and to receive reports from Officers and members responsible for various phases of PLF operations. The Board approved two changes; one to change the PLF's Board of Directors and Election of Officers, and a second to establish a Scholarship Program to aid qualified college students enrolled in natural resources curricula.

Changes in PLF's Board of Directors and Election of Officers

This year, you will be voting for more Directors-at-Large and fewer State Representatives. See your 2013 Ballot insert.

(Continued on Page 11.)

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS*(Continued from Page 10.)*

At the recent Board of Directors meeting in Medford, Oregon, the Board approved an amendment of its By-Laws to increase the number of Director-at-Large positions, reduce the number of State Representatives from two to one per state, and combine the Midwest and Eastern States Regions, which will have one Representative. This was done to provide greater flexibility in filling vacant positions with people having an interest in contributing.

The Board also approved changing its By-Laws to give Past Presidents a vote, as well as the Vice President for D.C. Affairs. Previously, these positions were non-voting members of the Board.

The new approved organization will include six officers—President, Vice President, Vice President for Operations, Vice President for D.C. Affairs, Secretary, and Treasurer; past presidents (as voting members); up to 19 Directors-at-Large, one State Representative for all 12 Western States, and one Representative representing the Midwestern States and Eastern States Regions, combined; for a total of 38 members plus past presidents (2 at this time).

With these changes, all PLF members will still vote for the State Representative in the state within which they reside, and vote for all Directors-at-Large. Write-in votes are still welcome.

If you are interested in being a Director-at-Large, please let us know under “Comments” on the Ballot and the Board will consider your request.

George Lea Founder Scholarship Fund

The PLF has established a fund for scholarships to provide financial aid to qualified college level students enrolled in a natural resources curriculum. The plan is to start by working with Boise State University, Colorado State University and Oregon State University for this first year, and to expand the program to include other universities or colleges with strong natural resource management departments in subsequent years. A committee consisting of Mike Ferguson, Eric Janes, Dwight Hempel, John Kwiatkowski, and George Lea

are working on the guidelines and procedures for the scholarship program. The scholarship fund will be named the George Lea Founder Scholarship Fund, and the PLF is seeking to raise \$5,000 in donations to get the scholarship program underway. Donations should be sent to the Public Lands Foundation, P.O. Box 7226, Arlington, VA 22207. In your transmittal, please make mention that your donation is for the George Lea Founder Scholarship Fund. Past President Henri Bisson has agreed to match the first \$1,000 that is donated to the Fund.

Next Year’s Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars now and make plans to attend PLF’s 2014 Annual Meeting which will be held in **Idaho**, probably in Boise, during the week of September 8. Idaho State Representatives Deane Zeller and Anna Steele are already working on accommodations for the meeting, and Ed Shepard will be discussing possible themes for the meeting with BLM leaders in Idaho. There will be the customary barbeque, banquet and entertainment events. Bring your spouses and enjoy seeing old friends and associates.

PLF ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

Recent advocacy activities include:

- a statement to the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board,
- publication and distribution of PLF recommendations from the GLO Symposium regarding the future of the BLM lands,
- a letter to the BLM regarding recreational shooting on public lands,
- a letter to the BLM regarding oil and gas fracking on public lands, and
- PLF joined with 89 other organizations in sending a letter to the Senate Natural Resources Committee calling for reform of forest management legislation.

Public Lands Foundation Statement before the BLM Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board, meeting on September 10, 2013 in Arlington, Virginia:

(Continued on Page 12.)

PLF ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

(Continued from Page 11.)

“Thank you for providing the opportunity to provide a statement. The Public Lands Foundation members have thousands of years of collective experience managing natural resources. No one in the Foundation receives pay for Foundation work.

We appreciate the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Advisory Board scheduling this meeting to bring focus on the National Academy of Science’s report titled *“Using Science to Improve the BLM Wild Horse and Burro Program: A Way Forward.”* The report is commonly referenced as the “NAS study.” Our comments to the Board and to the BLM today will be limited to population dynamics and fertility control.

The portion of the study’s preface statement that says the following sums up the problem. *“In light of the charge to our committee and in the course of our public engagement, it is clear that the status quo of continually removing free-ranging horses and then maintaining them in long-term holding facilities, with no foreseeable end in sight, is both economically unsustainable and discordant with public expectations. It is equally evident that the consequences of simply letting horse populations, which increase at a mean annual rate approaching 20 percent, expand to the level of “self-limitation”—bringing suffering and death due to disease, dehydration, and starvation accompanied by degradation of the land—are also unacceptable.”*

There has been selective use and misinterpretation of the relevant findings in the study. We do not believe the report says that because attempts to manage horse populations and rangeland resources result in greater population growth than under a self-limitation scheme that BLM should stop gathers and allow unfettered population growth. We request that the NAS be asked to print a clarification statement designed to bring an end to the misinterpretations of the findings related to management practices facilitating high horse population growth rates and equid populations self-limiting their growth.

The Public Lands Foundation continues to repeat its request to the Advisory Board and to the BLM that they convene a group of wild horse experienced veterinar-

ians and other appropriate scientists knowledgeable about long-term fertility control drugs. That group should be charged with making recommendations for immediate large-scale use and field study of long-term fertility control drugs along with recommendations for monitoring populations and herd behavior. Concurrently, BLM should begin the process of securing permission from the EPA to use the drugs that would be field-tested. These long-term fertility control drugs should be field tested on a large-scale basis following protocols and monitoring regimens recommended by the experts. Large-scale tests can complement ongoing pen research.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.”

Edward W. Shepard, President

Publication of “THE NATION POSSESSED - The Conflicting Claims on America’s Public Lands and the Commemoration of the 200th Anniversary of the Founding of the General Land Office.”

This is the report on the GLO Symposium, which was sponsored by the PLF and the Center of the American West, and held in Boulder, Colorado in September 2012. This report is being widely distributed to officials in the Department of the Interior, Members of Congress, State and local governments and to other organizations and entities associated with and involved in federal public lands and issues.

The report includes a section on **“Preserving the legacy of the Public Lands and meeting the needs of future generations,”** which contains seven Policy Recommendations prepared by the Public Lands Foundation, and which are intended to assure that the public lands in the National System of Public Lands remain public and continue to serve the American public for generations to come. These seven PLF recommendations are:

1. **The BLM Director and President of the Public Lands Foundation should work with the Secretary of the Interior to charter a Blue**

(Continued on Page 13.)

PLF ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

(Continued from Page 12.)

Ribbon Panel that will develop and recommend a land ethic to guide future management of the diverse public lands. The Blue Ribbon Panel, which should include federal policymakers, state and local officials, tribal leaders, youth, futurists and stakeholders, will be charged with formulating an updated land ethic for the 21st century that encourages engaged citizenship by recognizing humans' coexistence within a broad ecological community as well as a diverse global society. The land ethic recommended by the panel should guide and be incorporated into policy or appropriate legislation.

2. **The BLM and Public Lands Foundation should sponsor a biennial Student Congress to provide regular assessments of the future of public land management.** The success of the Student Congress at The Nation Possessed conference demonstrated the thoughtfulness of the next generation of users and managers and brought a perspective that only they can provide. The Congress should focus on emerging issues and solutions best addressed by the best and brightest of the next generation and provide recommendations to the BLM.
3. **Public lands should remain in public ownership to meet the current and future needs and desires of the American public.** The public lands are the only federal estate that can effectively fill this role. The value of the public lands - as articulated in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 - must be recognized, reaffirmed and maintained for all time.
4. **Land management agencies should use current and emerging technologies to reach all sectors of public land stakeholders in soliciting input on land management issues and policy decisions.** Recent trends in technology have demonstrated that traditional methods of connecting with stakeholders become outdated in a very short time span. As was recommended by the Student Congress and

the roundtable participants, agencies must stay up to date with the general public in communication methods in order to manage the public lands effectively.

5. **Land Management agencies need to use all available methods to consider potential future uses (including protection) of our nation's natural resources.** This includes considerations of the changing demographics of our population. The change agents that will influence how public lands are managed will continue to change. As was recommended by the Student Congress and the roundtable participants, shifts in uses and attitudes need to be recognized and accommodated in future legislation, policy, and practice to effectively guide public land management for the next century.
6. **The BLM should publicize and support successful outcome-based management initiatives with permittees,** particularly in situations where discussions and negotiations revolve around the future condition of the landscape after the activity is concluded. The activity might be oil and gas leasing, off-highway vehicle use, or a large outdoor festival. An example of this approach is the Burning Man Festival held in the Black Rock Desert each year, which is guided by - and successfully applies - the principle of "leave no trace."
7. **Congress and the Secretary of the Interior should continue to ensure that the National Landscape Conservation System remains an integral part of the BLM's mission.** The NLCS provides a new emphasis on conservation within the BLM's approach to land management. Units included in the NLCS can be managed in a more flexible manner than similar units managed by other federal agencies and therefore often are more acceptable to state and local governments.

The report on this GLO Symposium also includes additional recommendations from two other groups that participated in the Symposium—four recommendations

(Continued on Page 14.)

PLF ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES*(Continued from Page 13.)*

from the Student Congress and ten recommendations from the Roundtable of representatives of agencies, organizations and interest groups. This full report is available for viewing on the PLF's www.publicland.org website.

PLF Advocacy Letters:

Recreational Shooting: PLF's June 25, 2013 letter to BLM encouraged BLM to be proactive in consideration and analysis of opportunities for recreational shooting on BLM public lands.

Oil and Gas Fracking: PLF's August 2, 2013 letter to BLM commented on proposed rules for hydraulic fracking on public lands, and recommended that BLM suspend fracking operations until an accelerated programmatic EIS is completed.

Forest Management: PLF joined 89 other organizations in sending a July 26, 2013 letter to the Senate Natural Resources Committee calling for forest management legislation to reduce the cost of environmental reviews, reduce the number of lawsuits and appeals after projects have been through environmental review, and expedite the process for projects and programs.

These three letters are available for viewing on the PLF's www.publicland.org website.

**COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN
REMINDER**

Attention - BLM employees and PLF Members: The Public Lands Foundation is again part of the 2013 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). Again this year the PLF is using the business name of "**Conservation and Protection of Public Lands**" for the campaign. Our **CFC number is 11786**. Please look for us under this name and our CFC number, and consider contributing to the Foundation when the 2013 campaign begins this Fall. We have a special relationship with the BLM public lands and our goals and objectives are directed at keeping the National System of Public Lands in public ownership and professionally managed for public uses.

BLM AND PUBLIC LAND NEWS

The 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act - 2014 - The BLM is playing a leadership role on the 50th Anniversary National Wilderness Planning Team (Wilderness 50). This is a coalition of more than 25 non-profit organizations, academic institutions, and government agencies that is planning to implement local, regional, and national events and projects. This coalition is charged with raising public awareness of wilderness and engaging young people in wilderness stewardship.

BLM FY 2014 Budget Proposal - The President has requested \$1.2 billion for BLM in FY 2014 to protect resources and manage uses of public lands, a \$32.6 million, or 2.9 percent, increase over FY 2012 budget. The BLM, which has 10,250 employees, will focus on the priorities which include safe and responsible conventional energy, New Energy Frontier, America's Great Outdoors, Youth in the Great Outdoors, the Secretary's Western Oregon Strategy, and Land Acquisition.

SunZia Southwest Transmission Project - The BLM in New Mexico has issued the final EIS and Proposed Resource Management Plan Amendments for the SunZia Southwest Transmission Project for public review and comment. This 515-mile long transmission line extends from Corona, New Mexico to Coolidge, Arizona. Approximately 185 miles of the line would be on federal lands. This Final EIS/RMPA follows an extensive public involvement process which began in 2009.

SPECIAL DUES PAYMENTS
Sustaining Member

Mark E. Lawrence, Jr.

Donations to George Lea Founder Scholarship Fund

Henri Bisson matching gift up to \$1000

Bill LeBarron

Beau McClure

Sharon Wilson

IN MEMORIAM

The PLF regrets to inform you that the following long-time BLM employees have passed on.

Steven Baldwin, equipment operator in the BLM Medford District, in Oregon; on July 16, 2013, in Central Point, Oregon.

John Barkdull, Communication Technician in the BLM Idaho State Office in Boise, Idaho; on May 26, 2013, in McCall, Idaho.

Harold Berends, who worked in the BLM's lands and minerals programs in the Colorado State Office and Denver Service Center, in the New Mexico State Office in Santa Fe, in the BLM Headquarters Office in Washington, D.C., and in the Oregon State Office in Portland; on September 9, 2013, in Portland, Oregon.

Lewis L. Brush, who worked for the BLM in the Medford District Office in Oregon; on June 30, 2013, in Central Point, Oregon.

Olga Diaz, Clerk at the BLM Safford District Office, on December 25, 2012, in Tucson, Arizona.

John Elton (Jack) Canoy, who worked for BLM in Vernal, Utah; Fairbanks, Alaska; and Elko, Nevada; on August 29, 2013, in Bremmerton, Washington.

Patricia Durham, who worked for the BLM in the Klamath Falls Resource Area Office, on July 24, 2013, in Portland, Oregon.

Gordon A. Frashier, BLM Range Manager in several Colorado Districts and in Winnemucca, Nevada, and Rio Puerco Resource Area Manager in the Albuquerque District in New Mexico; on June 23, 2013, in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

James (Jim) E. Hart, BLM District Manager at Roseburg, Oregon, who also worked for BLM at Eugene and Portland, Oregon and in Washington, D.C.; on August 18, 2013, in Sunriver, Oregon.

Russell A. Johnson, Land and timber manager for the BLM in the Medford District Office, on August 31, 2013, in Bend, Oregon.

Richard H. LeDosquet, BLM Forester in Burley, Idaho; Sparks, Nevada; and Juneau, Alaska; BLM District Manager at Ely, Nevada and Fairbanks, Alaska; and

Associate Director of the Boise Interagency Fire Center in Boise, Idaho; on July 9, 2013, in Layton, Utah.

Linda Kling, Range Conservationist who worked for the BLM, on June 10, 2013, in Spring City, Utah.

Russell Miller, Range Conservationist at the BLM Phoenix District Office, on July 3, 2013; in Phoenix, Arizona.

Clay W. Moore, BLM Forester in Montana and Oregon, and Surface Mineral Specialist in Jackson, Mississippi; on June 19, 2013, in Memphis, Tennessee.

Elbert Dwain Nelson, worked 35 years with BLM, on May 13, 2013, in Provo, Utah.

Fred Padilla, Chief, Branch of Lands and Minerals in the BLM New Mexico State Office in Santa Fe, New Mexico, on July 18, 2013, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Joan Russell, Land Records Specialist in Anchorage, Alaska and in Denver, Colorado; on June 15, 2013, in Emmett, Idaho.

James A. Simpson, Cadastral Surveyor and water boundary expert in the BLM Headquarters Office in Washington, D.C., and at the BLM Arizona State Office in Phoenix, Arizona; on June 26, 2013, in Kingman, Arizona.

Louise Todd, Personnel Manager for the BLM at Baker District Office in Oregon and in Alaska; on July 23, 2013, in Baker City, Oregon.

Elved Williams, Natural Resource Manager in the BLM Cedar City District Office in Cedar City, Utah, on June 22, 2013, in Cedar City, Utah.

John David Weinert, Forester who worked for the BLM in Missoula, Montana; on May 1, 2013, in Missoula, Montana.

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Received from:

Sonya Cox

Carolyn Droscher

Charles Hancock

Champ Vaughan

In Memory of:

Larry Peterson

Roger Lawrence, Bruce

"Smokey" Stevens and Nellie R. Werito

Jim Yoakum

Harolds Berends

Public Lands Foundation

P.O. Box 7226 Arlington, VA 22207

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Date _____

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$35 | Regular |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$50 | Contributing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$50 | Family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$100 | Sustaining |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$200 | Sponsoring |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$500 or more | Patron |

Public Lands Foundation Goals

- Keep lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in public ownership and open to use by the public.
- Support multiple use management under the Federal Land Policy & Management Act.
- Encourage professionalism by BLM employees.
- Increase the public's understanding of and support for the proper management of the public lands.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEE - \$350

Public Lands Foundation

P.O. Box 7226

Arlington, VA 22207



For America's Heritage

Non-profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
McLean, VA
Permit No. 681

Return Service Requested

WHAT'S INSIDE?

Highlights of PLF's Annual Meeting ----- 1, 3-11
President's Column ----- 2-3
PLF Advocacy Activities ----- 11-14
Combined Federal Campaign ----- 14
BLM and Public Land News ----- 14
Special Dues Payments ----- 14
In Memorium ----- 15

THE PUBLIC LANDS FOUNDATION IS A TAX EXEMPT 501(C)(3) ORGANIZATION