

For America's Heritage

THE PUBLIC LANDS *Monitor*

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PLF ANNUAL MEETING - MEDFORD, OREGON

What would the O&C Act look like if it was written today? That is the theme of this year's Annual Meeting, which will be held on September 11-13, 2013, in Medford, Oregon.

On Wednesday, September 11, we will begin with a field trip to look at some of the O&C lands and talk about management conflicts and opportunities. Spouses are welcome to participate in the field trip and all other activities. There will be a barbecue that evening. On Thursday, September 12, our full-day public meeting will include panels to discuss the resource and social values of these unique lands. Lunch will include a speaker to talk about current initiatives to resolve the management dilemma. The PLF banquet will be Thursday evening. The Board of Directors will meet on Friday morning, September 13, planning to be done by early afternoon.

Activities in the Medford area are in the process of being identified for spouses who prefer not to attend the public meeting on Thursday. They will be described in a subsequent edition of the *Monitor*. Be sure to join us—mark your calendar and make your travel and lodging reservations now.

This year's Annual Meeting will be held at the **Rouge Regency Inn and Suites**, 2300

Biddle Road, Medford, Oregon 97504. They have set aside a block of rooms at a rate of \$79.00 plus tax, and you must make your own reservation by calling them at (800) 535-5805. You will need to tell them you are with the **Public Lands Foundation** to get this room rate. Reservations need to be made by August 27, 2013. Reservations made after this date will be on a space available basis. The hotel has a made-to-order hot breakfast plus beverage in its restaurant for \$4.99 per person. It has complimentary transportation to and from the airport.

There are many exciting things do to in the Medford area (World Class Shakespeare in Ashland, floating or fishing the Rouge River, attending a concert at the Britt

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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

I don't know about you, but I am very frustrated with the poor performance of our elected leaders! Since when is it okay to not do your job and complete one of the most essential things we elect and pay our leaders to do; pass a budget. It really doesn't matter which political philosophy you

endorse, or whether you support cutting government spending, increasing revenues, or a mixture of both; completing in March what should have been done before October is simply ridiculous, and in my opinion irresponsible. This has happened so often over the past several years that it has become the norm, and this year is as bad as it gets. I don't expect that 2014 will be much better; the President's Budget hasn't even made it up to the Hill yet, and it's April!

Well, at least the agencies now have a continuing resolution to get them through the remainder of the fiscal year and over the next few weeks they can start to sort out how to absorb the cuts and set priorities on what they can do with the funds they do have. Maybe next year will be better. For the sanity of the BLM employees trying to do their jobs, we can only hope so. At least the many sides have begun to turn down the volume a little and may be starting to hear each other. Or, maybe they're beginning to hear their constituents....

Enough of that; spring is here, at least by the calendar and the cherry tree blossoms outside my office, and it's time to look forward to the many good things going on in public lands management. There is a lot of "new" occurring, or about to occur in BLM country. Two new monuments have recently been added to the National Landscape Conservation System—the Rio Grande Del Norte in New

Mexico, and the San Juan Islands in Washington.

There will likely be a new Secretary confirmed in early April—Sally Jewell. And, there will be a new Assistant Secretary and a new BLM Director named sometime in the (hopefully) not too distant future; as well as a new Deputy Director. Change always brings a little anxiety, but it also brings about new opportunities to build on the past and move forward. PLF will put its \$.02 in on a new Director and I look forward to the opportunity to meet all of these new leaders soon to offer up PLF's experience and assistance.

The PLF's Annual Meeting is coming up September 11th through the 13th. The Oregon/Washington Retirees Association is hosting this year's meeting in Medford. The OR/WA retirees have been working to put together a package that you won't want to miss. The working theme is "what would the O&C Act look like if it was being written today." This is a timely theme, not only for the western Oregon BLM Districts, where yet another round of planning is being done, but for public lands everywhere. It seems like every state and their delegation is advancing legislation (or court battles) to have the land managed differently or by different entities. After panels by diverse speakers representing local governments, BLM, tribes, industry, and environmentalists, we hope to sit down as a Foundation and put some of our thoughts together as a group and possibly develop a position that could be presented to the Administration and Congress as these many bills work their way through the process.

The meeting will also include a field trip to look at some of the new forestry prescriptions being tested in the field and how "collaboratives" are becoming more involved in the process. A BBQ is being planned, and

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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

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the Ashland Shakespeare Festival is just 15 miles down I-5 in Ashland, assuring that there will be something for everybody. State Director Jerry Perez and Medford District Manager Dayne Barron have promised excellent weather for the week and we will hold them to it. So put the dates on your calendar and plan on making the trip to the beautiful Rogue Valley. More details about making reservations for the Annual Meeting are included elsewhere in this edition of the *Monitor*.

Let me close by congratulating the two recipients of the Public Lands Foundation's Outstanding Public Land Professional Employee Awards. Bill Childress, Las Cruces, New Mexico District Manager will receive the Managerial/Administrative Award for his work resolving the Alamogordo Regional Water Project; and Jon Reponen, Supervisory Forester on the Burns, Oregon District will receive the Technical/Operational Award for his many years of work advancing forest stewardship and forest and rangeland restoration. Congratulations to both of these outstanding public stewards. As is common practice, we had hoped to present these awards back in Washington, D.C. Regrettably, restrictions brought on by the sequestration have eliminated most travel for employees. We are making arrangements to present the awards in Bill's and Jon's home states with the BLM Director joining in by videoconferencing.

And while I'm recognizing deserving people, I'd be remiss if I didn't congratulate Mike Pool on his recent retirement and welcome him into PLF. Mike agreed to go back to Washington to serve as the Deputy Director of Operations since 2009. Since last June he has been the Acting Director. Thank you, Mike, for your four decades of service to the Public Lands and its employees, and for the sacrifices you and your family made to go back to Washington and provide your experienced hand at the helm. I recently talked to Mike and he told me that he will be participating in PLF after a little travel and an opportunity to reconnect with his family.

I hope you all have a great Spring and I'm looking forward to seeing you in Medford in September.

PLF ANNUAL MEETING - MEDFORD, OREGON

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Festival, etc.) and the hotel will give you this same rate if you come early or stay late.

Meeting registration information and other details will be provided in the next *Public Lands Monitor*. If you have any suggestions for speakers on the meeting theme, please contact Dick Prather at pratherr@gmail.com or Beau McClure by e-mail at bcmclure@cox.net or by phone at 623-587-7883.

PLF ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

PLF letter encouraging the appointment of a career professional natural resource manager as the next BLM Director.

January 14, 2013

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Secretary Salazar:

On behalf of the Public Lands Foundation (PLF), I am writing to encourage you to nominate a career professional natural resource manager as the next Director of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). We have noted your past nominations of career professionals in Department of the Interior agencies and have been pleased with the way these directors have led their respective agencies. I am sure you would agree that past Director Bob Abbey is an outstanding example of what career professionals can do.

The PLF is a national non-profit membership organization incorporated in 1987 that advocates and works for the retention of America's Public Lands in the public's hands; professionally and sustainably managed for responsible use and enjoyment of American citizens. PLF endorses and embraces the multiple use mission of

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PLF ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

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the BLM as prescribed by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA). Our members are predominantly retired employees of the BLM and as such have spent a career dedicated to the sound management of these valuable lands and resources. The members represent the broad spectrum of knowledge needed for public land management.

The FLPMA gives guidance on the qualifications for the BLM director position. Section 301(a) of the Act provides that “*Appointments to the position of Director shall hereafter be made by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Director of the Bureau shall have a broad background and substantial experience in public land and natural resource management.*” Professional BLM employees and other natural resources professionals satisfy these qualifications and we encourage you to consider them.

The BLM has several current and retired professionals that would serve well in the director position and have demonstrated their competencies as Federal executives.

As Secretary for the past several years, you know well the many issues facing management of these lands and the complex decisions that need to be made. You have a difficult job in balancing the many demands on these lands. The PLF is eager to assist you in any way we can to place the best possible nominee for this position before the Senate.

Thank you for your consideration and the work that you do for the American people.

Sincerely,

Edward W. Shepard
President

PLF’s letter on Sequestration of Federal funds to Congress, the Department of the Interior, and the BLM

February 27, 2013

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader, United States Senate
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader, United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Reid and McConnell:

On behalf of the public Lands Foundation (PLF), I am writing to you on a matter of great concern to the PLF and to the American people. We strongly oppose the sequestration of Federal funds through across the board cuts as a solution to the Nation’s fiscal problems, and urge Congress and the Administration to work in the interest of all Americans to resolve the budget issue in a more thoughtful way.

The PLF is a national non-profit membership organization incorporated in 1987 that advocates and works for the retention of America’s Public Lands in the public’s hands; professionally and sustainably managed for the responsible use and enjoyment of American citizens. Our members are predominantly retired employees of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and as such have spent a career dedicated to the sound management of the valuable lands and resources under BLM’s stewardship.

We recognize that the Nation’s fiscal problems are complex and will not be remedied with a simple solution, yet that is exactly what Congress and the Administration are doing if you allow sequestration to go into effect. The BLM-administered lands provide many products, resources, and services to the Nation, including traditional and renewable energy resources, clean water, wildlife habitat, timber, forage, cultural resource protection, recreational opportunities, and open space. The Nation counts on the BLM for rights of way for roads, pipelines, and powerlines. We realize that the BLM is a microcosm of the service the Federal government pro-

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PLF ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

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vides, but these are some examples of the programs that thoughtless budget cuts will affect. It needs to be emphasized that the BLM provides these services with revenues to the Treasury of approximately \$5.00 for every \$1.00 appropriated. The private-sector jobs created by these activities multiply the benefits many times throughout the economy.

The dedicated, hard working Federal employees that provide these benefits are the same people that provide for the health and safety of the public using the lands, fight the wildfires every summer, and monitor oil and gas wells to assure compliance with environmental rules. These employees have already endured over two years of a pay freeze and will endure more years. This affects them throughout their working career and into retirement after dedicating years to public service. You, as our Nation's leaders, should not ask them to shoulder a disproportionate share of the budget cuts.

Our Nation's fiscal problems are severe and must be resolved. Solutions will not be easy and will not be without consequences. Sequestration without careful consideration of the consequences is irrational and unacceptable. We urge the Congress and the Administration to work together to find long-term, sustainable solutions where the consequences of actions are rationally considered.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Edward W. Shepard, President

cc: The Honorable Ken Salazar, Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Mike Pool, Acting Director
Bureau of Land Management
1849 C Street NW, Room 5665
Washington, D.C. 20240

Identical letters to:

The Honorable John A. Boehner, Speaker
United States House of Representatives
1011 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
United States House of Representatives
235 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

PLF Joins the Horse and Burro Coalition in Responding to BLM Horse and Burro Policy Changes, in Washington, D.C. on February 4, 2013

The National Horse and Burro Rangeland Management Coalition commends the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for the recent release of four instructional memoranda (IMs) announced February 1st to ensure the humane treatment of animals and greater transparency during horse gathers.

The need for horse and burro gathers on the western range is paramount to safeguarding healthy rangeland ecosystems—protecting native fish, wildlife, plants and a working lands way of life—and to achieving appropriate management levels (AMLs) for horses and burros. Ensuring the humane treatment of horses and burros, while using sound and effective scientific management tools to address overpopulation, is critical to the long-term health of the range and horses.

As BLM moves forward with IM implementation, the Coalition recommends additional research and emphasis on the environmental and rangeland impacts of the outlined practices. These include range and wildlife impacts, as well as water rights and water availability for native fish, wildlife, and plants. Furthermore, the ability for personnel to adhere to certain practices in remote gather locations—due to the constraints associated with remote work—may pose a concern, potentially warranting further examination and adaption of the IMs.

The Coalition supports BLM's IMs on increasing transparency during gathers. These actions will help to
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PLF ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

(Continued from Page 5.)

educate the public about the humane process of gathering horses and burros, as well as the negative impacts of overpopulation on rangeland health.

“We are pleased to see the BLM addressing the ongoing issue of horse and burro overpopulation,” said National Association of Conservation Districts President Earl Garber. “These recommendations will ensure the humane treatment of animals and greater transparency during gathers that are necessary for the protection of rangeland health.”

“It is encouraging to see the agency’s attempt to address this ongoing issue,” stated Society for Range Management President Wally Butler. “We urge the BLM and other agencies to take the next step in addressing the larger issue of management and the comprehensive ecosystem health as impacted by the nation’s wild horse and burro population.”

“Safari Club International knows the cooperative development of policies that benefit not only the sound management of wild horses and burros, but of all the wildlife inhabiting the western range, including game species,” said Safari Club International President John Whipple. “We have defended the Bureau in numerous lawsuits challenging gathers, and we will do so going forward to ensure western wildlife habitats are appropriately managed for future generations.”

The Coalition looks forward to working with the BLM on addressing additional concerns related to horses and burros, including fertility control, scientific management practices, and ensuring healthy rangelands.”

The National Horse & Burro Rangeland Management Coalition is a diverse partnership of 12 wildlife conservation and sportsmen organizations, industry partners, and professional natural-resource scientific societies working together to identify proactive and comprehensive solutions to increase effective management of horse and burro populations and mitigate the adverse impacts to healthy native fish, wildlife, and plants and the ecosystems on which they depend.

The organizations include:

- American Farm Bureau Federation,
- Masters of Foxhound Association,
- National Association of Conservation Districts,
- National Cattlemen’s Beef Association,
- National Rifle Association,
- National Wildlife Refuge Association,
- Public Lands Council,
- **Public Lands Foundation,**
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation,
- Safari Club International,
- Society for Range Management, and
- The Wildlife Society.

PLF’s WH&B Statement to the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Council at the Council’s meeting in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on March 4 and 5, 2013

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.

The Public Lands Foundation continues to repeat the imperative that the BLM take bold, aggressive steps to address the excess reproductive capacity of the herds. Several facts are clear:

1. Wild horses and burros are not in any danger of becoming extinct. This is borne out by the fact that more than 230,000 have been adopted since the passage of the Wild and Free Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971. And, there are a total of about 50,000 wild horses and burros that the BLM now manages in short-term corrals and long-term pastures. The BLM is required to manage wild horses and burros so there are no more than 26,500 animals on the open range, but now that number is closer to 37,500.
2. Adoptions have not met expectations, and there is no reason to believe that adoptions will increase significantly. The adoption program is inordinately expensive, costing an average of \$2,733 per adopted

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PLF ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

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animal.

3. Fertility control as practiced is ineffective in bringing populations on the range in balance with adoption rates and natural attrition. There is no reason to believe that a darting program using a somewhat longer-acting PZP can be effective on a large-scale basis.

The BLM must do something significantly different than what it has been doing if there is to be any expectation of resolving the problem of excess animals and the damage they cause to land and water. Imagine the aggressive and bold steps that would be taken if other permitted uses of resources exceeded authorization by 40 percent, as is the case with horses and burros every day, year in and year out.

The Public Lands Foundation repeats its request to the Advisory Board and to the BLM that they convene a group of wild horse-experienced veterinarians and other appropriate scientists knowledgeable about long-term fertility control drugs. This group should be charged with making recommendations for immediate large-scale use 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 GonaCon and SpayVac. 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 the ongoing pen research using SpayVac.

The Public Lands Foundation shares the frustration of the Advisory Board and the BLM in the collective efforts that have been made to seek resolution of the issues surrounding the Wild Horse and Burro Program. It is our strong belief that minor variations of the status quo as practiced over the past years will not provide the answers or action that are needed now to begin to resolve the problems.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Edward W. Shepard, President

BLM AND PUBLIC LAND NEWS ITEMS

Federal Grazing Fee - The federal land grazing fee will stay at the minimum allowable level - \$1.35 per animal unit month (AUM) - for the ranchers who hold some 26,000 grazing permits on BLM and Forest Service lands in the Western states. The formula used to determine the grazing fee, set by Congress in 1978, is based on market conditions, including private grazing lease rates, beef cattle prices and the cost of livestock production. This is the seventh consecutive year that the fee has remained at the minimum rate.

The Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA) - A bill has been introduced in Congress to reinstate the FLTFA land acquisition authority which expired in July 2011. FLTFA had authorized the BLM to use the money from federal public land sales to purchase non-federal lands needed for federal land management agency purposes. FLTFA has bipartisan support in Congress and is endorsed by federal land management agencies, and a wide variety of public land user and advocacy groups, including the PLF, which joined over 60 other organizations in supporting the legislation.

Western Regional Cohesive Strategy - The Western Regional Strategy Committee, comprised of federal, state, tribal and local agencies, is working on a Western Regional Cohesive Strategy to collectively determine goals and objectives that can help all members of the wildland fire management community make better decisions that contribute to restoring resilient landscapes, promoting fire adapted communities, and strengthening wildland fire response. They have asked for input from interested parties along the way. PLF has strongly recommended that Federal land management and regulatory agencies treat resource recovery after a catastrophic fire as an emergency situation, and that when such a situation exists, excessive analysis and review that result in decision-making paralysis by the Federal agencies must be eliminated.

BLM Renewable Energy Projects approved by Interior Secretary Salazar - On March 3, 2013, Interior Secretary Salazar approved three proposed major renewable energy projects in California and Nevada. The two solar and one wind projects will generate 1,100

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BLM AND PUBLIC LAND NEWS ITEMS

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megawatts, enough to power 340,000 homes. They include the McCoy Solar Energy Project 13 miles northwest of Blythe, California; the Desert Harvest Solar Farm six miles north of Desert Center, California; and the Searchlight Wind Energy Project 60 miles southeast of Las Vegas, Nevada.

Acting BLM Director Mike Pool Retires - Mike Pool, who has served as Acting BLM Director since Bob Abbey retired last May, retired at the end of February 2013. Mike served as BLM's Deputy for Operations from 2009 until 2012. Neil Kornze, Deputy Director for Policy, has been named the Acting BLM Director pending the appointment of a Director by the incoming Secretary of the Interior, and Senate confirmation.

**PLF'S OUTSTANDING PUBLIC LAND
PROFESSIONAL AWARDS**

Each year the PLF gives two Outstanding Public Land Professional Awards to BLM employees who have excelled in Managerial/Administrative and Technical/Operational positions.

The 2012 Outstanding Public Land Professional Managerial/Administrative Award is given to **Bill Childress, BLM Las Cruces District Manager, New Mexico.**

The 2012 Outstanding Technical/Operational Award is given to **Jon Reponen, Supervisory Forester in the BLM's Burns District, Three Rivers Resource Area, in Hines, Oregon.**

The citations read as follows:

**Outstanding Public Land Professional Employee
Award - Managerial/Administrative**

Bill Childress

Bill Childress became the Bureau of Land Management's Las Cruces, New Mexico District Manager in 2008. The District had been involved with the Alamogordo Regional Water Supply Project for the

previous five years. Conflict had brought the project to a standstill. Bill reviewed the status of the proposal and recognized its importance even though there was much erroneous speculation and mistrust among the stakeholders. He strongly engaged the stakeholders with great transparency using his skills to gain an understanding of the issues to bring the parties "back to the table."

Bill focused specifically on problem-solving and building coalitions. He proposed that the Las Cruces District, take lead agency status in preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and commanded the focus and direction needed to usher the project through the next four years towards the signing of a Record of Decision in August of 2012.

Bill focused on the use of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as tools to positively resolve the conflicts with the Alamogordo Regional Water Supply Project for the City of Alamogordo. The contentious environment among the stakeholders was at such magnitude that security was needed during some of the public meetings in the early stages. Bill used FLPMA and the NEPA process to create transparency in science and decision-making as a mechanism to focus the Purpose and Need for the EIS in a clear and concise manner. Most importantly, Bill recognized that issues needed to be resolved through the best science available based on the sensitivity of the adjacent landowners and the Mescalero Apache Nation.

Bill accepted the challenges of this project with seemingly insufferable professional and personal consequences regarding political fallout and depicted the courage to create clear and decisive direction leading to the Record of Decision. Given much opposition, he focused the team of stakeholders on the clear objectives and using transparency, worked through or coordinated the many project issues. Bill has shown the highest level of dedication to public land management in the face of adversity.

Bill worked through this project with outstanding leadership while maintaining the general leadership and direction of the Las Cruces District, with over 5.4 million acres of jurisdiction and 125 employees. He set an example towards how the BLM works with others, internally and externally, to guide projects towards successful completion.

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**PLF'S OUTSTANDING PUBLIC LAND
PROFESSIONAL AWARDS**

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Bill Childress' exceptional managerial and leadership performance have earned him the Public Land Foundation's Outstanding Public Land Professional Award for Managers for 2012.

**Outstanding Public Land Professional Employee
Award - Operational/Technical**

Jon Reponen

Jon Reponen is a Supervisory Forester in the Bureau of Land Management's Burns District, Three Rivers Resource Area, Hines, Oregon, who has been instrumental in a variety of stewardship activities in the District. And, he played a key role in the development of the Claw Creek Stewardship Project. This project was developed, contract written and awarded within months of receiving a request from State and local governments. It includes treating 900 acres with both forest and rangeland restoration treatments. Products to be produced are 700,000 board feet of ponderosa pine saw logs and almost 6,000 green tons of juniper biomass that are available for utilization. The project will utilize previously unmarketable small diameter trees for things such as manufacturing wood pellets, power generation and lumber.

Jon is the Coordinator for the 33,000-acre Otis Mountain /Moffet Table Fuels Project. He helped organize a joint public meeting between BLM, Harney Soil and Water Conservation District, Natural Resource Conservation Service, and numerous landowners and grazing permittees. Jon is currently involved in ongoing consultations on implementation actions and future planning.

Business Oregon provided money from the Oregon Governor's discretionary fund to the Harney Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) to work on the Rudy 2 timber sale on BLM managed public lands. The Harney SWCD hired four unemployed residents of Harney County to work on this project. They marked timber that allowed BLM to award this timber sale early in fiscal year 2013.

This timber sale will provide a critical supply bridge to help keep Malheur Lumber open and maintain 80 valuable mill jobs, plus additional jobs, for the logging

company. The BLM benefits with the expedited implementation of its Otis Mountain Fuels Management Project.

Jon represents the Burns BLM District Manager during meetings of the Harney County Restoration Collaborative. This collaborative is made up of agencies, landowners, industry, various conservation groups, and County governments that address a myriad of forest health and economic issues. Although there are a variety of often-competing stakeholder interests, Jon has been very effective at "reaching across the aisle" and working with the different interests and finding solutions that work for them and the ground.

Jon Reponen's extraordinary performance in an operations/technical role in these and many other resource improvement activities has earned him the Public Lands Foundation's Outstanding Public Land Professional Award in the Operations/Technical category for 2012.

**PROGRESS ON REPORT FROM THE GLO
SYMPOSIUM**

It has been a little over six months since the General Land Office Commemoration in Boulder, Colorado, but the work continues. Lee Barkow and Mike Ferguson have been working with the Center of the American West to complete the reports. There will be two basic products that should be available soon.

First will be a web-based report hosted on the Center's website. The report also will be on the PLF website and available on CDs. The report likely will be about 12-15 pages long. It will contain an introduction (including background for the event), a description of and recommendations from the student congress, a summary of Secretary Salazar's and Walter Echo-Hawk's presentations, a summary of the six sessions, and a summary and recommendations from the roundtable. The report also will include six recommendations from the Public Lands Foundation based on the presentations in Boulder. The wording for these recommendations is still being developed, but the basic ideas are:

1. Keep public lands in public ownership in order to help meet the demands of potential new users and potential new uses of the public lands.

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PROGRESS ON REPORT FROM THE GLO SYMPOSIUM

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2. Promote the use of the latest technology in order to reach all sectors of the public with information about public lands.
3. Consider future potential uses of public lands in light of changing demographics and a potential population of over 500 million by 2100.
4. Support the 10 principles of "Burning Man."
5. Sponsor a biennial Student Congress.
6. Establish a Blue Ribbon Panel to recommend ways to respond to Walter Echo-Hawk's challenge to the Federal government to lead the creation of a new "land ethic."

The report also will contain links to summaries of the 1812, 1912, 2112 re-enactment/pre-enactment, Tim Egan's interview with Bob Abbey, the films produced by the University course, and art contest winners.

The second product will be a four-page brochure. One page will describe what the conference, student congress and roundtable were about. The middle two pages will describe the recommendations from the student congress and the roundtable, and the last page will list the same 6 PLF recommendations contained in the report.

This brochure is designed to be a handout for use by PLF members, BLM staff and others in meetings with Congress, Administration officials, user groups, etc. Several thousand of these brochures will be printed. The brochure is not intended to be a universal briefing paper, just a summary of important outcomes that can be left with people and is short enough that people will read it. Individual briefing papers also will need to be developed specifically for individual briefings. Those will be done on a case-by-case basis and are not part of the follow-up on the events in Boulder.

All of the Commemoration events have been captured on video. Elaine Zielinski, Beau McClure and Mike Ferguson have reviewed all of the videos and are beginning to develop a story line that uses what various people said at the conference to support the six PLF recommendations. When that story line is developed, we will use the video from the conference to create a DVD that also can be widely distributed.

PLF TESTIMONY ON BLM FY 2014 BUDGET

Following is a slightly abbreviated version of PLF President Ed Shepard's testimony before the House Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies on April 16, 2013.

"The PLF, like others, is somewhat handicapped in providing testimony on the FY 2014 budget. The budget was only made public last week and we have not been able to fully analyze the effects on the many BLM programs. Nevertheless, we feel it is important to highlight some of the important issues facing the BLM in managing the Nation's National System of Public Lands.

Budget Overview

The PLF recognizes the difficult situation the Nation is in and fully appreciates the hard decisions that must be made, by Congress and the Administration, to reduce the budget deficit. To that end, the PLF is supportive of BLM budget requests that support the wise development of energy resources, both traditional and renewable, that provide opportunities to reduce dependence on foreign sources while generating revenues. At the same time, the wise development of these resources provides needed jobs in our rural communities. The energy program should be adequately funded to assure that it is properly carried out and there is necessary oversight to assure that all producers of energy are complying with laws and lease terms, and accurately reporting production. This will result in revenue generated for the U.S. Treasury.

The BLM is to be commended for its work to establish Solar Energy Zones. These will prioritize locating renewable energy opportunities in areas best suited for the development of renewable resources while allowing more efficient use of BLM and industry resources, workforces, and funds.

The development of energy resources, traditional and renewable, does not come without effects on other resources. Funding other high value resources can help mitigate and offset some of the effects on the landscape. The potential listing of sage-grouse as a threatened or endangered species under the Endangered Species Act is of great concern. The BLM, as the stewards of the majority of this species habitat, has been working diligently with the Fish and Wildlife Service, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Forest Service, state

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PLF TESTIMONY ON BLM FISCAL YEAR 2014 BUDGET

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wildlife agencies, state and local governments, and resource users to develop and implement conservation plans for this bird that will hopefully lead to a not-warranted finding by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Species listing leads to lengthy and expensive processes. The money spent on process could be better spent on implementing conservation practices for the sage-grouse, preventing the listing of other species, and helping to recover species already listed.

Recreation is one of the fastest growing uses of our public lands and can have a significant economic impact. A large and growing part of our population in the West now lives within an hour's drive of BLM managed lands. However, this use, like others can also have significant negative effects on the landscape if inadequate funding affects proper management and enforcement.

The National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS) is comprised of some of the most unique and valued landscapes in the Nation's vast holdings. These areas are incredibly diverse and have been designated for their outstanding cultural, ecological, and scientific values. They also provide working landscapes where it can be demonstrated that multiple use can be practiced on areas with outstanding conservation values. Management of the NLCS has long been underfunded.

The Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA) has sunset and is being considered for reauthorization. The PLF supports reauthorization as it has allowed the BLM to transfer into private ownership and use lands that the BLM has determined to be available for disposal through land use plans. Revenue generated from the sale of these lands has allowed the Bureau to acquire valuable lands and access to public lands from willing sellers, as well as funding administration of the Act.

Of all of the challenges and opportunities facing the BLM, probably none receives more passionate public input than the Wild Horse and Burro program. We are dismayed that, despite repeated efforts by the BLM, the issue seems unsolvable and the Bureau continues to be stymied in implementing solutions that are acceptable to the American public to provide for the welfare of the animals and the health of the range. The current situation is unsustainable, but this program must con-

tinue to be funded as there are approximately 50,000 animals in holding and another 37,000 on the range. At some point Congress must step in and pass legislation that provides more specific guidance on this program.

BLM's vast portfolio includes programs such as the Rangeland Resource Program and the Public Domain and O&C Forestry programs. These important programs provide management tools for the restoration and maintenance of healthy landscapes, while at the same time providing raw materials, employment opportunities, and quality of life for many throughout the rural West. These programs should receive adequate funding to allow them to maintain their mission as part of BLM's vast portfolio.

Land use planning is the foundation upon which all BLM management decisions are built. Out of date and inadequate plans lead to increased litigation, adding greatly to BLM's management costs and frustrating efforts to implement programs. Resource Management Plans are designed to last for 15 to 20 years. Without adequate funding, the BLM will be hampered in its efforts to affect long term management changes and implement many of the programs that can provide employment, raw materials, and quality of life for the American citizens.

The PLF strongly supports the dedicated professional employees of the BLM and other agencies. Public employees have stepped up to the plate to contribute their share to the deficit issues facing the Country. For the last several years these committed public servants have done their best to implement the wishes of the Administration and Congress. However, when appropriations and budgets are not known until six months into the fiscal year, it leaves the employees to scramble to implement projects efficiently in the few months remaining. The process is broken and there are many reasons for this. We ask that this subcommittee do what it can within its powers to help fix the process.

Mr. Chairman, we do appreciate the hard choices that this Subcommittee has before it. We hope that our comments will be of help as you work through the FY 2014 budget process. Due to the late release of the President's Budget, we ask for the Subcommittees indulgence to allow PLF to follow up this statement with more specific information in the coming days and weeks as we more fully analyze BLM's budget request."

IN MEMORIUM - IN REMEMBRANCE - IN RECOGNITION

Several recent obituary notices in *The Monitor* prompt us to remember several people and events which, 50 years ago, helped start the transition of the BLM from a public land disposal agency to a public land management agency.

The following picture, notice and article were taken from the April 1961 edition of **“Our Public Lands,”** which, as many old timers will remember, was a long-time BLM quarterly publication about the BLM and the BLM lands.

“Public Land Moratorium”

“The Department of the Interior has ordered an 18 month moratorium on most types of applications and petitions for public lands. The order does not affect applications filed before the moratorium. Temporary suspension of the privilege of filing applications and petitions under the public land laws will permit the Department and the Bureau of Land Management to review the entire land management picture, eliminate work backlogs, and develop long-term land management policies and programs.



Photo of Interior Secretary Stewart L. Udall appointing Karl S. Landstrom as Director of the Bureau of Land Management in January 1961”

In recent years unethical land locators and promoters have abused the privilege of filing applications and petitions for public lands at the cost of millions of dollars to the public. The land offices of the BLM have been deluged with thousands and thousands of public land applications. In addition, many earnest citizens have manifested the great American ambition to own a piece of land by filing types of applications which the Government could not efficiently handle.

Landstrom had come to the BLM from the Staff of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, after previous service with BLM in Oregon. Landstrom and Udall were the new leaders, which long time BLM WO Lands Staff members like Irving Senzel and Eleanor Schwartz had been waiting for.

On March 1, 1961, the Department of the Interior issued an Order, prepared by Landstrom and his BLM staff, and signed by Udall, which closed the BLM public lands to the filing of new applications for disposal of the public lands - principally applications under the public sale, Small Tract, Homestead and Desert Land Entry laws. The following is a notice that appeared in the April 1961 edition of “Our Public Lands.”

Honest citizens have been

hampered in their desire to obtain public land by the competition of speculators and promoters who have preyed on public ignorance of the public land laws and regulations. Land speculators and promoters have seriously impeded protection of the public interest in the 477 million acres of public lands administered by the BLM. The moratorium will permit development of legislative and administrative remedies.

The Moratorium will last until September 1, 1962. It does not affect any application pending in BLM offices before the order was issued. It applies only to certain types of applications and petitions under the non-mineral public land laws. Applications, petitions and offers under

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IN MEMORIUM - IN REMEMBRANCE - IN RECOGNITION

(Continued from Page 12.)

the mining and mineral leasing laws are not affected by the moratorium, nor are applications by States and local governments. Script rights and land settlement claims in Alaska also are not affected.

In the immediate future the moratorium will reduce the public's opportunities to apply for and obtain public lands for private use. In the long run, however, the moratorium will put public land development on a much more orderly programmed basis. Under new programs it will be possible for the public to acquire more needed land in ways that will protect the national interest and the interest of the States and communities in which these valuable public lands are located.

During the moratorium, the Department and the BLM should be able to eliminate the existing backlog of over 60,000 applications and petitions now on file for non-mineral public lands. Some of these applications have been pending for 3 or 4 years or longer. Each pending application will receive a full and fair consideration on its own merits."

"Location - California; Land Manager - BLM; Classification - Public Recreation"

The above was the title of an article, also from the April 1961 edition of "**Our Public Lands**," which was written by Ted G. Bingham, BLM Lands Officer, Los Angeles, California. The article reads, in part:

"Continued public enjoyment of seven scenic, potential recreation areas in southern California has been guaranteed by a BLM classification under Section 7 of the Taylor Grazing Act. The classification covers 120,000 acres in San Bernardino County. The lands have been identified as having a high potential for multiple purpose recreational development."

The seven areas were Afton Canyon, Black-opal Mountains, Cima Dome, Cinder Cone, Joshua Forest, Topock Gorge and Whipple Mountains.

"Classification of the lands by BLM dedicates them for retention in public ownership as national multiple

use lands management areas. Detailed plans are being developed to integrate recreation, grazing, wildlife conservation, watershed protection and mining on the areas. A formal program will be worked out with local government agencies, recreation and sportsmen groups, and others to provide needed facilities. Some areas will be maintained in a wild state, with access only on foot trails."

The "**Public Land Moratorium**" stopped the deluge of public sale, Small Tract, Homestead, and Desert Land Entry applications which was swamping BLM with demands for disposal of public lands which were poorly suited for development. That Moratorium signaled the end of the public land disposal era.

The "**Public Recreation Classification**" by the BLM in southern California was one of the BLM's creative first steps toward a new mission for the public lands and the agency.

These two actions helped set the stage for passage of the **Classification and Multiple Use Act of 1964 (C&MUA)** which enabled BLM, in the late 1960s, to classify 174 million acres of public lands for retention in public ownership for multiple uses.

The public support for those multiple use management classifications helped gain passage of the **Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA)** in 1976 which:

- abolished most of the outdated public land disposal laws, and
- designated the BLM public lands for retention in public ownership for multiple use management, unless, as a result of a resource management planning process, certain lands are determined to be suitable for disposal.

FLPMA was an "organic Act" for the BLM. Over the past 37 years, the BLM has expanded and diversified its staff, to manage the public lands which have become the **National System of Public Lands** for multiple uses, and many of the "public recreation areas" are now in the BLM's **National Landscape Conservation System**. And it all started in 1961.

(Continued on Page 14.)

**IN MEMORIUM - IN REMEMBRANCE - IN
RECOGNITION**

(Continued from Page 13.)

Karl Landstrom, died on January 27, 2013, at age 103, in Ozark, Alabama.

Victoria "Vickie" Wells, who was Secretary to Director Landstrom in 1961-1963, died on February 18, 2013, at age 94, in Dousman, Wisconsin.

Ted Bingham, retired from BLM on December 31, 2011, after 54 years of federal service with the BLM and the Department of the Interior. He died on January 7, 2013, at age 79 in Phoenix, Arizona.

**NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY REIM-
BURSEMENT PROGRAM**

Saturday, September 28, 2013, is National Public Lands Day (NPLD).

The National Environmental Education Foundation and the BLM again plan to provide funding for a National Public Lands Day Reimbursement Program. The PLF, at its September 2012 Board meeting in Boulder, Colorado, decided to commit up to \$2,500 of its own money to the Reimbursement Program in 2013, in an effort to expand the excellent volunteer efforts that help BLM clean up, repair and maintain the National System of Public Lands.

The PLF is again receiving requests for small cost reimbursements (maximum of \$400) for approved 2013 NPLD projects. No form is required. Site Coordinators should send an e-mail with the approved 2013 NPLD Site name, how much they need, and a description of the items to be purchased to Beau McClure, PLF Vice President for Operations, at bcmclure@cox.net. He will then reserve the requested amount until the purchases are made. Once the items are purchased, the Site Coordinator or the vendor can send Beau (preferably by e-mail) an itemized bill or invoice and the PLF will send them a check. If other purchasing arrangements are necessary, we will try to accommodate them.

The reimbursement money is available for those purchases that are difficult or impossible to make through the BLM budgeting process, such as entertainment, water, food, work gloves and other supplies for volunteers, tent rentals, small materials and supplies, etc. Site Coordinators are encouraged to apply early.

If anyone has questions, or needs further information about this problem, please contact Beau McClure.

SPECIAL DUES PAYMENTS

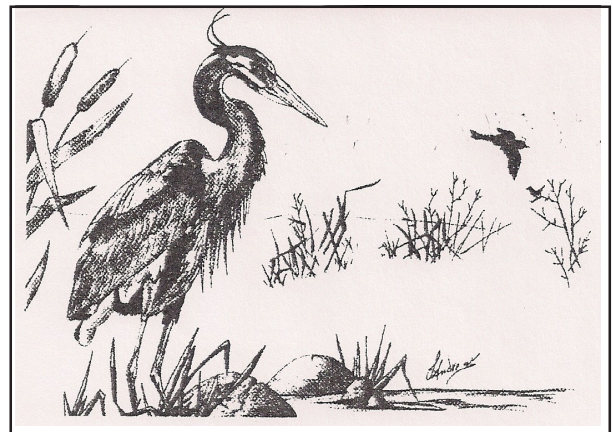
We want to thank the following members who have used the special dues categories to pay their 2013 dues, or make special donations to the PLF.

Contributing Members

Richard Barber	Kemp Conn
Bob Cordell	Rita Dolan
Jack Edwards	Mike Gardner
John Husband	Harry Miwa
Neil Mork	John Radosta
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Ed Tilzey	Martin Zimmer

DONATIONS TO PLF

Christine M. Pitcairn-Wiley
Tri-State Generation & Transmission
Association, Inc. (to GLO Project)



IN MEMORIUM

Alan Neal Brecheisen, who worked for the BLM at Battle Mountain, Reno, and Carson City, Nevada; on March 4, 2013, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Wilson F. Edinger, BLM Forester and Manager of the BLM's Galice Resource Area in the Medford District; on January 15, 2013, in Medford, Oregon.

Donald L. Ericksen, Inventory Management Specialist for the BLM's Alaska Fire Service in Fairbanks, Alaska; on March 3, 2013, in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Carmon "Dutch" Estheimer, BLM Chief Appraiser in the Arizona State Office, Phoenix Arizona, and in the Utah State Office, Salt Lake City, Utah; on March 1, 2013, in Farmington, Utah.

Raymond (Frank) Gregg, BLM Director in Washington, D.C. during 1978 – 1981; on March 4, 2013, in Rutland, Vermont.

Roger C. (Rob) Jagers, Recreation Planner in the BLM New Mexico State Office in Santa Fe; on February 3, 2013, in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Fred Kutzgar, BLM Wildland Firefighter and Wildland Fire Training Specialist at Fairbanks, Alaska; on January 29, 2013, in Anchorage, Alaska.

Karl Landstrom, BLM Director in Washington, D.C., during 1961-1963; on January 27, 2013, at age 103, in Ozark, Alabama.

Roger Lawrence, Visual Information Specialist in the Wyoming State Office; on March 26, 2013, in Denver, Colorado.

Lila Mae Newton, Clerk at the BLM's Kingman Field Office; on January 1, 2013, in Kingman, Arizona.

Frank Pallo, BLM Land Examiner/Forester at Rolla, Missouri; Assistant District Manager at Las Vegas, NV, Recreation Specialist at the Portland Service Center, District Manager at Lander, Wyoming, and on the Staff of the BLM Idaho State Office in Boise, Idaho; on February 11, 2013, in Independence, Missouri.

Glenis Orton, Administrative Assistant at the BLM's Cedar City District Office; on January 9, 2013, in Cedar City, Utah.

Larry A. Peterson, Chief of Resources in the BLM's Moab District Office, and worked in the BLM's Denver Service Center; on April 5, 2013, in Fillmore, Utah.

Sheril Slack, Range Specialist at the BLM Office in Richfield, Utah; on March 17, 2013, in Provo, Utah.

Diana Gail Songer, Land Records Clerk and Docket Supervisor in the BLM Alaska State Office; on December 25, 2012, in Anchorage, Alaska.

Robert (Bob) Stanger, Range Conservationist for the BLM in Idaho; on February 11, 2013, in Kingman, Arizona.

Wanda Tippets, Clerk at the BLM's Arizona Strip District Office in St. George, Utah; on January 29, 2013, in St. George, Utah.

Victoria Wells, Secretary for the Directorate in the BLM Headquarters Office in Washington, D.C.; on February 18, 2013, in Dousman, Wisconsin.

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Received from:

Lynn Engdahl
Cathy Asher
Merilynn Webb
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Richard Barbar
Jan Bedrosian

Lonnie Williamson
Clair Whitlock
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In Memory of:

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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

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