



For America's Heritage

# THE PUBLIC LANDS Monitor

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Patricia Harvey  
Ray Brady

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**VOLUME XXXI No. 4**

**WINTER QUARTER 2018/2019**

## 2019 PLF ANNUAL MEETING—RENO, NEVADA

**September 10-13, 2019**

The next PLF Annual Meeting will be held at the Peppermill Resort Spa Casino in Reno, Nevada, September 10-13, 2019.

charge (currently \$2.00) if cancelled less than 24 hours before the scheduled arrival date.

Guest accommodations will be available beginning at 3:00 p.m. on arrival day and reserved until 11:00 a.m. on departure day.

The Hotel Resort Fee (normally \$30.00, subject to change) will be reduced to \$15.00 per room, per night and is subject to room tax (currently 13%). Amenities include:

- Shuttle service to and from the Reno Tahoe International Airport daily from 4 a.m.-11:45 p.m.
- Business center access including incoming and outgoing faxes (up to 5 pages)
- Use of valet, EV Charging Stations, access to the parking garage and surface parking
- Use of the health club, pool and concierge
- Local and #800 phone calls
- In-room refrigerators
- Microwaves and cribs available upon request
- In-room coffee with Keurig Coffee Maker
- Two (2) bottles of water per night.
- Complimentary wireless internet

You must make your own reservations by  
(Continued on Page 3.)

**Directors-at-Large:**

Tom Allen  
Dean Bibles  
Ray Brady  
Glen Collins  
Jim Currian  
John Fend  
Mike Ferguson  
Eric Janes  
John Kwiatkowski  
Van Manning  
Dave Mari  
Mat Millenbach  
Tim O'Brien  
George Stone  
Rosemary Thomas  
Rich Whitley  
Maggie Wyatt  
Elaine Zielinski

Members of the Board of Directors and others interested in attending the board meeting on Tuesday, September 10, should plan to arrive in Reno on Monday, Wednesday, September 11, will consist of a BLM tour and an evening barbecue. A full-day meeting is planned for Thursday, September 12. A PLF banquet and silent auction will be held in the evening. The Board of Directors will meet again on Friday morning through noon, September 13.

The Peppermill Resort Spa Casino is located at 2707 South Virginia Street, Reno, Nevada 89502. We have reserved North Wing Single King rooms at a rate of \$85.00 per night, plus room tax (currently 13%), and a Tourism Surcharge (currently \$2.00 per night). Double beds or rollaway requests will be subject to a \$20 charge for each additional bed, plus room tax of 13%.

Reservations are subject to an early departure fee of \$50 plus room tax (currently 13% and subject to change) in the event of departure prior to confirmed check-out date. Reservations are subject to a charge of one night's room and room tax (currently 13% and subject to change) and Tourism Sur-

**State Representatives:**

AK Sharon Wilson  
AZ Beau McClure  
CA Nancf Haug  
CO David Stout  
ID Anna Steele  
MT Richard Hopkins  
NV Ev (Butch) Hayes  
NM Jesse Juen  
OR Vacant  
UT Bill Lamb  
WA Geoff Middaugh  
WY Bill LeBarron  
Midwest Bob Anderson  
& East. States

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

As 2018 sinks into the history books and 2019 begins, it is a good time to reflect on the accomplishments of the past year and look ahead to the New Year. But first, I need to thank you for letting me serve as your President for the past year. A special thanks goes to

Vice President for Operations Beau McClure for his continuing service to the PLF and his long hours of dedicated work. Many of you that are not involved in the PLF's day-to-day operations have no idea just how much work this gentleman does on your behalf. Beau, you have our sincere appreciation.

I would also like to add my thanks to the officers; Vice President Don Simpson, Treasurer Dwight Hempel, and Secretary Geoff Middaugh; and the many board and committee members that contribute so much throughout the year. Geoff will be leaving his position as PLF Secretary but will continue to contribute as the Washington state representative. Thank you, Geoff, for serving as Secretary. Ray Brady has stepped forward to serve as our new Secretary and has been working with Geoff to assure a smooth transition. Thanks, also, to Pat Harvey who, along with the Secretary, puts the *Monitor* together every quarter and to George Stone and Bob Conquergood for their work on the social media pages and Memorial Wall, respectively.

The PLF was busy in 2018. We held the fourth Biennial Student Congress in Baker City, Oregon with the theme focusing on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the National Trails Act. This Student Congress was a little larger than previously, with 28 students attending and discussing the Acts and how they interrelate to BLM's multiple use mission. The participants developed a set of recommendations that will be presented early in 2019 to the BLM Director and to the Department. The PLF partnered with the BLM, the Rivers Management Society, and the Partnership for the National Trails System on this Congress. The National Association of Forest Service Retirees has expressed interest in partnering with us in future Student Congress sessions, if we can raise the funds needed to put these on.

The September annual meeting in Billings was well attended, and the theme was timely - access to public lands. The news has been full of articles related to the millions of acres of public land that lack legal access, the bulk of those acres, not surprisingly, being those managed by the BLM. As the demand to use these lands increases, so will the pressure on the BLM. This discussion led us to develop a position statement on the issue. This is an area we can help the BLM as they try to set priorities and address this issue.

The Board of Directors' meeting was potentially a productive meeting. We spent a whole day working on a strategic plan for the PLF and had a useful, facilitated session working to advance the draft plan that Rich Whitley, John Fend, and George Stone started. I say "potentially productive" because we are not done with this plan. More on this later.

The PLF was active advocating for the BLM-managed public lands. We partnered with like-minded groups on issues such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund reauthorization, fire management, Wild Horse and Burro management, and the proposed DOI reorganization. We can be more effective where we sign on with coalitions, but where we can't we provide our own positions. This year we developed position statements on Wild Horse and Burro Management, public access to public lands, and are nearing completion of a statement on the potential move of the BLM headquarters west.

Last winter I was invited to attend the National Association of Forest Service Retirees' (NAFSR) board meeting to discuss the PLF and how we operate. It was an opportunity to share what each organization is doing and how we are governed. Not surprisingly, we have a great deal in common and decided to look for even more areas where we could collaborate to advocate for public lands and the employees that manage them. Together, we represent retirees from the agencies that manage over 436 million acres of the public's lands and can have a greater voice by working together. NAFSR is chaired by former BLM Director Jim Caswell. Jim attended and participated in this past summer's Student Congress and expressed interest in possibly co-sponsoring the next congress.

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**PRESIDENT'S COLUMN**

*(Continued from Page 2.)*

The New Year will be a busy one. The DOI will be getting a new Secretary and, maybe, BLM will get a permanent Director. There will also be new leadership on the various Congressional committees we work with. Many important land management legislative packages that the PLF has engaged in were dropped at the end of the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress and will have to be reintroduced in the coming months. We will be arranging to meet with key staff early in the New Year to introduce the PLF, share our position statements, and offer our knowledge and experience as they work through the many issues affecting the public lands and the resource programs that the BLM manages.

Also, in 2019, we will need to continue to work on the Strategic Plan. Rich Whitley and his committee started work on this after being chartered to do so by the Board at the 2017 annual meeting. The Board worked on a draft plan during the 2018 meeting in Billings and asked for further comments, or a response of no comment, and volunteers to carry forward the work in the plan. We received very few responses. There is still time to review the plan, comment, and to volunteer to help. In the coming months the PLF will need to decide if we want to continue to develop this plan or continue to operate as we have. To be most effective, the PLF needs a road map of where we want to be and a plan, with milestones, on how we will get there. This will take the work of not only the Board and officers, but also contributions from the membership. With over 600 members, this organization can do a lot if we all step forward and share the workload. If you haven't already done so, please review the plan and send Rich, Beau, or me your thoughts and how you would like to help out.

Regardless of where we end up on the strategic plan, the PLF needs funds to carry out the work that we do, such as the scholarships, Student Congress, and advocacy. Many members contribute to the organization through donations and/or spending time on committees, etc. This is greatly appreciated. We need to look beyond membership contributions as the primary source of revenue. Van Manning is chairing a fundraising committee to find other sources of revenue, such as grants. If you have any thoughts on ways or sources where we can raise funds to advance the mission, please contact Van.

As we move forward into the New Year, I wish health and success to you and your families. Thank you, again, for all you do for the PLF.

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**Statement of Ed Shepard, President  
December 29, 2018**

*We hope by the time the Monitor goes to print that the shutdown is resolved, but this is PLF's statement.*

The Public Lands Foundation is disappointed that the Trump Administration and outgoing Congress did not fully fund the Bureau of Land Management for fiscal year 2019. We are especially concerned about the partial government shutdown's potential personal financial impacts to the BLM employees who are furloughed and their families. We are also concerned about ongoing disruptions to normal land management operations, such as the closing of visitor services to the public, and to users of the BLM public lands. The PLF supports fully-funded appropriations for the BLM and urges the Administration and incoming Congress to enact appropriations for the remainder of the fiscal year, restore normal operations, and compensate furloughed employees as quickly as possible.

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**2019 PLF ANNUAL MEETING**

*(Continued from Page 1.)*

calling **1-866-821-9996 no later than August 16, 2019**. Please mention the **Public Lands Foundation** in order to receive the discounted group rate.

Meeting registration and additional information will be provided in the Summer edition of the *Monitor*. If you have any questions, please contact Beau McClure by email at [vpops@publicland.org](mailto:vpops@publicland.org), or by phone at (623) 587-7883.

One never knows what each day is going to bring. The important thing is to be open and ready for it.

—Henry Moore

**2019 ELECTION RESULTS**  
**By Beau McClure, Vice-President for Operations**

The 2019 election results are in and all nominees were voted into office. However, an apology is owed to several people on the ballot, most importantly Don Meares and Linda Rundell, whose names were mistakenly carried over from a previous year. We thank them for their previous service to the PLF, but will respect their wishes and remove them from the Board of Directors.

Also, Rosemary Thomas and Ray Brady should have been listed as Directors-at-Large and Jesse Juen should have been listed as the New Mexico State Representative candidate. These adjustments will be made by the Board in accordance with our By-Laws.

We wish to thank John Fields, Jim Binando and Dick Prather for their past contributions as State Representatives for California, Montana and Oregon, respectively. A special thanks goes to Ed Spang for his many years on the PLF Board as Vice President and as a Director-at-Large. And, we wish to welcome our two new Board members, Nancy Haug as the new State Representative for California and Richard Hopkins as the new State Representative for Montana. Several write-in candidates were received for the position of State Representative for Oregon. The Board is in the process of filling that position and we will let you know the results as soon as possible.

**PLF/BLM CONFERENCE CALL**  
**December 11, 2018**

*Informal notes by Geoff Middaugh. This is not a transcript of the call, but general notes from the discussions.*

BLM: Brian Steed, Acting Director, BLM

PLF: Ed Shepard facilitated the call, and there were approximately 11 PLF Board members in conference.

Ed called the call to order and identified the proposed agenda of topics (sent in advance). Acting Director Steed, alone on the call, thanked Ed and the

PLF membership for “what we do” and using their experience in the trenches to better the public lands.

1. Student Congress: Ed identified the success of the 4<sup>th</sup> Student Congress and indicated that the PLF would be back to see BLM leadership in 2019 with this Congress’ recommendations.
2. PLF Annual Meeting: Ed briefly described the annual PLF conference in Billings and the “access theme” of this annual meeting.
3. LWCF: Ed asked if the PLF letter on the LWCF reauthorization was successful and Brian indicated that the joint letter did bear some fruit with this Congress. (Reauthorization legislation is still pending with Congress at the time of this newsletter.)
4. Wild Horses: Tom Allen gave a summary of the PLF’s consistent involvement in the Wild Horse problem and trying to get focus on policy resolutions to address numbers, long term care, and the need to address the health of the land. To this end, the PLF stands behind sale without limitation, and legislative needs to address non-viable Herd Management Areas (HMAs). Tom stressed, as always, that something needs to be done to address the long-term impact to the land. Tom asked if the \$1,000 credit for adoptions was moving forward, and Acting Director Steed said yes. Acting Director Steed indicated that Instruction Memoranda are moving forward in early 2019. The numbers are high, as 11,000 horses a year are added, and there are 46,000 in long-term care, which is not sustainable. Advocacy groups are strong and vocal, and the BLM is easily beat up in the press, and Congress may not buy off on changes in the face of this opposition. The Coalition’s work is useful, but opposition is loud, strong and extends deep into Congress. Field hearings, it was suggested, may help get facts and rational thinking into the process.
5. DOI Reorganization and Moving HQ west: Ed asked status, and the Acting Director identified that the process of 12 “regions” is complicated and moving forward. Still issues like California, where there would be two Regions covering

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**PLF/BLM CONFERENCE CALL***(Continued from Page 4.)*

the state, and the overlap into Nevada have to be addressed, as the State Based Models are set aside. The Department has a lead for this process (Susan Combs) working directly for the Secretary. There is hope that because of BLM's unique legislative mandate, that BLM can come out whole, but it isn't yet clear. Unknown is how the agency will work with a coordinator in a regional office rather than a line manager. Ed expressed that there have been models of how this works in the Regional Ecosystem Office (REO) in Oregon, and the proposals of the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project (ICBEMP), so many models have been tried in the past. The Acting Director asked for the PLF's thoughts on these approaches. The move west for headquarters was discussed, and the Acting Director said there will always be a presence in DC with the likes of budget offices and Congressional affairs, but this too is a work in progress. There are also issues like the office lease contract for M Street and other administrative issues. The purpose is to get staff and decision makers close to constituents. Congressional changes in the House will be a factor after January 1. Ed emphasized that PLF has taken a position on this and has concerns, and the Acting Director stated that PLF represents a sage and wise group of leaders, and hopes that we would at least look at the final proposal, as there is movement to the middle. Ed indicated that we have experience with lessons learned and would be objective in our analysis. (It should be noted that Secretary Zinke on December 15 announced his resignation, and it is uncertain what effect this may have on any reorganization efforts of the Department or the BLM.)

6. Leadership Vacancies: The Acting Director said that three State Director positions should be announced soon (Nevada SD Jon Raby was announced on December 13 and New Mexico SD Tim Spisak was announced on December 19). SD positions in California and OR/WA are the furthest behind. Steed indicated that progress is being made.

7. BLM Foundation: George Lea asked about the status of the BLM Foundation, and Steed indicated that the idea is not universally liked in the Department. A memo regarding recommendations for members to the Foundation is in the Department and is being reviewed and altered with decisions still to be made.
8. Monument Lawsuit: Still nothing from the DC court on the Utah Monument changes, which is retaining jurisdiction. Motions to consolidate the cases and move the jurisdiction was denied. Comment period on management plans for the revised Monuments has closed for both GSENM and Bears Ears.
9. ANWR: Ray Brady asked for an update on the EIS for ANWR leasing. There have been delays with the earthquakes in AK. Congressional interest is high, even though the BLM was given jurisdiction by provisions in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. The FWS is supporting, but it is hard work and there are mixed feelings. (Since the call, the Draft EIS for the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program was released for public review on December 20. Publication of the Notice of Availability of the Draft EIS in the Federal Register on December 28 officially began the 45-day public comment period.)
10. Renewable Energy: A quick update was provided on major renewable energy projects that are moving forward. It was acknowledged that the rejection of the Crescent Peak wind project in southern Nevada was a hard decision, but there were several resource conflicts with the siting of this project. With these project proposals, there are also potentially some 50,000 miles of new transmission lines that have to go somewhere, but the devil is in the details as every place is sacred to someone, and there is always resistance.

Acting Director Steed expressed his thanks for the PLF's interest and guiding hand, and appreciates our engagement. Ed Shepard indicated that the PLF will work on organizing a subcommittee about lessons learned from previous reorganizations and models of decentralization and get back to the Acting Director.

## LANDSCAPE STEWARDSHIP AWARD Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

The Public Lands Foundation presents the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation with its 2018 Landscape Stewardship Award and this Citation. The Foundation grants this recognition to honor private citizens and organizations that work to advance and sustain community-based stewardship on landscapes that include, in whole or in part, public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

One of the primary tenets of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation's (RMEF) mission is to secure and improve public access. Since 1984, RMEF has directly facilitated improved public access and administrative access to more than 1.2 million acres of elk habitat across the country for hunters, hikers, anglers and other outdoor enthusiasts to enjoy. RMEF has been a long-time leader in enhancing public access through strategic land acquisitions and easements, and continually seeks innovative ways to enhance hunter opportunities by working with State and federal agencies, private landowners, corporations and non-governmental organizations and partners.

The achievement and effects of RMEF's contribution has motivated a ground-swell of support and interest in access. With RMEF's unique niche as a grass-roots, member-driven organization, RMEF has made a measureable impact as a passionate advocate, working from the ground up to champion access and habitat improvement projects across the country.

In the Montana/Dakotas BLM area of responsibility, the contributions and local connections RMEF has invested in public lands are staggering. Over the past 20 years, RMEF spear-headed five lands projects conveying 14,015 acres to the BLM; enhancing/improving access to over 56,000 acres of public lands. RMEF substantially invests in Habitat Projects/Land Protection with Montana/Dakotas BLM. RMEF and the BLM partnered on more than 60 habitat projects, which directly benefited over 80,000 acres of elk and other big game habitat. These lands provide habitat to a diverse array of species. The entire value of the "portfolio" investment to Montana/Dakotas BLM is over eight million dollars.

RMEF, in coordination with the BLM, strategically analyzes the potential to acquire smaller parcels that open access to larger blocks of public lands, thereby exponentially adding to the value of their efforts. In particular, the Public Lands Foundation recognizes the effort of Mike Mueller, RMEF Senior Land Manager, for this approach. This paid off recently when Mike, working with Havre Field Office Manager, Stanley Jaynes, acquired a 93-acre parcel which opened access to 6,000 acres in the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument.

The Public Lands Foundation is pleased to present the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation with its 2018 Landscape Stewardship Award and this Citation for invaluable contributions to the stewardship of America's public landscapes.

/S/ Edward W. Shepard, President  
September 14, 2018



L to R: BLM/RMEF National Liaison Linda Cardenas; BLM Western District Manager Rick Hotaling; PLF Representative Kemp Conn; retired BLM Deputy Assistant Director, Lands & Resources, RMEF President/CEO Kyle Weaver; RMEF Director of Lands Jennifer Doherty; RMEF Senior Lands Program Manager Mike Mueller.

## LANDSCAPE STEWARDSHIP AWARD Friends of Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks

The Public Lands Foundation presents the Friends of Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks with its 2018 Landscape Stewardship Award and this Citation. The Foundation grants this recognition to honor private citizens and organizations that work to advance and sustain community-based stewardship on landscapes that include, in whole or in part, public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

The Friends have demonstrated continued support for the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument through their outreach to and partnership with local and national businesses to collaborate with the BLM and other organizations to achieve the BLM's mission in managing the Monument. They have engaged local business owners and other partners to discuss appropriate locations for endurance mountain biking routes, particularly in areas where multi-uses can be conflicting. They have organized several cleanup events each year with 30-50 volunteers participating on BLM-managed land. With members of Keep Doña Ana Beautiful, the Illegal Dumping Partnership, South Central Solid Waste Authority, BLM Las Cruces District Office, and Organ Mountain Outfitters, the Friends have teamed up to remove 1½ dump truck loads of yard waste, discharged firearm ammunition, couches, television sets, and more. The Friends also have collaborated with the Native Plant Society and BLM Las Cruces District Office to develop an educational pollinator garden.

The Artist-in-Residence partnership between the Friends and the BLM educates and promotes the appreciation, protection, and preservation of natural and cultural resources on public lands. The Friends and Southern New Mexico Trail Alliance have partnered to launch the Monumental Trails Program to facilitate volunteer trail days. The Friends are a "Leave No Trace" partner organization, and host a variety of training and awareness events highlighting the ethics, principles, and methods of protecting and maintaining public land in the region.

The Friends collaborated with the BLM to host the Organ Mountain "Naturepalooza," which consisted of three events: 1) a BioBlitz with activities including small

mammal trapping and bird banding; a series of hikes, including sunrise birding, sunset birding, reptile, butterfly and plant hikes; moths under the microscope; nature art workshop; mammal presentation; and acoustic bat monitoring; 2) a Star Party where the public could watch the sunset, moonrise, and the observance of stars over Las Cruces through high-power telescopes provided by astronomy experts, and 3) a Junior Ranger Day where kids ages 5-12 completed a series of tasks to earn their esteemed Junior Ranger pin. Expert scientists led kids in activities, including birdwatching, hiking, plant-pressing, animal identification, and more. At the end of the day, there was a song circle complete with s'mores. The Junior Ranger Day was free in honor of National Get Outdoors Day.

The Public Lands Foundation is pleased to present the Friends of Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks with its 2018 Landscape Stewardship Award and this Citation for invaluable contributions to the stewardship of America's public landscapes.

/s/ Edward W. Shepard, President  
September 14, 2018



L to R: PLF State Representative for New Mexico Jesse Juen; Friends of Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks Executive Director Patrick Nolan; Friends Associate Director Brenda Gallegos; BLM Las Cruces District Manager Bill Childress (back center), PLF Director-at-Large Rosemary Thomas, and Friends President Fernando Clemente.

**COLORADO STATE DIRECTOR  
JAIME CONNELL**

The BLM on November 28, 2018 announced the appointment of Jamie Connell as the Director of the BLM Colorado State Office. Connell, a 33-year BLM employee, had previously served for two years as State Director of the Oregon/Washington State Office and State Director of the Montana State Office from 2010 to 2016. Connell, a native of Butte, Montana, received her Bachelor of Science degree in Petroleum Engineering from Montana Tech in 1985 and began her BLM career as a petroleum engineer in Miles City, MT. Her managerial experience included assignments for the BLM and the Forest Service in locations across the West, including Great Falls and Malta, MT; Boise, ID; and in Montrose, Silverthorne, Glenwood Springs, and Grand Junction, CO.



Jaime Connell, Colorado State Director

**NEVADA STATE DIRECTOR  
JON RABY**

The BLM on December 13, 2018 announced the selection of Jon Raby as the State Director of the BLM Nevada State Office. Raby, a 20-year BLM employee, previously served as the Acting State Director of the Montana State Office. Prior to his Montana assignment, he was the Associate District Manager for the Medford District Office in Oregon. Raby held several important assignments in recent years, including

BLM Liaison to the office of the DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management and as Chief of Staff in the BLM Directors Office. He also has worked for the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Forest Service. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Ohio Northern University.



Jon Raby, Nevada State Director

**NEW MEXICO STATE DIRECTOR  
TIM SPISAK**

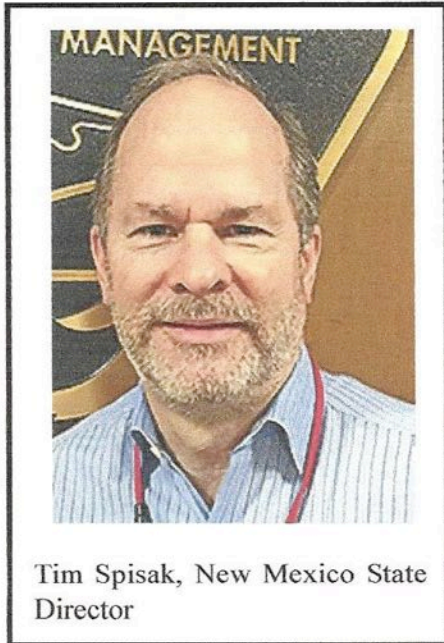
The BLM on December 19, 2018 announced the appointment of Tim Spisak as the State Director of the BLM New Mexico State Office. Spisak, a 34-year BLM employee, had been serving as the Acting State Director and previously served as the BLM's Deputy Assistant Director for Energy, Minerals and Realty Management in the Washington, D.C. office. During his career, Spisak worked as a Petroleum Engineer, Supervisory Petroleum Engineer, Program Analyst, and Administrative Officer. He has also served as the Amarillo Field Office Manager overseeing the Federal Helium Program, Fluid Minerals Division Chief in the BLM Washington, D.C. office, and as Senior Advisor to the Assistant Director for Energy, Minerals and Realty Management. Spisak has a Bachelor of Science degree in Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering from Pennsylvania State University and a Master of Business Administration degree from West Texas A&M University.

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**NEW MEXICO STATE DIRECTOR**

*(Continued from Page 8.)*



Tim Spisak, New Mexico State Director



Tara Rigler, Assistant Director for Communications

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR COMMUNICATIONS  
TARA RIGLER**

The BLM on November 27, 2018 announced the appointment of Tara Rigler as the Assistant Director for Communications in the BLM Washington, D.C. office. Rigler, a veteran communications professional with more than 20 years of experience, comes to the BLM from the National Security Council (NSC) where she served as Director for Press since May 2017. Prior to her work with the NSC, she was Deputy Director for Press Operations at the Department of Defense and held several other communication positions within the Department of Defense. Rigler has also served as the Deputy spokesperson for the Department of State at the U.S. Embassy in India and various other positions within the State Department's Washington, D.C. headquarters. Rigler holds a Bachelor's degree in political science and international relations from Carroll College in Helena, Montana and a Master's degree in political science and international relations from the University of Montana.

**IDAHO FISH & GAME COMMISSION  
TIM MURPHY**

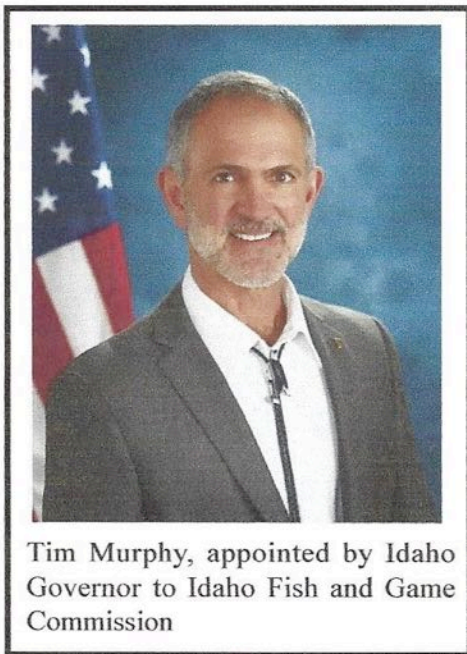
Idaho Governor "Butch" Otter on November 29, 2018 announced the appointment of Tim Murphy, a former BLM Idaho State Director and Director of the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise, as a new member of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission. The appointment on the seven-member Commission will expire on June 30, 2022, and Tim will be representing the southwest Idaho area, which includes important BLM-managed public lands. Governor Otter praised Tim's qualifications and acknowledged in a press release: "For almost 40 years, Tim has shown a capacity for leadership and applying strategic thinking to natural resource management issues. I have no doubt that Tim's addition to our Fish and Game Commission will enhance the Commission and compliment the professionalism we expect in the management of this most precious resource." Tim was also interviewed for this edition of the *PLF Monitor* and indicated he was looking forward to "addressing the challenges of population growth in Idaho and the associated demands on wildlife based recreation, fishing, hunting and watchable wildlife opportunities. Funding capacity and staffing will be a challenge." Tim indicated that his "focus will be on building coalitions that will continue the good work of

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**IDAHO FISH & GAME COMMISSION**

*Continued from Page 9.)*

the BLM, other federal agencies, State agencies, local government, academic community, and agricultural interests” in addressing these challenges and opportunities. “There is a desire and effort in Idaho to find common ground with the various interest groups, and BLM will continue to be an important partner at the table.” Tim specifically mentioned the collaborative effort between the State and the BLM on the recent efforts to update the sage grouse management plan and consistency with the “Governor’s Plan”. He also acknowledged that “improved fire preparedness and suppression efforts to control rangeland fires and invasive annual grasses will continue to be critically important for sage grouse habitat management, responding to urban interface issues, and supporting watershed values for salmon.” We congratulate Tim on his appointment and wish him the very best.



Tim Murphy, appointed by Idaho Governor to Idaho Fish and Game Commission

**BOOK REVIEW - LIFE AND LEGACY OF STEWART UDALL**

**Review by Geoff Middaugh**

**W**ith Distance in His Eyes: The Environmental Life and Legacy of Stewart Udall. By Scott Raymond Einberger, 292 pages, University of Nevada Press, Reno and Las Vegas, 2018

Three images come to mind, as I reviewed this book about Stewart Udall, his life and times. First is a very young Dean Bibbes, as he recalls, as a GS-9 management trainee from Wyoming walking the halls of Main Interior Building (MIB) in 1961. I can imagine Dean in a meeting striking up a conversation with the new Secretary and establishing a relationship that served him well for his entire BLM career. The author gives a brief recognition of Udall’s creation in 1968 of the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range in Montana (after the recognition of the Nellis herds in Nevada in 1963). I wonder how much of this idea came through the personal relations developed by the future Billings District Manager, Dean Bibbes, in the wide, long halls of MIB in 1961. Dean relates to his lifelong friendship with Stewart and the Udall family and attending Stewart’s funeral in Santa Fe in 2010 when he passed at the age of 90.

Second is my 6<sup>th</sup> grade class in Missouri in January 1961 as we watched the inauguration of John F. Kennedy to be the 35<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. It was a cold blustery but sunny winter day, when Robert Frost got up to read his prepared poem, but couldn’t see his notes, nor hold them still in the blustery wind. Instead, Frost improvised and read one of his favorite poems, “The Gift Outright”, included below. I loved that poem and cut it out of the Kansas City Star and kept it in my billfold until it deteriorated to dust many years later. The book provides background to why Robert Frost was chosen for the inauguration, and his life long friendship with the Udall family in McLean, Virginia.

**A GIFT OUTRIGHT**

The land was ours before we were the land’s.  
She was our land more than a hundred years  
Before we were her people. She was ours  
In Massachusetts, in Virginia,  
But we were England’s, still colonials,  
Possessing what we still were unpossessed by,  
Possessed by what we now no more possessed.  
Something we were withholding made us weak  
Until we found out that it was ourselves  
We were withholding from our land of living,  
And forthwith found salvation in surrender.  
Such as we were we gave ourselves outright  
(The deed of gift was many deeds of war)  
To the land vaguely realizing westward,  
But still unstoried, artless, unenhanced,  
Such as she was, such as she would become.

*(Continued on Page 11.)*

**BOOK REVIEW - LIFE AND LEGACY OF STEWART UDALL***(Continued from Page 10.)*

Robert Frost, "The Gift Outright" from *The Poetry of Robert Frost*, edited by Edward Connery Lathem. Copyright 1923, © 1969 by Henry Holt and Company, Inc., renewed 1951, by Robert Frost.

The third is the renaming of MIB to be the Stewart Lee Udall Department of the Interior Building in 2012. I always thought of MIB as the House that Ickes built, but when I found out the name had changed, I thought Udall's was a better choice. As a young man, I never could have guessed that I would have the honor to work in Stewart's building twice in my career.

The author, Scott Einberger, sent the PLF this book for our consideration. He writes that With Distance in His Eyes is one of the first "cradle to grave" environmental biographies of the late Stewart Udall. For me it synthesized many ideas I had about this early stage of environmental and conservation history in the 1960's and extends further into Udall's contribution to public land policies until his death in 2010. Of course, some of these advancements were through the legacy of the amazing Udall family and continue to this day.

Einberger gives Stewart credit for three factors in advancing the cause of public lands and conservation: (1) the importance of working together across the aisle with others, as he did with Republican John Saylor in advancing non-partisan conservation proposals; (2) the importance of energy conservation (long before issues of climate change); and (3) the importance of making decisions about resources based on future generations, or as the title indicates: *with distance in his eyes*. All three are still important to us today.

The relatively short book (293 pages) is well documented, footnoted and referenced. Being a public lands policy wonk, I find the footnotes sometimes more interesting than the text as I look for anecdotes about issues and people I know. Einberger uses many primary references, including interviews, personal documents, and original sources. In his Chapter on BLM, titled "Transitioning the Bureau of Land Management to Multiple Use" he used James Skillen and the BLM story "Opportunity and Challenge" (Muhn and Hanson) as secondary references. It would have been more interesting if he could have used some of the personal accounts of people like Dean Bibles to embellish the story of transitioning BLM to multiple use, a chapter

name which is somewhat patronizing, but still probably accurate for the time. However, Einberger includes scholarly articles by the late Mike Harvey, from his role on the Senate staff, when it became clear that an organic act for BLM was needed and a new role for public land was developing in the mid 1960's.

I found, however, many nuanced perspectives of issues still today. Udall's transition to the LBJ presidency, and LBJ's refusal to use the authority of the 1906 Antiquities Act for conservation purposes was new scholarship to me. Udall stayed on after Kennedy's assassination and provided a steady hand to guiding the DOI in these turbulent times. Udall recalls LBJ's political acumen as powerful when he saw the need to keep Democrats and Republicans focused on civil rights legislation rather than western regional issues. Another lingering issue was trying to come up with a name for the federal public lands, or national resource lands, or whatever you want to call them, which is still being fought over by many today.

When Udall gave up his Arizona Congressional seat to work for the Kennedy administration in 1961, he already knew from his western roots that he was going to run a vast department, (as he called it, the Department of Everything Else), and its 55,000 employees. He felt the anti-federalism evolving from the residual leadership in the DOI from the Eisenhower administration, and described it as the "Zane Grey Syndrome," where bad bureaucrats forced their will on the good individualists in the west. The Department's scandals from the Eisenhower administration, he felt had to be addressed. These included refocusing on abuses of the 1872 mining laws by an Alabama company to steal federal timber on the O&C lands in western Oregon (which lead to Eisenhower's Secretary McKay's resignation—known at the time as Give-Away McKay). Some issues just don't go away. It's still easy for the Secretary of Everything Else to misstep.

Einberger weaves a great history together and organizes the book around the legacy of leadership Udall provided during his tenure as Secretary from 1961 to 1970. He has the normal cast of characters with the National Park Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Reclamation, with the BLM as an evolving agency without a clear congressional mandate

*(Continued on Page 12.)*

**BOOK REVIEW**

*(Continued from Page 11.)*

at the time. The Chapter about the 1964 Wilderness Act (Advocating for the Wilderness Act) made clear that he was a supporter of wilderness designation, but wasn't the instigator, and he knew his Department of Everything Else had much to say about minerals and energy, as well as just wilderness preservation. His work in later years on environmental justice issues, such as support to Navajo uranium miners with complex health issues, is part of his evolving legacy from 1970-2010 after his term as Secretary.

In summary, the PLF membership would find the book interesting, and agree with some of the historical conclusions, and disagree with others. I found the book well organized, insightful and forward thinking, and gives new meaning for thinking toward the future with distance in our eyes. It will have a place in my library, right next to Udall's own legacy book, *The Quiet Crisis* (1963) and *Righteous Pilgrim*, a biography of Harold Ickes. And back to my images: I wonder if the young Dean Bibles had a flat-top haircut, maintained by butch wax? Hmm?

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*Editorial Comments: Dean Bibles has provided some personal comments on the book review by Geoff Middaugh. As usual, Dean had a story with first hand information, because, you guessed it, he was there. Here are Dean's comments.*

I haven't seen the book so will just make a comment or two on your write up! Incidentally, very insightful! As you know, I held Stu in very high regard and still visit occasionally with his son, Tom (US Senator, New Mexico).

I was a GS-9 Range Conservationist in Worland, Wyoming and applied and was accepted for the "Junior Department of the Interior Management Training Program" which lasted 9 months in DC. I was able to attend a meeting of the BLM National Advisory Council which was meeting in the 6th floor Secretary's Conference room and newly appointed Secretary Stewart Udall was to speak to the group. He started his talk with "If I told you that everything I had heard about this group was good, I would be less than candid" and it went downhill from there! He left and they were very irritated so quickly broke up to head to the Hill to get

this Udall guy fired! Of course, you know who won that battle, as the National Council no longer exists!

The other comment relates to the statement about LBJ's refusal to use the Antiquities Act. From my discussions with Stu, that is somewhat inaccurate as Stu told me that he had several ready to go after Marble Canyon National Monument. But because Stu named the stadium in DC after Robert Kennedy, LBJ was furious because he wanted to name the stadium and refused to "give him anymore National Monuments". I think the naming occurred just a couple days before the Administration ended but there had been agreement that LBJ would sign a number of National Monuments before he left office. Other than the proposed Sonoran Desert NM that Stu specifically mentioned, I don't know what the others may have been.

As an aside concerning BLM, Stu told me that the reason he appointed Boyd Rasmussen as BLM Director was to try to start a move toward BLM having Directors that were professional land managers and he believed that putting a high ranking, well respected Forest Service person in would start that process.

As to my burr haircut, after the military service, I never had one but I did have hair at that time!

Thanks for the trip down memory lane!

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**SAN PEDRO CELEBRATION**

**By Dean Bibles**

On the bright and warm afternoon of November 17, the Friends of the San Pedro and the BLM held a Celebration for the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area (NCA). The legislation establishing the NCA was signed by President Ronald Reagan on November 18, 1988. The Anniversary event was held at the San Pedro House, where the event to celebrate creation of the NCA was originally held on May 6, 1989. I was honored to be invited to speak about the acquisition and establishment of the NCA and gave a brief explanation about how and why this area was established to have very specific uses. This was the first Riparian National Conservation Area to be managed

*(Continued on Page 13.)*

## SAN PEDRO CELEBRATION

*(Continued from Page 12.)*

by the BLM. The BLM has shown its varied abilities, again, by successfully protecting this one-of-a-kind area for the past three decades.

A number of attendees came prepared to hike or had already hiked along the San Pedro River and were very strong supporters of the protection for the area. The NCA is heavily used for bird watching, hiking and scientific research specific to the desert Southwest, and attracts international visitors to the area with rare and migratory birds using the riparian corridor.

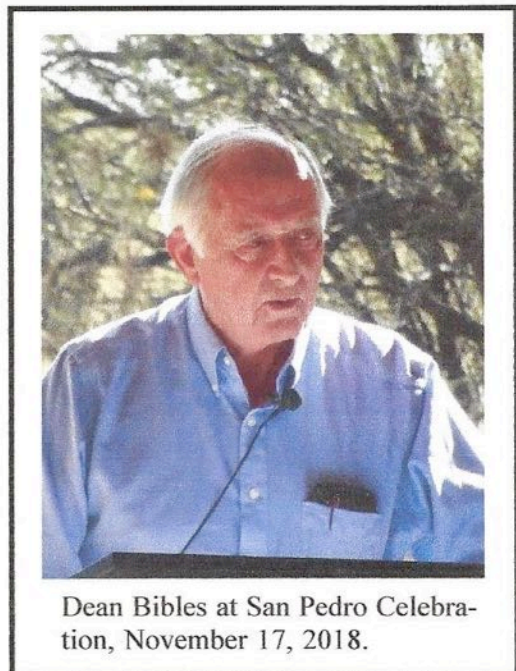
John Kelly, a representative for former Congressman Jim Kolbe, who wrote and coordinated passage of the legislation, was in attendance as well as former Phoenix BLM District Manager, Marlyn Jones. Marlyn managed the exchange which acquired the property from Tenneco Oil Company. A number of former and current BLM employees were also in attendance including Henri Bisson, former Phoenix District Manager, Alaska State Director and Deputy Director of BLM. I was also very happy that my son Brent, Professor of Wildlife Ecology, was able to join this celebration as he did his original PhD work on Gray Hawks in the San Pedro area.

It was impressive that several people attended who originally started, and have continued serving in the, Friends of San Pedro group. The Friends have contributed thousands of hours of service to the NCA. Jane Chambers, founding member and 30-year volunteer spoke, and told entertaining stories about some of the “emergency” calls they had responded to from visitors. Robert Weissler, President of the Friends of the San Pedro River served as master of ceremonies and spoke about the Friends organization and its support for the BLM and the NCA. The BLM was represented by Tim Fisher, BLM National Program Lead; Ken Mahoney, BLM Arizona Program Lead; and Jayme Lopez, BLM Tucson Field Office Manager.

The BLM recently held a public comment period to receive comments about a new management plan for the NCA with a preferred alternative that would introduce grazing, hunting and other non-compatible uses to the San Pedro Riparian NCA. Numerous individuals and organizations oppose the proposal as this

particular area was acquired and legislated to specifically protect the very special resources it contains and was recognized by Congress for special management and protection. As I pointed out in my remarks, if future generations are to remember us with gratitude, rather than contempt, we must leave this desert riparian area as it is meant to exist as a critically important artery of life in the desert.

The event was a great time to renew old acquaintances and meet so many strong supporters of protecting this rare jewel in the desert.



Dean Bibles at San Pedro Celebration, November 17, 2018.

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR CREDIT UNION OPPORTUNITY

**W**e announced in the Fall Edition of this newsletter a new benefit for members of the Public Lands Foundation – Credit Union membership! The Interior Federal Credit Union (FCU) serves its members 24/7 through online and mobile banking, call center employees, 5,500 shared-branches, and 55,000 ATMs nationwide. With some of the best interest/loan rates in the country, you can become a member with just a \$25 deposit into a savings account. Enclosed as an insert in this edition of the newsletter is a special limited-time offer (March 1 – April 30) of a special rate for new Share Certificates and discounts on a Loan from the Interior FCU for members of the Public Lands Foundation. Learn more at [www.interiorfcu.org](http://www.interiorfcu.org).

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Note:** Putting together this list in the *Monitor* and maintaining the Memorial Wall on the PLF website and updates in the Remembering BLM Facebook page takes a lot of work by a dedicated group of PLF volunteers, led by Bob Conquergood. If you find errors, or if you know of something we may have missed, we apologize and will correct the record. If you have concerns, please let Ray Brady know at [rbrady@publicland.org](mailto:rbrady@publicland.org).

**James Michael “Mike” Barnum**, on November 24, 2018, in Boise, ID. Mike spent the last 12 years of his career as a Range Management Specialist in the Boise District, retiring in December of 2014.

**William Earl Bieg**, on December 6, 2018, in Rocklin, CA. Bill worked in the Boise District Office, Denver Service Center, Construction Engineer and Field Supervisor of the Job Corps Program, and Oregon State Office, Chief, Branch of Structures and Facilities.

**Lacel Ewing Bland**, on November 14, 2018, in Reno, NV. In May 1951 he joined the BLM as a surveyor, worked in 11 states before retiring as Chief, Cadastral Survey in the Nevada State Office in 1989.

**Louis Boll**, on November 9, 2018, in Bakersfield, CA. Louis was a Range Manager in Price, Area Manager in Idaho Falls, Resource Program Analyst and Wildlife Management Biologist in the Washington Office and District Manager in Bakersfield.

**Lane Bouman**, on October 29, 2018, in Ashland, OR. Lane was a BLM Cadastral Surveyor for 40 years, beginning with two locations in Oregon and then another two locations in Montana, his final job was Chief of Cadastral Survey, Eastern States Office.

**Jack Bowder**, on February 22, 2018, in King City, OR. During college, he worked for the BLM and, after graduating, had a career with BLM as a Cadastral Surveyor that spanned 33 years, which included being promoted to the Chief of Cadastral Survey in Oregon State Office.

**Bob Brackenbury**, on August 24, 2018, in Murtaugh, ID. Bob worked in the Burley District as Equipment Operator, retiring in 1980 after 20 years with the BLM.

**C. Holden Brink**, on September 5, 2018, in Orangevale,

CA. Holden was a Wildlife Specialist throughout his BLM career working in the Miles City District Office, Montana State Office, California State Office, and, finally as a Wildlife Biologist and Preserve Manager at the Cosumnes River Preserve in CA for 18 years before retiring.

**Franklin Aiden Edwards**, on December 25, 2018, in Littleton, CO. Frank’s career with the BLM began in Muskegee, OK working in the oil fields, but he soon transferred to Denver, CO where he did field geology work. He worked in Billings, MT and was the District Manager in the Casper District Office, and later earned a Masters Degree from the University of Wisconsin. Following that he went to the Washington Office where he rose to Assistant Director. He took a job in the Oregon State Office over the Fire and Law Enforcement program and finally returned to the Washington Office again as an Assistant Director until he retired. He was awarded both a distinguished service medal and a meritorious service medal from the Department of the Interior during his 35 years of employment.

**Barbara Evans**, on October 30, 2018, in Salt Lake City, UT. Barbara worked 17 years for the BLM.

**Paula T. Fulghum**, on December 1, 2018, in Riverside, CA. Paula retired from the Barstow Resource Area Office, Barstow, CA.

**Stuart Wayne Gearheart**, on December 17, 2018, in Reno, NV. Stuart was a Land Law Examiner and Realty Specialist in Alaska, a Realty Specialist in the Washington Office, and Planning Chief in the Nevada State Office.

**Kenneth Jerry Hood**, on October 24, 2018, in Quincy, CA. Ken began as a firefighter in California and was ultimately promoted to Assistant Chief –Emergency Operations Coordinator with the BLM. In 2014, he retired from the BLM after 27 years.

**Bernard Warren Hostrop**, on December 6, 2018, in Warrenton, VA. Berny was Chief of BLM Cadastral Survey in the Washington Office from 1974-1991.

**Lois Lucille (Canaday) Hupfer**, on September 19, 2018, in Brighton, CO. Lois was a Personnel Officer at the Denver Service Center.

*(Continued on Page 15.)*

**IN MEMORIAM**

*(Continued from Page 14.)*

**Karen Kenyon**, on December 7, 2018, in Boise, ID. Many of the Rangers and Agents will remember Karen and her time as an Administrative Assistant at the National Law Enforcement Office in Boise.

**Paul McNutt**, was a BLM Economist assigned to the Washington Office minerals program, but stationed in the Nevada State Office.

**“Chris” Vosler**, on December 2, 2018, in Thermopolis, WY. Chris was Assistant District Manager in Miles City District Office, District Manager in Burns District, and Deputy State Director in Wyoming State Office.

**Richard (Dick) Wiltsie**, on October 21, 2018, in Lakewood, CO. Dick was a BLM Photogramatist/ Cartographer in the Alaska State Office, 1958-1961; Nevada State Office, 1961-1965; and Denver Service Center, 1965-1979.

**MEMORIAL DONATIONS**

<b>Received from:</b>	<b>In Memory of:</b>
Levi Deike	Larry LaPlant
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David Pickett	George H. W. Bush
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Martin Zimmer	Claire Whitlock and Dave and Patti Brunner

**Comments from your new PLF Secretary**

*The Monitor is what we make it. It is important to hear from our membership, and if you like something or don't like something, let us know. If you send me an email, don't be surprised if it winds up as a letter to the editor. If you want changes, or new directions, please let us know. Ray Brady (rbrady@publicland.org)*

*I would like to take this opportunity to thank Geoff Middaugh for his dedication and hard work as the PLF Secretary and as co-editor of the PLF Monitor over the past 3-years. He has done an outstanding job and his shoes will be hard to fill, but I am up to the challenge. Geoff, thanks for a job well done! I look forward to my new duties as Secretary and co-editor of the PLF Monitor and will try my best to live up to your expectations. Thank you all for what you also do for the Public Lands Foundation.*

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You can make a designated donation by credit card on our website at [www.publicland.org](http://www.publicland.org), or by check sent to the Public Lands Foundation, P.O. Box 7226, Arlington, VA 22207. In your transmittal, please make sure to mention that your donation is for the George Lea Founder's Scholarship or for the Student Congress Fund. Remember, if you are making a donation in memory of somebody who has passed away, you can designate your donation to go to one of these funds. The PLF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization. Your donations are tax-deductible to the maximum extent permitted under the law.

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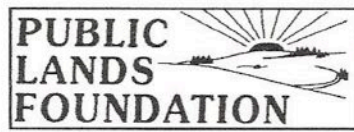
- Keep lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in public ownership and open to use by the public.
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- Encourage professionalism by BLM employees.
- Increase the public's understanding of and support for the proper management of the public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

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