



For America's Heritage

THE PUBLIC LANDS Monitor

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FALL QUARTER 2021

2021 PLF ANNUAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 13-16, 2021

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and uncertainties about public health and travel, the PLF Executive Committee held the 2021 PLF Annual Meeting as a Virtual Meeting using ZOOM technology on September 13-16, 2021. The theme for this year's Annual Meeting was **BLM's 75th Anniversary**. The Board of Directors met on September 13th, 15th, and 16th and a General session was held on September 14th to provide an opportunity for our guest speakers to talk about the history and future of BLM. The meeting was productive, but would not have been possible without the pre planning by Beau McClure, PLF Vice President for Operations and the technical assistance of George Stone. The Agenda for the Virtual Meeting was as follows:

Editors

Ray Brady
Margaret Lliteras

Board of Directors

President Ed Shepard
Executive Director Courtney Lyons-Garcia
Vice Pres. Don Simpson
VP-DC Affairs Ray Brady
VP-Ops Beau McClure
Secretary Ray Brady
Treasurer Dwight Hempel
Student Congress AnnaFaith Jorgensen
EX Officio NAFSR James Caswell
Past Pres. George Lea
Henri Bisson
Ed Shepard
Jesse Juen

Directors-at-Large

Tom Allen
Dean Bibbes
Ray Brady
Jim Currian
Mike Ferguson
Walt George
Eric Janes
John Kwiatkowski
Van Manning
Dave Mari
Mat Millenbach
Tim O'Brien
Mary Jo Rugwell
George Stone
Rich Whitley
Maggie Wyatt
Elaine Zielinski

State Representatives

AK Sharon Wilson
AZ Beau McClure
CA Thomas Zale
CO Bob Moore
ID Jenna Whitlock
MT Richard Hopkins
NV Ev "Butch" Hayes
NM Jesse Juen
OR Duane Dippon
UT Bill Lamb
WA Barron Bail
WY Bill LeBarron
Midwest & Eastern States
Jeff Holdren

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Monday, September 13

- Welcome, Opening Remarks, and PLF Update – Ed Shepard
- Approval of 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes – Ray Brady
- Membership – George Stone
- NAFSR Update – Jim Caswell
- Shooting Ranges on Public Lands – Tom Allen
- 2022 Student Congress Update – Mike Ferguson
- Approval of Finance Committee Charter – Dwight Hempel

GENERAL MEETING—BLM 75TH ANNIVERSARY

Tuesday, September 14

- Where Do We Go From Here? – U.S. Senator Tom Udall
- Key Points in BLM's History – Dr. James R. Skillen, Associate Professor of Environmental Studies, Calvin University, Grand Rapids, Michigan
- Approval of revised By-Laws – Beau McClure

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, September 15

- The Next 25 Years – Nada Culver, BLM Deputy Director for Policy and Programs
- Executive Director Report – Courtney Lyons-Garcia
- PLF 2022 Proposed Budget – Dwight Hempel

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, September 16

- Approval of Audit and IRS Form 990 – Dwight Hempel
- Approval of Policy and Procedures Manual – Beau McClure
- Awards – Ed Shepard

details continue on page 4

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

I think I can speak for most, if not all PLF members, when I say we were very pleased to hear Secretary



Ed Shepard

Haaland's decision on September 17th to return the BLM Headquarters to Washington, D.C. The move of the Bureau's HQ to Grand Junction in 2019 has been a failure on almost every level. It hurt the BLM's stature as a premier resource agency by separating the agency from other land management agency headquarters; it demoralized the employees; it forced many employees to make the decision to move, retire, or find other jobs; and it resulted in the loss of thousands of years of knowledge and experience held by the senior employees in BLM. The PLF opposed the idea of reorganizing BLM from the very start and made our opposition known to the Department, Administration, Congress, and the American public.

The Secretary's decision starts the process of rebuilding the BLM. Early in the transition to the new Administration, PLF provided the incoming Interior leaders with some things to consider as they evaluated the BLM reorganization. Some of the points we suggested were moving the directors, deputies, and assistant directors back to Washington as soon as possible, involving the career employees to determine the best organizational structure at HQ that would move BLM forward to manage in the 21st century, keeping some type of presence in Grand Junction possibly using it as a base for some of the new initiatives, and to the extent possible avoid further disruption to BLM employees and their families. We also recommended that local elected officials, Tribes, Congress, and stakeholders be consulted and kept informed through the process. Based on the Secretary's announcement, all those points have been considered and included. There are still a lot of unknowns in how this will be implemented that will be coming out as plans are firmed up. The PLF stands ready to help in any way we can to make the move successful.

It is also noteworthy that after nearly five years without a confirmed BLM Director, the Senate on September 30th confirmed Tracy Stone-Manning as the next BLM Director. The PLF looks forward to meeting the new Director as soon as possible and establishing a productive working relationship with her. She will be faced with many challenges as she takes the reins at BLM and the PLF stands ready to help in any way that we can.

This year also marks the BLM's 75th Anniversary and the PLF is helping BLM celebrate by assisting in several events. Courtney has been working with BLM to organize and host events throughout this fall. This has been somewhat of a challenge due to Covid restrictions causing in-person events to go virtual. The first event occurred as a live broadcast across PLF's social media pages on September 23rd, with Secretary Haaland kicking it off followed by three panels discussing perspectives on public lands from a tribal leadership view, the view of past-BLM Directors, and the view of stakeholders on managing the Nation's landscapes in the 21st Century. Pay attention to PLF's social media pages for upcoming 75th Anniversary events on October 20th online, November 10th at Boise State University's Andrus Center and online, and December 7th in Washington, D.C. and online. It's possible that the new BLM Foundation may be kicked off during the December event.

The 2021 Annual PLF Meeting was held virtually again this year and centered on the theme of BLM's 75th Anniversary. The General meeting was held on September 14th, with guest speakers Senator Tom Udall and Dr. James Skillen. The general session carried over into September 15th when we heard from BLM's Deputy Director for Policy and Programs Nada Culver. Senator Udall spoke to us about the species extinction crisis, climate change, biodiversity on public lands, and using the lessons from Native American traditional management practices, especially using fire, on the public lands.

Dr. Skillen, or Jamie, as many of us know him, spoke to key points in the history of BLM by breaking the history down into eight "chapters", as mentioned later in this Monitor. His presentation gave us some great thoughts on the challenges of BLM's past and the challenges and opportunities for the future.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN *(continued)*

Deputy Director Nada Culver spent time with us in a discussion on the many issues on BLM's plate including sage-grouse conservation, wild horses and burros, outcome-based grazing, climate change, fire, renewable and traditional energy, America the Beautiful (the 30x30 Initiative), the 75th Anniversary, and the BLM HQ move, to mention just a few issues. Throughout the discussions during the general meeting, the question was asked "does BLM have the capacity to accomplish all that is asked of it with the exiting budget and work force?"

The Board meeting was held on September 13, 15 and 16. The key points of the meeting are included elsewhere in this edition of the Monitor. The big take away from the business meeting is that the PLF has grown its programs and advocacy for the public land and BLM over our 34 years as an organization. Our membership is not growing and, if we intend to continue the existing programs and grow, we need to do a better job to increase funding and membership.

To help accomplish this, the Board has established a Development Committee to work with our Executive Director on these issues. Past President Henri Bisson stepped forward to chair this committee along with Jenna Whitlock, Ray Brady, Pete Culp, Van Manning, George Stone, and Courtney Lyons-Garcia. We've given this committee a huge charge. If you have ideas or comments on how the PLF can

grow membership and funds, please reach out to Henri or one of the committee members.

We are hoping that our next annual meeting will be in-person and we have chosen Colorado as the next place to hold it. The Colorado folks have already met and are working on a location and program theme. This meeting will celebrate PLF's 35 years of advocating for the public lands. We hope you will plan on attending to help us celebrate this milestone.

There are some changes coming to the PLF Executive Committee in the upcoming year. Dwight Hempel is stepping down as Treasurer after serving 14 years as Secretary / Treasurer and then Treasurer. Dwight has provided exemplary service to the PLF, and we thank him for his years of dedicated service. Fortunately, Kim Harb has stepped forward to volunteer to serve as our new Treasurer.

Another change will be in the presidency. After eight years of having the honor to serve as President, it is time for someone with new ideas to take the reins. I am pleased that Mary Jo Rugwell has volunteered to run for President and has been nominated by the Executive Committee to be placed on the ballot. Both Mary Jo and Kim have outstanding leadership skills and will serve PLF well. Thank you, Mary Jo and Kim, for agreeing to take on these important positions.

ELECTION 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our annual election for Officers and Board Members of the Public Land Foundation is underway. This year you again have the option of voting for 2022 PLF Officers and Board Members either on-line or by using the mail-in ballot inserted in this edition of the *Monitor*. You may vote for any or all of the National representatives and for your individual State Representative.

By now, you should have received a notice by e-mail to look for a SurveyMonkey that contains a unique link to an on-line PLF ballot. If you can, please vote on-line using the SurveyMonkey and save yourself postage and a trip to the mailbox. It is very easy and will take only a minute or two.

Be sure to vote before December 15, 2021. Please also consider paying your 2022 dues when you send in your ballot!

2021 PLF ANNUAL MEETING

BOARD MEETING – SEPTEMBER 13TH

Thirty Four participants joined the Board Meeting via ZOOM on September 13th. Ed Shepard, President, welcomed and thanked everyone for their participation. Ed indicated that our focus over the past year has been on the transition with the new administration and that the PLF has initiated some good working relationships with new members of the BLM and Departmental leadership. We have been diligently working on updating PLF Position Papers on a variety of issues and thanked the leadership efforts of Don Simpson, Ed Roberson, and Mary Jo Rugwell for this coordination effort. Ed announced that Dwight Hempel will be leaving his position as PLF Treasurer and we are looking for a replacement for that position on the Board. Ray Brady, PLF Secretary, presented the Minutes from the 2020 PLF Annual Meeting. *The Board unanimously approved the Minutes.*

George Stone, Chair of the PLF Membership Committee, provided a report on recommendations to increase membership of the PLF. George thanked the other members of the Committee, including Mike Ferguson, George Lea, Mary Jo Rugwell, and Courtney Lyons-Garcia. George indicated that membership numbers have remained fairly steady for several years, with current membership at 645, of which 486 are paid members (including 166 Life members). Several recommendations were presented to the Board for consideration:

- Seek to distribute PLF information to retiring BLM employees.
- Update PLF By-Laws to support membership initiatives.
- Increase PLF State Representative outreach efforts with local BLM offices
- Increase PLF social media outreach.
- Continue Complimentary Membership offers.
- Send “We Want You Back” letters as part of our BLM 75th Anniversary actions.
- Send another round of invite letters to the 2016 BLM Retiree Register (~2,700 letters at a cost of \$1,000) – it is estimated that there may be a 10 percent positive response.
- Recommend an annual dues increase for Regular membership from \$35 to \$50.

- Eliminate the Life membership (\$350 one-time fee) and the Patron and Sponsoring memberships (grandfather the existing Life members).

The Board continued discussions of the recommendations provided by the Membership Committee. Jim Caswell, representing the National Association of Forest Service Retirees, shared with the Board that NAFSR has 724 members and annual membership dues were recently increased from \$25 to \$30. The NAFSR has 165 Life members that pay a \$250 one-time fee. *The Board unanimously approved sending a round of invite letters to persons listed in the 2016 BLM Retiree Register at a cost of approximately \$1,000. A motion was made, but tabled for future discussions, to retain the \$35 Regular membership annual due and retain the \$350 Life membership fee. No changes in existing membership fees will be made at this time.*

Jim Caswell, provided an update on the activities of the NAFSR. Jim reported that Steve Ellis has been selected as the new Chair of NAFSR and that Doug Crandall has joined the NAFSR Board as the Congressional Liaison. Jim will continue as liaison with the PLF, as past-Chair of the NAFSR, and will continue to work with the PLF on the Student Congress activities. The NAFSR will reboot the Fire Committee to address the continued wildland fire issues confronting both BLM and the Forest Service. The NAFSR has also formed a new Restoration Committee and a new Recreation Committee.

Tom Allen provided an update on recent efforts by the BLM Phoenix District Office to approve three new recreational shooting ranges (Micro Ranges) north of Phoenix. These approvals were streamlined thru partnership efforts and the NEPA process. The BLM Taos Field Office, NM is working on similar proposals using the Phoenix model. Pittman-Robinson funds are being used to support the development of these shooting ranges and BLM is working closely with the Shooting Sports Roundtable partnership. The PLF can play a role in supporting these initiatives and sharing information with other BLM offices on these efforts. *(Tom later shared with the Board copies of meeting notes from the August 10, 2021 Shooting Sports Roundtable meeting that provided a briefing on the BLM Phoenix and BLM Taos micro ranges. Tom also shared a presentation on the BLM Phoenix recreational shooting range project and a presentation on the BLM Taos recreational target shooting plan.)*

Mike Ferguson provided an update on the John Freemuth Student Congress. The PLF is working with NAFSR and the Andrus Center at Boise State University to sponsor the next session of the Student Congress. The next session will be held in October 2022 in Boise, ID and will be focused on Fire Management issues and challenges. The Andrus Center is expected to take the lead role on the Student Congress for the session in 2024. The PLF is working on an Agreement to formalize the relationship with the Andrus Center and Boise State University. Efforts are also underway to develop a fundraising strategy and long-term endowment to support the Student Congress. Jenna Whitlock, PLF's Idaho State Representative, is assisting in developing the working relationship with the Andrus Center.

Dwight Hempel, Treasurer, presented the proposed Finance Committee Charter provided to the Board prior to the Annual Meeting for approval. The Treasurer will Chair the Finance Committee and incorporate functions of the previous Investment Committee. The Fund Raising Committee would be abolished and this role assumed by the PLF Executive Director position. *The Board unanimously approved the Finance Committee Charter.*

Eric Janes, PLF Director-at-Large, was presented with the PLF Volunteer of the Year Award for 2021. Eric was recognized for his contributions to development of the Finance Committee, writing and editing of the Water Rights and other PLF Position Statements, and numerous other activities in support of the PLF. Eric was also engaged in keeping the lines of communication open in Colorado during deliberations on the future of the BLM Headquarters office in Grand Junction. Thanks Eric for a job well done.



Eric Janes
PLF Colorado

GENERAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 14TH

Forty Four participants joined the General Meeting by ZOOM on September 14th and eight participants joined by a YouTube link. Ed Shepard, President, thanked everyone for their participation in the

meeting yesterday and welcomed our guests for the session today in celebration of the BLM's 75th Anniversary.

Dean Bibbes, PLF Director-at-Large, provided introductions for our very special guest Senator Tom Udall. Senator Udall served two terms as U.S. Senator from New Mexico from 2009 to 2021 and was the Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies. He has been nominated by the President to serve as U.S. Ambassador to New Zealand and Samoa and is awaiting confirmation by the Senate. The focus of his presentation, as part of the BLM 75th Anniversary, was on the public lands and "Where Do We Go From Here?"

Senator Udall thanked the PLF for our work to support the public lands and acknowledged that we are at an important cross-roads regarding the future of the public lands. We are facing the dual threats of an Extinction Crisis and Climate Change that are impacting the diversity of species and resources on our public lands. How do we also protect our public lands for future generations that are currently being loved to death? There is a need to acknowledge the value of our Native American heritage that depended on the sustainability of the land. The Principal message from our Native American stewards is – "Do not take an action that will impact seven generations later". Senator Udall identified Four Big Actions for the future:



Senator Tom Udall

- The Great American Outdoors Act provided for full and permanent funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and BLM needs to be prepared to wisely and effectively spend these funds to address Climate Change impacts and the Extinction Crisis.
- Restore our National Parks to protect important ecosystems.
- Preserve our lands and waters as part of the 30 percent by 2030 initiative to beat the Extinction Crisis and address Climate Change, including the preservation of wildlife corridors.

- The \$3.5 trillion economic stimulus and infrastructure package includes funds to support public land initiatives and BLM needs to be prepared to wisely and effectively spend these funds. Actions need to be focused on the conservation of public lands for the future, mitigation efforts to restore ecosystems, and collaboration with small groups of dedicated citizens at the local level.

Dr. James Skillen, Associate Professor of Environmental Studies, Calvin University, Grand Rapids, Michigan provided a follow-up presentation on "Key Points in BLM's History". Dr. Skillen has been involved with the PLF in support of the John Freemuth Student Congress and thanked the PLF for our dedicated work in public land management. The spirit of public service is alive and well.



Dr. James Skillen
Calvin University

Dr. Skillen provided an excellent overview of key events or timeframes in BLM's history; referred to as Inflection Points that influenced the management of the public lands and the policies and priorities of BLM. These periods of BLM's history include:

- Formation period – establish BLM in 1946 from the General Land Office and U.S. Grazing Service.
- Multiple-Use Management period – a period of transition for BLM in response to the Public Land Law Review Commission efforts in 1964.
- The Environmental Turn period – a focus on environmental issues surrounding public land management with signing of NEPA in 1970, a focus on citizen participation and procedural processes for review of government actions, the hiring of BLM resource professionals, and an uptick in litigation of public land management decisions.
- Reshaping Multiple-Use Management and Politics period – the passage of FLPMA in 1976 provided for permanent management of the public lands under the principles of multiple-use management, extended the Wilderness Act to public lands, and provided for law enforcement authority on the public lands.
- Sagebrush Rebellion period – a shift starting in 1979 in views on ownership and management of the public lands and questions on the role of the federal government.
- Ecological Management period – a focus on landscape level conservation plans, such as the NW Forest Plan in 1992, and ecological protection and riparian management.
- New Partisanship of Public Lands period – a shift in 2009 with passage of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act and authorization of the National Landscape Conservation System of special management areas on the public lands and the rise of militia groups threatening federal authorities.
- Time of Uncertainty or "Too Early to Title" period – the period from 2020 to the present that reflects a wave of political discourse and anti-government attitudes, but also significant conservation efforts such as passage of the Great American Outdoors Act and initiatives such as 30 percent by 2030 to protect our Nation's land and waters. There is also some uncertainty on the future of revenue streams from the public lands if mineral development activities decrease.

The PLF Board thanked Dr. Skillen for his excellent work and suggested that BLM history presentations be brought back into the Pathways training program for employees. The BLM should also proceed ahead with an update of the BLM Opportunities and Challenges book to ensure more current events in BLM's history are captured for future generations. This would be an excellent opportunity to develop partnership opportunities between the PLF and the new BLM Foundation and celebrate BLM's 75th Anniversary.

As follow-up from the Board Meeting on September 13 and the announcement that Dwight Hempel will step-down as PLF Treasurer, Ed Shepard reported that Kim Harb has offered to assume the Treasurer role. The Board agreed to accept this offer and Kim Harb's name will be placed on the Ballot for the PLF 2022 Board of Director positions.

Beau McClure, Vice President for Operations, made a presentation on revisions and updates to the PLF By-Laws that have previously been provided to the

Board for review and approval. The By-Laws have been updated to include the responsibilities of the Executive Director position; remove overly detailed provisions that belong in a procedures manual; provide more flexibility and authority to the Executive Committee; additional provisions for Conflicts of Interest and indemnification and nondiscrimination clauses; and a provision for legally amending the By-Laws. *The Board unanimously approved the revised By-Laws.*

BOARD MEETING – SEPTEMBER 15TH

Thirty Nine participants joined the Board Meeting via ZOOM on September 15. Ed Shepard introduced Nada Culver, BLM Deputy Director, Policy and Programs, to speak on “The Next 25 Years”.

Deputy Director Culver thanked the PLF for the invitation to speak at the Annual Meeting and acknowledged the collaboration efforts with the PLF in celebrating the BLM’s 75th Anniversary. Deputy Director Culver provided an overview of major priorities and issues currently facing BLM that will set the stage for the future of the public lands.



Nada Culver
BLM Deputy Director

These issues are summarized below:

- **Greater Sage-Grouse** – the BLM will continue to review options to conserve habitat on the public lands and update management plans to reflect fire and invasive impacts, new USGS research, and reestablish compensatory mitigation policies. (*BLM issued IM 2021-038 on July 12, 2021 that rescinded previous policies limiting the use of compensatory mitigation.*)
- **Wild Horse and Burros** – the BLM will continue emergency gathers to address drought and other management conditions for the 86,000 animals that are on the public lands.
- **Livestock Grazing** (*18,000 permits on some 21,000 allotments with 12.3 million AMUs*) – monitor and adjust allotments to address drought conditions, out-come based grazing,

update grazing regulations. (*Notice of Intent published January 2020.*)

- **Climate Change** – priority for this administration, implement Secretarial Order 3399, support Civilian Climate Corps projects, accelerate renewable energy development on the public lands, science-based decision making.
- **Fire** – high priority on fire planning and suppression activities.
- **Renewable Energy** – work toward the goal of permitting 25 GWs by 2025 and update the solar and wind energy right-of-way regulations.
- **Fossil Fuels** – review the oil and gas leasing program directed by Executive Order 14008, plugging of orphaned oil and gas wells, initiated review of coal leasing program.
- **America the Beautiful** – goal to protect 30 percent of our Nation’s land and waters by 2030 with a focus on local partnership conservation efforts.
- **BLM Headquarters** – continue to review organization changes needed and still provide a meaningful BLM presence in Grand Junction, CO, continue to engage staff in implementation of organizational changes. (*Secretary, on September 17, announced decision to return BLM national headquarters to Washington, D.C. and maintain a “western headquarters” location in Grand Junction.*)
- **BLM 75th Anniversary** – Public Lands Weeks is scheduled for the week of September 20-26, including a live streamed Symposium on September 23rd, and a Celebration is scheduled for December 7th in Washington, D.C.
- **BLM Foundation** – the BLM is committed to move forward with the Congressionally authorized BLM Foundation and develop potential projects for future Foundation efforts

Courtney Lyons-Garcia presented the Executive Director’s Report. Courtney highlighted the BLM 75th Anniversary events that the PLF is supporting in collaboration with BLM. This includes the online Symposium held on September 23rd in collaboration with the University of California – Berkley and future events on October 20th, November 10th, and December 7th. Courtney will continue to focus on Student Congress fundraising, Scholarship fundraising, an endowment opportunity campaign,

and Membership initiatives. The Foundation for America's Public Lands is collaborating with BLM in establishing the new BLM Foundation authorized by Congress. There is an opportunity for the PLF to develop an MOU to facilitate a partnership with the BLM Foundation and possibly be on an Advisory Committee to support the new Foundation.

Dwight Hempel, Treasurer, presented an overview of the 2021 Budget Analysis, 2021 Budget Review, 2021 Investment Committee Report, and 2022 Proposed Budget. All of these documents were previously provided to the Board for review prior to the Annual Meeting. The 2021 Budget Analysis and Review reflects the expenditures for the Student Congress moved to 2022, the Annual Meeting costs were reduced as a result of the online ZOOM sessions, and the expenditures reflect the costs to support the Executive Director. There is a recommendation from the Investment Committee Report to set up an Endowment account for the Scholarship Fund from the Johnson estate donation. After further discussions on the 2022 Proposed Budget it was decided to move the \$50,000 costs for the Student Congress from "donations" to the "grants" line item and \$5,000 was added to the "donations" line item to reflect PLF member donations. The TD Ameritrade account will be used to balance the Income Total and the Expenses Total, for a 2022 Budget of \$165,745. A footnote will be added to the 2022 Proposed Budget to reflect that no funds from the Johnson estate donation will be used for the Student Congress. ***The Board unanimously approved the 2022 Proposed Budget, as amended.*** A copy of the approved 2022 Budget was subsequently forwarded by Beau McClure, Vice President for Operations, to all Board members. The approved Budget will be reviewed quarterly by the Finance Committee.

BOARD MEETING – SEPTEMBER 16TH

The Board Meeting was extended to September 16 to take care of remaining PLF business matters. Twenty Six participants joined the Board Meeting via ZOOM on September 16.

Dwight Hempel, Treasurer, discussed the 2020 PLF Audit and Financial Statement previously provided to the Board for review prior to the Annual Meeting. ***The Board unanimously accepted the 2020 PLF Audit.*** Dwight also discussed the draft 2020 IRS Form 990 that was still being revised and updated. The Board deferred action on approval of the 2020 IRS Form 990 until a final revised version

was completed. ***The final revised version of IRS Form 990 was subsequently distributed by Beau McClure to the Board on October 1, 2021 and approved by the Board on October 5, 2021.***

Beau McClure, Vice President for Operations, led a discussion of the draft PLF Policy and Procedures Manual previously provided to the Board for review prior to the Annual Meeting. The revised and updated PLF By-Laws were approved by the Board on September 13th. The Policy and Procedures Manual was prepared to be consistent with the provisions of the approved By-Laws, but it was recommended to remove language on standing Committees from the Policy and Procedures Manual to provide greater flexibility to the Board to respond to issues and to restructure Committees as needed. ***The Board unanimously approved removing Committees language from the Policy and Procedures Manual.*** A copy of the final Policy and Procedures Manual, as approved, was subsequently provided electronically to the Board on September 16th.

Discussions continued on the need to establish a Development Committee to support the Executive Director, oversee fundraising and membership development, and obtain the financial resources needed to support the PLF and its projects and initiatives. Henri Bisson, PLF Past President, volunteered to Chair the Development Committee. Other members of the Committee will include Courtney Lyons-Garcia, Ray Brady, Van Manning, Jenna Whitlock, George Stone, and Pete Culp. There was general agreement from the Board that there was a critical need to establish an endowment structure to support the long-term future needs of the PLF, including an endowment to support the Scholarship Fund and an endowment for the Executive Director and PLF advocacy operations. The Board supports setting aside the Johnson estate donation for endowment purposes. Dwight Hempel has already initiated the process to set up two endowment accounts with TD Ameritrade.

Jim Currivan provided an update on the Public Lands Professional Awards, with nominations due by November 15th. A letter to BLM State Directors was sent on August 23, 2021, seeking nominations for the Awards to be presented by the PLF to deserving BLM employees. Nada Culver, BLM Deputy Director, has been asked to assist in outreach on this Awards program with BLM State Directors and Field Managers. A follow up e-mail was sent by Jim Currivan to BLM State Directors on September 30th.

President Ed Shepard acknowledged Dwight Hempel for his 14 years of outstanding service to the PLF from 2008 to 2021 first as PLF Secretary/Treasurer and most recently as Treasurer.

Ed Shepard, President, provided an update on the selection of Landscape Stewardship Awards to groups in New Mexico and Idaho. Arrangements are being



Dwight Hempel

made for the presentation of these awards in the near future.

Discussions were held on planning for next year's PLF Annual Meeting. The intent is to hold an in-person meeting in September 2022. Preference at this time is to hold a meeting in Colorado, possibly in Grand Junction. An alternate location could be Boise, Idaho in conjunction with the Student Congress that will be held in Boise in 2022.

BLM 75TH ANNIVERSARY

by George Stone

The PLF cosponsored a live streaming Symposium on September 23rd as part of a series of events marking the 75th Anniversary of the Bureau of Land Management. The BLM, Conservation Lands Foundation, and University of California–Berkley's Institute for Parks, People and Biodiversity hosted three virtual panel discussions. This was the initial event and focused on the past 75 years of BLM and the challenges BLM must confront over the next 75 years. The events are live-streamed on the PLF's Facebook and YouTube pages. The September event had 140 viewers.

Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management Laura Daniel-Davis, BLM Deputy Director for Policy and Programs Nada Culver, and UC-Berkley professor Holly Doremus kicked off the event highlighting the Biden Administration's agenda for Interior and BLM including tribal consultation; engaging communities regarding fossil fuel development; climate change; and managing the public lands across generations. Additional priorities are conservation efforts, renewable energy, infrastructure improvements, public lands access, and reducing maintenance backlogs.

The first panel focused on recognizing and honoring tribal leadership in public land management and was moderated by Danna Jackson, Counselor to the BLM Director. Panelists included Valentin Lopez, Chair of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band, Cameron Martinez, Director of the Taos Pueblo Division of Natural Resources, Monte Mills, Co-

Director of the Margery Hunter Brown Indian Law Clinic at the Alexander Blewett III School of Law at the University of Montana, and Charles Wilkinson, Professor Emeritus and founder of the Indian Law Program at the University of Colorado. Core themes were the need to restore the use of indigenous knowledge and traditional ecological knowledge into decision making on public land management issues.



The second panel was a discussion by former BLM Directors Jim Baca (1993-1994) and Neil Kornze (2013-2017) concerning priorities, issues, and accomplishments they experienced during their tenures. Baca stated that, in his opinion, there has not been much progress made in regulating the extractive industries over the years, noting that laws such as the General Mining Law of 1872 are still on the books. Both former Directors called for the need for more resources for BLM, noting that absent sufficient resources, BLM continues to react to crisis after crisis. Kornze suggested that BLM leadership needs to begin planning for generational land management over the next 75 – 200 years.

America the Beautiful – Managing the Nation's Landscape in the 21st Century was the topic of the third panel. Elaine Brong, Inaugural Director of the Conservation Lands System and Emeritus Trustee of the Conservation Lands Foundation (and PLF member) moderated the panel. Panelists were Arthur Middleton, PhD, Assistant Professor of Wildlife Management, UC-Berkley; Justin Suraci, PhD, Lead Scientist at Conservation Science Partners; Land Tawney, President and CEO of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers; Laurel Harkness, Executive Director of the Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals; and Leigh Kelley, Land, Livestock, & Resource Manager, Paws Up Ranch in Greenough, Montana and Board Member of the Blackfoot Challenge.

Dr. Suraci demonstrated a new database tool using an interactive web map application that identifies the acres with the greatest conservation values to mitigate climate change and address the biodiversity crisis in the context of conservation objectives. Additional discussion highlights included the dramatic increase of public lands visitation during the COVID pandemic with many new and urban outdoor recreation participants. The consensus was that this visitation increase is here to stay. Brong suggested that BLM is at a critical point where the Bureau may need to identify and recruit employees with new specialties and skills to address climate change, wildland fire, and other current challenges. She added that BLM should identify 2-3 major critical processes and try to move forward on how best to address them through appropriate funding and organizational structure rather than attempting to address every problem at once.

Ed Shepard, PLF President, and BLM Deputy Director Culver wrapped up the Symposium. The next livestream events are:

- October 20th The Next Generation: Stewards, Staff and Visitors.
- November 10th Climate Change Impacts on Public Lands.
- December 7th Balanced Stewardship – Moving Forward to the Centennial.

Visit the PLF website at publicland.org for more details about speakers and panel sessions for each of the BLM 75th Anniversary events.

OUTSTANDING PUBLIC LANDS PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

One of the goals of the Public Lands Foundation is to support and publicize professionalism in BLM public land management. We believe it is important to recognize the dedication and integrity that BLM professional employees bring to their jobs each day. If our public lands are to continue to be managed for future generations, it is imperative the BLM career professionals be recognized and respected for their outstanding contributions.

To achieve this objective, the PLF has established two Outstanding Public Lands Professional Awards, one for Technical or Resource professionals and one for Managerial/ Administrative employees. This is the 30th year the PLF has given these national awards to active or recently active employees who have demonstrated outstanding professional performance during the past two years. These awards are focused on recent accomplishments rather than a career of service with BLM.

The PLF recently requested BLM State Directors and managers nominate BLM employees deserving of national recognition for these Awards. Nominations are due no later than November 15th and we encourage PLF members to inform local BLM managers of the opportunity to recognize deserving BLM professional employees. Further information on the nomination process or questions regarding the Outstanding Public Lands Professional Awards can be directed to Jim Currivan, PLF Chair at jcurrivan@publicland.org.

PHOTO CONTEST

The Public Lands Foundation photo contest for PLF members ended on August 31, 2021 and 20 entries were submitted. PLF members were encouraged to submit their favorite photographs of a special landscape, plant or animal, natural resource subject, resources use, object or structure, or people enjoying the public lands or other federal lands. The Grand Prize entry was submitted by Jim Ramakka and was selected by our distinguished panel of judges as the best photograph in this year's contest.

The Grand Prize winner is a photo of the Night Sky at the Bisti Wilderness in New Mexico and is featured in this edition of the Monitor (*below*). The First and Second place winners selected by the panel of judges for each of the individual categories of the photo contest are highlighted on the PLF website at publicland.org.

Entries were judged based on creativity, quality and composition, and their overall impact. We thank the following panel of judges for offering their assistance and support to this year's PLF photo contest.

Bob Wick – Bob is a recently retired BLM Wilderness Program Specialist and renowned photographer, formerly with BLM in Sacramento, CA.

Michelle Barret – Michelle currently serves as Vice President Board of Directors for the Crossroads Film Society. Previously, she served as a Senior Public Affairs Specialist for the BLM for 34 years.

Don Smurthwaite – Don served as Communications Director at the BLM's Idaho State Office and at the National Interagency Fire Center.



GRAND PRIZE
Night Sky (Bisti Wilderness, NM)
Photo by Jim Ramakka

PHOTO CONTEST

GRAND PRIZE

Night Sky (Bisti Wilderness, NM) – Jim Ramakka

LANDSCAPE

First Place: Valley of the Gods (Bears Ears NM, UT) – Lanny Wagner
Second Place: Grosvenor Arch (Grand Staircase Escalante NM, UT) – Cynthia Staszak

PLANT OR ANIMAL

First Place: Golden Eagle Nest (Farmington Field Office, NM) – Jim Ramakka
Second Place: Mushroom (South River Resource Area, OR) – Joe Ross

NATURAL RESOURCE

First Place: Beaver Dam (San Pedro River, AZ) – Robert Luce
Second Place: Square Lake (Mount Jefferson Wilderness, OR) – Robert Towne

RESOURCE USE

First Place: Wind Energy (Foote Creek Wind, WY) – Ray Brady
Second Place: Solar Energy (Silver State Solar, NV) – Ray Brady

OBJECT OR STRUCTURE

First Place: Butler Wash Bridge (Bears Ears NM, UT) – Lanny Wagner
Second Place: Crow Canyon Rock Art (Farmington Field Office, NM) – Jim Ramakka

PEOPLE

First Place: Dale and the Porcupine (Miles City, MT) – Dwight Fielder
Second Place: Painted Hand Pueblo Tower (Canyons of the Ancients NM, CO) – Lanny Wagner

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 and Management Act.
- Encourage professionalism by BLM employees.
- Increase the public's understanding of and support for the proper management of the public lands.

LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE

The PLF continues to monitor Congressional legislation, Federal rulemaking activities, and Executive Orders pertaining to the Department of the Interior, BLM, and public lands management. The PLF, as an advocacy organization for the public lands, is actively engaged in providing our perspectives on a wide range of issues including the annual BLM appropriations, any program oversight hearings, proposed amendments to FLPMA and other major statutes affecting public lands management, and proposed regulations regarding BLM resource programs. Reviewing legislation and proposed rules and preparing comments and testimony, when appropriate, is an important part of our advocacy work. We will update our Legislation and Regulations webpage on our website under the “Advocacy” link and provide updates in the Monitor on significant actions.



Photo by Ray Brady

EXECUTIVE ORDER 13990 PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT AND RESTORING SCIENCE TO TACKLE THE CLIMATE CRISIS

Status: Signed by the President on January 20, 2021.

Summary: Section 2 of the EO requires the review of regulations and policies, promulgated between January 20, 2017 and January 20, 2021 including a proposed rule for reducing methane emissions in the oil and gas sector. *The CEQ on February 19, 2021 published a Notice in the FR to rescind previous draft guidance issued in June 2019 on the consideration of greenhouse gas emissions in NEPA documents. The CEQ published a Proposed Rule in the FR on October 7, 2021 to restore requirements for “direct”, “indirect”, and “cumulative” effects in NEPA reviews.*

Section 3 of the EO requires the Secretary to conduct a review of the boundary modifications of the Bears Ears National Monument. *The Department on June 1, 2021 submitted a confidential report to the White House on its recommendations in response to the EO. The President on October 7, 2021 announced the decision to restore the boundaries and protections for both Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments.*

Section 4 of the EO requires the Secretary to place a moratorium on implementation of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program in Alaska and conduct a new and comprehensive analysis of the potential impacts of the oil and gas program. *The Secretary on June 1, 2021 issued Secretary Order 3401 to suspend*

all leases and halt all activities related to the oil and gas program in ANWR. The BLM on August 4, 2021 published a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register to prepare a supplemental EIS for the ANWR Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program and announced the start of a 60-day public scoping period of the oil and gas program.

PLF Position: The PLF will be closely tracking these actions and providing comments during any public comment period, as appropriate.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 14008 TACKLING THE CLIMATE CRISIS AT HOME AND ABROAD

Status: Signed by the President on January 27, 2021.

Summary: Section 207 of the EO requires the Secretary to review renewable energy siting and permitting processes on the public lands and identify steps to increase renewable energy production on the public lands. *The BLM on September 10, 2021 published a Notice in the Federal Register announcing a competitive solar energy lease sale of 4,836 acres in Utah to be held on November 9, 2021.*

Section 208 of the EO requires the Secretary to pause new oil and gas leases on the public lands pending completion of a comprehensive review and reconsideration of Federal permitting and leasing practices and whether to adjust royalties associated with coal, oil, and gas resources extracted from the public lands. *The U.S. District Court of Louisiana on June 15, 2021 issued an Order that granted a Preliminary Injunction on the pause of the oil and gas*

leasing program. The administration on August 16, 2021 appealed the Federal court's decision.

PLF Position: The PLF will be closely tracking these actions and providing comments during any public comment period, as appropriate.

COAL LEASING PROGRAM REVIEW

Status: The BLM on August 20, 2021 published a Federal Register notice, which solicits public comments on the review of the Federal coal leasing program. Comment period ended on October 5, 2021.

Summary: On January 15, 2016, Secretary Jewell issued Secretarial Order 3338 directing BLM to conduct a broad, programmatic review of the Federal coal leasing program and preparation of a Programmatic EIS on the program. The Order also directed a pause on the issuance of new Federal leases until completion of the EIS. On March 29, 2017, Secretary Zinke issued Secretarial Order 3348 that rescinded the Jewell Order, lifted the coal leasing pause, and halted preparation of the EIS. On April 16, 2021 Secretary Haaland issued Secretarial Order 3398, which rescinded the Zinke Order. The Order directed BLM to review and revise as necessary all policies and instructions that implemented the revoked Orders.

PLF Position: The PLF will be closely tracking these actions and provide comments during any public comment period, as appropriate.

SOLAR AND WIND ENERGY AND LINEAR RIGHT-OF-WAY REGULATIONS – 43 CFR PART 2800

Rule Status: On August 31, 2021 BLM announced the intent to revise the current regulations related to renewable energy permitting and linear rights-of-way on the public lands. As part of this process, BLM has solicited public input on updating these regulations. A series of public listening sessions were held on September 14, 23, and 24 as a forum for the public to offer input on developing proposed updates to the regulations. The BLM plans on publishing a Proposed Rule by early 2022.

Rule Summary: The BLM has solicited input on rent schedules for solar and wind energy rights-of-way, competitive process for wind and solar energy rights-of-way, extension of authorizations beyond 30-years, applications processing, and other improvements to the administration of the renewable energy program.

PLF Position: The PLF will be closely tracking this proposed rule and provide comments during the public comment period.

BLM LEADERSHIP

The Secretary announced on September 17, 2021 that the BLM national Headquarters will return to Washington, D.C. and that BLM will maintain a “western headquarters” location in Grand Junction. The BLM Director and other senior leadership positions will move to Washington, D.C. The Senate confirmed the nomination of Tracy Stone-Manning for the position of BLM Director on September 30, 2021.

With the continued changes in the leadership positions of BLM, we would like to provide an update on the current BLM Leadership, including the State Directors that provide the day-to-day on-the-ground management for our public lands. The following are the current Deputy Directors and the State Directors for each of the BLM State Offices:

Director	Tracy Stone-Manning
Deputy Director, Policy and Programs	Nada Culver
Deputy Director, Operations	Michael Nedd
Alaska State Office	Tom Heinlein (<i>Acting</i>)
Arizona State Office	Raymond Suazo
California State Office	Karen Mouritsen
Colorado State Office	Jaime Connell
Eastern States Office	Mitchell Leverette
Idaho State Office	Peter Ditton (<i>Acting</i>)
Montana State Office	John Mehlhoff
Nevada State Office	Jon Raby
New Mexico State Office	Melanie Barnes (<i>Acting</i>)
OR/WA State Office	Barry Bushue
Utah State Office	Greg Sheehan
Wyoming State Office	Kim Liebhauser (<i>Acting</i>)

DO WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT CONTACT INFORMATION?

Please help us keep our records current and ensure we have your current e-mail address on file. It's easy to do by updating your profile on the PLF Member's Forum, message us at info@publicland.org, or call at 703-935-0916.

IN MEMORIAM

REMEMBRANCE DAVID QUICK

David Quick passed away on April 8, 2021 in Berlin, Germany where he moved following his retirement from BLM in 2015. David was a much-loved friend and colleague, joining the BLM Washington Office Public Affairs Division in 1995 after the Bureau of Mines was abolished by Congress. He helped launch the BLM internet presence and was a gifted writer with a wit to match. David was a graduate of Princeton with a Master's degree in German. David was a renaissance man: he was a fluent German speaker with a working knowledge of several other languages, including Italian and Spanish. He was an accomplished concert violist and played the viola professionally, substituting with the Kennedy Center Orchestra and playing at churches in the Washington, D.C. area, including the National Cathedral. The Kennedy Center Opera House orchestra posted a thoughtful tribute to David on their Friends of the Kennedy Center Facebook page. In 2012, he began volunteering at the Travelers' Aid Desk at Reagan National Airport where he had a chance to impress visitors with his linguistic skills. His culinary exploits were legendary and he traveled widely. Above all, though, David was a kind and gentle man who was always considerate towards others; he will be remembered with affection by his BLM family.



David Quick

*by Celia Boddington
PLF, Arlington, VA*

Mary Jo Albin on August 16, 2021, in Farmington, NM. Mary Jo worked for BLM in Farmington for 38 years until her retirement in 2013.

Teresa Ann Carrillo on September 5, 2021, in Las Cruces, NM. Terri was a lifelong resident of Las Cruces and worked at White Sands Missile Range and for BLM in Las Cruces.

Wanda Daniels on April 16, 2021, in Elk Mountain, WY. Wanda worked for BLM in Rawlins, WY for several years before retiring in 2002.

Douglas Dickinson on July 31, 2021, in Anchorage, AK. In 1970, Doug began a career in cadastral survey with BLM in Alaska as electronic support for the survey of native claims allotments. He retired in 2014.

K. Allen "Al" Foucar on June 20, 2021, in Escondido, CA. Al earned a B.S. Degree in Forestry from the University of Idaho, an M.A. degree in Education from the University of Montana and an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from Arizona State University. Al worked for BLM in Whitehall and Malta, MT early in his career before pursuing his educational career.

John E. Gumert on September 29, 2021, in Ingram, TX. John was a graduate of Texas A&M and worked for the Department of the Interior and BLM for more than 33 years retiring in 1990. He worked in Albuquerque and Las Cruces, NM and Portland, OR. When he retired he was Chief, Title Records and Public Assistance in the BLM New Mexico State Office and formerly Chief, Public Affairs Office. From 1960 until retirement, he was a member of the Interior National Forest Firefighting team and helped develop the Fire Information Officer training model for use throughout the federal firefighting service.

Margaret Gordon Harley on March 10, 2021, in Akron, OH. Margaret earned a B.S. Degree in Botany from Humboldt State University. She worked for BLM in Vale, OR and Santa Fe, NM.

Glen B. Hatch on May 30, 2021, in Taylorsville, UT. Glen was a veteran of the U.S. Army and graduated from Utah State University. Glen was a Cadastral Surveyor for BLM, retiring after 33 years of service. He spent the remainder of his career as a surveyor in the private sector.

Dan Hinckley on June 3, 2021, in Great Falls, MT. Dan's career was spent as a Wildlife Biologist for both the state and federal government, first in the state of Utah, next Texas, and then ultimately in Montana. He was the Resource staff Wildlife Biologist in the BLM Montana State Office prior to his retirement.

IN MEMORIAM *(continued)*

Sally Jean Hoeck on July 12, 2021, in Boise, ID. Sally worked for many years in the BLM Eugene District Office, OR.

Dennis Lee Hoffman on August 4, 2021, in Meridian, ID. Dennis served in the U.S. Air Force and had a 32-year career with BLM.

Blane D. Jones on August 15, 2021, in Blackfoot, ID. Blane held many different jobs during his lifetime, including work with BLM in Idaho.

William “Bill” Harvey Klein on May 28, 2021, in Bainbridge, WA. Bill served in the U.S. Navy and received a Business and Forestry degree from the University of Oregon. Bill worked for BLM, the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, and National Park Service before retiring in 1979.

Harold Corbusier Knox on September 5, 2021, in Tucson, AZ. Hal graduated from the University of Arizona and worked many years as a National Park Service Ranger in Washington, D.C. He later joined BLM as a Realty Specialist and worked in New Mexico.

William “Bill” Hayes Lee on June 10, 2021, in Boise, ID. Bill earned a degree in Geology from the University of Colorado and attended graduate school at the Colorado School of Mines. He served in the U.S. Navy Reserve and spent a tour of duty in Vietnam. After 20 years with USGS, he transferred to BLM in Cheyenne, WY and worked in the federal coal leasing program. He worked in the Washington, D.C. office and later in the BLM Boise, ID office. He retired from the federal government after 43 years of service.

Marilyn Wenzke Nickels on September 19, 2021, in Silver Spring, MD. Marilyn graduated from the College of Mount St. Joseph-on-the-Ohio and taught English, American literature, journalism and drama at the high school level. She attended The Catholic University of America and earned a Ph.D. degree in American religious history. After teaching courses at Catholic University, she had a long career in public service with the federal government. She held positions with the Department of the Interior in the Office of the Secretary, National Park Service, and BLM as the Manager of the Cultural and Fossil Resources and Tribal Consultation programs.

David Courtland O’Neal on July 10, 2021, in Las Vegas, NV. Dave served in the Marine Corps and graduated from St. Louis College of Pharmacy. He owned and operated pharmacies in Belleville, Illinois before getting involved in politics and serving as Lt. Governor of Illinois for two terms. He served as Deputy Director of BLM under President Reagan and as Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management under President George H.W. Bush.

Lyle Milton Peterslie on August 21, 2021, in Idaho Falls, ID. Lyle served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and was a heavy equipment operator for BLM until he retired in 1990.

David Quick on April 8, 2021, in Berlin, Germany. David joined the BLM Washington Office Public Affairs Division in 1995 after the Bureau of Mines was abolished by Congress. He moved to Germany following his retirement from BLM in 2015.

Alexander “Alex” McLain Rose on September 4, 2019, in Casper, WY. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Relations from Western Kentucky University. He enjoyed outdoor adventures, including a six-month thru-hike of the Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine in 2000. After his Appalachian Trail hike, he began an 18-year career as a Park Ranger with the National Park Service, Forest Service, and BLM. He was affectionately known as “Ranger Rose” and to memorialize his contributions to BLM, a permanent memorial is engraved in the wall at the entrance of the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center in Casper, WY. At the time of his passing he was the Supervisory Park Ranger at the California Trail and Interpretive Center in Elko, NV.

Claude Dwain Roswurm on July 4, 2021, in Norman, OK. Claude served in the US Army during the Korean conflict and graduated from Kansas State University. He began his long career with BLM in 1960 and after retiring from BLM in Billings, MT he formed his own right-of-way company.

Robert “Bob” J. Shimer on May 15, 2021, in Sacramento, CA. Bob received a Bachelor’s degree in Forestry from the State University of New York at Syracuse. As a forester, he worked for BLM in Montana, Wyoming, and Alaska. Bob was the first state forester in Alaska, when it became a state in 1959.

IN MEMORIAM *(continued)*

Robert “Bob” M. Shreve on September 17, 2021, in Smithfield, KY. Bob served in the U.S. Army Reserves. He worked for BLM primarily in Susanville, CA from 1955 to 1994, from where he retired.

Jeffrey “Jeff” Harlan Shryer on June 13, 2021, in Bozeman, MT. Jeff began his career with BLM conducting research on condors and the desert tortoise in the ecosystems of Nevada and California and then went to Alaska to work with bears, Dall sheep, and wolves. He worked in the BLM’s Endangered Species Program in Miles City, MT and directed research on endangered bats, raptors, and black-footed ferrets. After work with the Peace Corps in Botswana, he completed his career with FWS. After retirement, he continued wildlife and land conservation work in Montana and was involved in biodiversity projects with Montana State University and The Montana Land Reliance.

Richard C. Taylor on June 30, 2021, in Visalia, CA. Richard served in the Navy during the Korean conflict. He graduated from Colorado State University with a degree in Forest Management. He worked with the Forest Service and BLM in a variety of forest, recreational planning, and management positions for 30 years before retiring in 1982.

Gregory Floyd Thayne on September 10, 2021, in Riverton, UT. He attended Brigham Young University and earned a BS degree in Zoology and Education, an MS degree in Botany and Geology, and a PhD in Botany and Ecology. Greg worked for 35 years for BLM in St. George, Cedar City, Richfield, and Salt Lake City, UT in several positions including Wildlife Biologist, Botanist, Environmental Project Manager, Wilderness Coordinator, and NEPA Coordinator. He was also selected for a congressional assignment as the BLM Staff Liaison to Congressman Bill Orton (UT) in Washington, D.C. in 1995-1996.

Dr. Dwight Tuttle on June 24, 2021, in Wichita Falls, TX. Dwight served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam war. He earned a B.A. Degree in History from the University of Utah, a M.A. Degree in

History from Indiana State University, and a Ph.D. in History from Washington State University. He worked briefly for BLM in Anchorage, AK and was the historian for Sheppard Air Force Base for 23 years, before retiring in 2007.

Delmar Dee Vail on August 24, 2021, in Hurricane, UT. Del graduated from the University of Idaho with a Bachelor’s degree in Forestry Resources, majoring in Rangeland Management. His 38-year career with BLM began in 1956 as a Range Conservationist in Burley, ID. His career included the Assistant District Manager of the Burley District Office, Assistant District Manager of the Boise District Office, District Manager of the Cedar City District Office, District Manager of the California Desert District Office, Associate State Director of Wyoming, and Assistant Director and Deputy Director for Land and Renewable Resources in Washington, D.C. In 1983, he became the Director of the BLM Denver Service Center and finished his career as the State Director of Idaho. He played a leading role in establishing the BLM Ranger program and the development of the BLM “Cauldron” training program for career professionals and managers. The Public Lands Foundation presented a Lifetime Service Award to Del in 2007.

Barbara Jean Waters on August 27, 2021, in Albany, OR. Barbara received degrees from both Southern Oregon College and the University of Oregon. She worked for several federal agencies including the Umpqua National Forest and BLM in Roseburg, OR as well as the Veterans Administration both in Roseburg and Washington, D.C.

Deane Zeller on September 1, 2021, in Boise, ID. Deane attended the North Dakota School of Forestry and graduated from North Dakota State University with a BS degree in Biology and a Master’s degree in Range Science. His 39-year career with BLM started in Vale, OR and continued with positions in Burley and Boise, ID; Washington, D.C.; Phoenix, AZ; and Salt Lake City, UT, where he was the District Manager. He retired in Boise, ID.

The PLF is committed to never forgetting the dedicated employees of the BLM who have left us. We do so on our website’s Memorial Wall and by publishing names of those who passed away in the Monitor. If you have a death to report, please e-mail us at obits@publicland.org, preferably with a link to or copy of an obituary. You can rely on the PLF to keep you informed of topical news on the public PLF Facebook page, our website, other social media sites, and the Monitor newsletter.

*Note: Putting together the Memoriam list in the **Monitor** and maintaining the Memorial Wall on the PLF website takes a lot of work by PLF volunteers. 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.*

DONATIONS

Looking for 75th Anniversary merchandise? Our friends at Public Lands Interpretive Association have put together a website full of items from water bottles, to T-shirts, to ornaments. Each item purchased provides a \$1 donation to the Public Lands Foundation scholarship fund—letting you support the PLF while you shop! Go to <https://www.publiclands.org/blm75> to make your purchase today!

The PLF continues to request donations to support the George Lea Founder's Scholarship fund. We hope members will join the Board in making a special contribution to the scholarship fund. Two \$5,000 scholarships were granted this year to deserving students, however the fund needs to be replenished to be able to continue to offer these scholarships each year.

You can make a designated donation by credit card on our website at 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 if your donation is for the **George Lea Founder's Scholarship**, for the **Student Congress Fund**, or the newly established **Executive Director Fund**. Remember, if you are making a donation in memory of someone 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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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE WAVE

There is a very unique geological feature in North-western Arizona called “The Wave”, on lands managed by BLM. It has a worldwide reputation and commensurate demand for the five-mile hike to this stunning 190 million year old Navajo Sandstone Formation.

Upon retiring from BLM after 42 years, my number one wish was to visit the Wave. I had been looking for an opportune time to visit this site knowing that a permit was required from BLM, but the permit is only obtainable by winning a lottery. Several years ago while still working for BLM, I entered the lottery along with about 600 other people in January for a permit for my son and I for the end of May. I was not a winner, as only ten online permits were granted per day at that time. I entered the lottery again in February for a permit in early June along with another 600 people. As predicted, I did not win this lottery either for the coveted ten permits allotted each day.

Six months later, my son and I met in Kanab, Utah and were excited about the daily walk-in lottery, where we submitted an application at 9 A.M. to compete with dozens of applicants for the additional 10 permits to the Wave for that day. My chances would be a little better, but I still had a very small chance of winning the walk-in lottery. In summary, I did not win this one either.

In 2021 BLM updated its online lottery system to allow 48 people or 12 groups (whichever comes first), to hike to the Wave. In addition, the daily walk-in lottery provides for another 16 people and/or four groups, whichever comes first, to test their legs on this five-mile hike. The maximum group size is six people. In summary, the daily number of hikers cannot exceed 64.

I think the current lottery system is fair, but BLM retirees who have spent most of their lives managing BLM lands and have a desire to see one of the more scenic geologic wonders of any BLM land in the nation will be truly disappointed that their chances of doing so are, for all practical purposes, a value approaching zero. I don't think this is an

honorable way to recognize those BLM retirees who still have a desire to visit and enjoy the public lands they managed and treasured for most of their lives and certainly their careers.

I don't think it's asking too much for BLM to recognize the service and dedication that the 3,000 plus BLM retirees have demonstrated over many years of BLM service—whether they were in the financial, administrative, engineering, or natural resources fields—by providing a mechanism to accommodate them along with the online and daily lottery winners. A final thought, I also would not anticipate a flood of applications from BLM retirees who would want to experience this hike to the Wave. It would not be a significant workload for the Wave staff to provide us older-timers with this opportunity without the lottery competition.

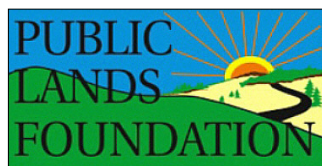
Am I alone on this thought?

Bob Anderson
PLF Member, Virginia

The Monitor is what we make it and we encourage you to provide Letters to the Editor or provide other reviews and comments on articles included in your newsletter. It is important to hear from our membership, and if you like something or don't like something, let us know. If you do send an e-mail to the Editor, don't be surprised if it winds up as a Letter to the Editor in the next edition of the Monitor. Please provide your comments to rbrady@publicland.org. Comments should be limited to no more than 500 words in length. In addition, members are encouraged to use the bod@publicland.org e-mail address to communicate with the PLF Board.

The Monitor generally reflects ongoing PLF activities, events, updates, awards, and information on former BLM employees. We encourage articles and discussions of issues by posting quality content that also provides a positive exposure of the goals, objectives, and mission of PLF. However, we need to take some precautions when posting information to the newsletter and other forms of social media to ensure appropriate rules of behavior. In keeping a positive experience for our members, we reserve the right to publish only comments, photos, and other material deemed appropriate by the PLF. We intend on maintaining a friendly and professional tone in the articles in the Monitor and any posting of Letters to the Editor.

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PUBLIC LANDS FOUNDATION
P.O. BOX 7226 ARLINGTON, VA 22207

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JOIN US!!

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

Regular	\$35
Contributing	\$50
Family	\$50
Sustaining.....	\$100
Sponsoring	\$200
Patron.....	\$500
	<i>or more</i>
Life Membership	\$350

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

PLF 2022 BALLOT

Article VI, Ballots, of the PLF By-laws, requires annual election by mail or electronic ballot of the Board of Directors. Accordingly, the following is the slate of officers for the Public Lands Foundation for 2022. Write-ins are permissible. **Vote by using the SurveyMonkey sent to you by e-mail and save postage,** or mark this ballot and mail it on or before December 15, 2021. If mailed, send your ballot to P.O. Box 7226, Arlington, VA 22207. **National Representatives—vote for all; State Representatives—vote for only your state.**

(Vote by X)	NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES	(Write-In)
_____	President	Mary Jo Rugwell
_____	Vice President	Don Simpson
_____	Vice Pres., Operations	Beau McClure
<u>Appointed</u>	Vice Pres., DC Affairs	Ray Brady
<u>Appointed</u>	Student Congress	AnnaFaith Jorgensen
_____	Secretary	Ray Brady
_____	Treasurer	Kim Harb
_____	Director-at-Large	Tom Allen
_____	Director-at-Large	Dean Bibles
_____	Director-at-Large	Peter Bierbach
_____	Director-at-Large	Jim Currivan
_____	Director-at-Large	Mike Ferguson
_____	Director-at-Large	Walt George
_____	Director-at-Large	Dwight Hempel
_____	Director-at-Large	Eric Janes
_____	Director-at-Large	John Kwiatkowski
_____	Director-at-Large	Van Manning
_____	Director-at-Large	Dave Mari
_____	Director-at-Large	Mat Millenbach
_____	Director-at-Large	Tim O'Brien
_____	Director-at-Large	George Stone
_____	Director-at-Large	Rich Whitley
_____	Director-at-Large	Maggie Wyatt
_____	Director-at-Large	Elaine Zielinski
STATE REPRESENTATIVES		
_____	Alaska	Sharon Wilson
_____	Arizona	Beau McClure
_____	California	Thomas Zale
_____	Colorado	Bob Moore
_____	Idaho	Jenna Whitlock
_____	Montana	Richard Hopkins
_____	Nevada	Ev "Butch" Hayes
_____	New Mexico	Jesse Juen
_____	Oregon	Duane Dippon
_____	Utah	Bill Lamb
_____	Washington	Barron Bail
_____	Wyoming	Bill LeBarron
_____	Midwest & Eastern States	Jeff Holdren

Comments _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Address _____

If you have not already done so, please enclose your 2022 annual dues of \$35 with your ballot. Please consider the Special Dues Categories printed on the address page of the *Monitor* in paying your dues. Your continued financial help is needed to pay for the operating costs of the PLF.