



# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

California State Office

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[www.ca.blm.gov](http://www.ca.blm.gov)



June 22, 2001

In Reply Refer to:

1702 (P)

CA-930

EMS TRANSMISSION: 06/22/01

Information Bulletin No. **CA-2001-041**

To: AFOs

From: State Director

Subject: Implementation of BLM's Science Strategy - Regional Science Catalogs **DD: 9/01/01**

The attached Washington Office Information Bulletin (IB No. 2001-030) describes the process for implementing BLM's *Science Strategy* with respect to the identification of priority science information needs and the communication of these needs to science providers. (See Attachment 1.) Hard copies of BLM's *Science Strategy* were previously sent to all Field Offices. This document may also be downloaded from the National Science and Technology Center website at: <http://www.blm.gov:80/nstc/index.html>

BLM's *Science Strategy* sets forth the Bureau's overall approach to science with three primary objectives: (1) delineating the role of science in BLM decision-making and public land management, (2) establishing a clear process for identifying BLM's science information needs and priorities, and assuring that those needs are reflected in BLM's Strategic Plan and budget, and (3) providing a mechanism for communicating BLM's science information needs, sharing the results of completed scientific investigations, and highlighting science opportunities on the public lands.

Successful implementation of the *Science Strategy* will depend largely on BLM's ability to demonstrate the need and benefits of science-based management. The mechanism selected to organize and communicate BLM's science information needs is described in Attachment 2 and involves the development of Regional Science Catalogs. Each Regional Catalog will contain descriptions of a broad array of science needs which, if addressed, could assist BLM in managing the public lands. To get a broad array of needs, it is important for supervisors to encourage input from as many people involved in managing the public lands as possible, including volunteers and other non-employees. As program meetings and workshops occur over the summer, this topic may be an appropriate agenda item. State Office program leads who already

know the science needs for their respective programs may wish to submit them in lieu of a response from all program personnel.

BLM's *Science Strategy* delineates nine biogeographic regions for organizing science issues and needs. These regions roughly correspond to the biogeographic boundaries defined for the new Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units system (see [www.cesu.org](http://www.cesu.org)). The Californian bioregion is entirely within California, while the Desert Southwest, Great Basin, and Pacific Northwest bioregions partially overlap with California. The BLM lead for developing the Science Catalog for the Californian bioregion is Ed Lorentzen. The Regional Science Catalogs for the other biogeographic regions will be developed in coordination with Science Coordination Committee members from the adjacent States. (AZ-BLM has the lead for the Desert Southwest, NV-BLM for the Great Basin, and OR-BLM for the Pacific Northwest.) Science information needs submitted for the California portions of the Desert Southwest, Great Basin, and Pacific Northwest bioregions will be forwarded to the BLM leads for these bioregions for inclusion in the appropriate Regional Science Catalog.

A form for filling out your science information needs is attached. (See Attachment 3.) For each need, please complete the form as thoroughly as possible. Once your needs have been submitted, they will be cataloged based on their scope (i.e. national, regional, site specific). Please submit your science information needs, if any, to CA-930 (Attn: Ed Lorentzen) by September 1, 2001. If you desire additional information or assistance, please contact Mr. Lorentzen at (916) 978-4646. Your assistance in developing BLM's first-generation Regional Science Catalogs is greatly appreciated.

Signed by:  
James Wesley Abbott  
Associate State Director

Authenticated by:  
Richard A. Erickson  
Records Management

#### Distribution

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AZ-932 (Attn: Bill Grossi)  
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ST-100 (Attn: Phil Dittberner)  
WO-210 (Attn: John Haugh)

#### Attachments-3

- 1 - WO Information Bulletin No. 2001-030 RE: BLM *Science Strategy* (2 pp.)
- 2 - Information Bulletin No. ST-2001-054 RE: BLM *Science Strategy* Implementation (2 pp.)
- 3 - Outline to Identify Science Needs (1 pp.)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

December 7, 2000

1782 (WO-100) P

EMS TRANSMISSION 12/19/2000  
Information Bulletin No. 2001-030

To: All Washington Office and Field Officials

From: Director

Subject: Bureau of Land Management Science Strategy

The Executive Leadership Team approved the Bureau of Land Management Science Strategy at its September 26, 2000, meeting. The Science Strategy states the role of science in land management, establishes a process to identify and prioritize the Bureau's science needs, suggests a method to communicate our needs to science providers, and acknowledges the significant opportunities that our land base provides to host scientific investigations.

The identification and prioritization of science needs will be accomplished through a process that begins at the field level through the preparation of regional catalogs. The regions identified in the Science Strategy closely follow those established for the Cooperative Ecosystem Study Unit (CESU) initiative. The lead State for the preparation of the Science Strategy regional catalogs will be the Bureau State that is the lead for the CESU within that region. The National Science and Technology Center will provide overall leadership and coordination for the implementation of the Science Strategy, and a representative of the Center will be in contact with the respective lead State Science Coordinators to initiate the implementation process.

The Science Strategy will provide the Bureau a better opportunity to communicate our science needs to our various science providers, including the U.S. Geological Survey and the Forest Service. It also provides the Bureau with consistent information that will allow us to better work with the academic community throughout the United States.



If you have any questions or comments relating to the Science Strategy or its implementation, please feel free to contact Lee Barkow, National Science and Technology Center Director, at 303-236-6454 or e-mail at [lee\\_barkow@blm.gov](mailto:lee_barkow@blm.gov).

Signed by:  
Nina Rose Hatfield  
Acting Director

Authenticated by:  
Barbara J. Brown  
Policy & Records Group, WO-560

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER  
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March 28, 2001

In Reply Refer To:  
1782 (ST-100) P

EMS TRANSMISSION 3/28/2001  
Information Bulletin No. ST-2001-054

To: All Washington Office and Field Officials

From: Director, National Science and Technology Center

Subject: Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Science Strategy Implementation

By way of Information Bulletin No. 2001-030, Acting Director Nina Hatfield transmitted BLM's new Science Strategy to all Washington Office and Field Officials. The Science Strategy, approved by the BLM Executive Leadership Team (ELT) in September 2000, describes the role of science in land management, establishes a process for identifying priority science needs, and suggests ways to communicate needs to science providers.

Members of the BLM ELT committed to the Science Strategy with an expectation for follow-up action. An initial step in meeting that expectation is the need to develop Regional Science Catalogues this fiscal year. The catalogues, organized along biographic regions and generally following the boundaries of Cooperative Ecosystem Study Units (CESUs), are expected to serve as a tool to communicate BLM science needs.

Members of the BLM Science Coordination Committee (SCC) discussed catalogue development at its March 6-7, 2001, meeting in Tucson. Draft outline and catalog content materials were discussed and distributed. SCC members are expected to lead the development of catalogues for their regions. SCC member coaches (Dr. Phil Dittberner, Dr. Bill Wagner, Lee Barkow, Bob Alverts, and Brian St. George) are available to assist offices with catalogue development as needed.

While first-generation catalogues are an important tool for BLM to use in communicating science needs, we recognize that details may not be available for a number of identified science needs. As time and new information are available, we expect catalogue content to include new details.

**Attachment 2-1**

I am excited and optimistic about the opportunity to better identify and advance BLM's science needs as we implement the new Science Strategy. I am also confident we can do a credible job and look forward to seeing your first-generation science catalogues later this fiscal year.

Should you have any questions or need to discuss catalogue development or Science Strategy implementation in more detail, please call me at 303-236-6454 or contact your science coordinator or the coaches in your region.

Signed by:  
Lee Barkow  
Director

Authenticated by:  
Rheda Dodd  
Staff Assistant

1 Attachment  
1 - List of Leads and Coaches (1 p)

Distribution  
ST-150, BLM Library

## OUTLINE TO IDENTIFY SCIENCE NEEDS

### 1. Issue Summary

#### a. Subject matter

*(A brief description, 1 to 3 sentences or a short paragraph, giving a title or short description of the Issue. It may be as general or as specific as you wish for your catalog. Example: Invasive weeds).*

#### b. Why is the subject of concern?

*(Why is this an issue? What management situations or questions are driving this issue? Why is this a priority? What are the resource, economic, or political forces that make this an issue? Example: In recent years it has become increasingly apparent that the spread of invasive weeds is reducing productivity and biodiversity on much of our nations lands. There are tremendous economic losses because of this. The public has become more aware of this and are being more concerned and vocal about it.)*

#### c. What are the implications of failing to address the issue?

*(If our knowledge and information to address the issue is not more current or better than we have now, how will the decisions or actions be hampered? What will be the resource, economic, or political fallout if the issue is not dealt with? Example: Failing to address this issue and do something about it will result in a continued loss of productivity and biodiversity on several million acres per year and continued expansion of the invasives distributions.)*

### 2. How does this issue relate to BLM's national mission/priorities

*(Identify the Strategic Plan Framework Goal Categories and/or Mission Goals that this issue is related to or will address.)*

### 3. How will BLM benefit by addressing this issue?

### 4. What biogeographic areas are involved?

### 5. Affected stakeholders?

### 6. Potential partners?

### 7. Key words:

#### a. Bio-region

#### b. Subject or resource in question

#### c. Type of science (monitoring, long-term study, analysis of existing data, etc.)

#### d. Program directive.

**Attachment 3**