

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Nevada State Office
P.O. Box 12000
Reno, Nevada 89520-0006

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To: Field Managers, Nevada
Field Managers, Eagle Lake and Surprise Field Offices, California

From: Deputy State Director, Natural Resources, Lands & Planning

Subject: Fiscal Year 2002/03 Nevada Wilderness Management Workshop DD: 10/15/02

With one exception, all Field Offices indicated a preference to reschedule the annual Nevada Wilderness Management Workshop from September to sometime after the beginning of the new fiscal year, partly to ensure the availability of travel and per diem funds for workshop participants. Consequently, we have rescheduled the workshop for the week of November 18, 2002 at the Carson Valley Inn, 1627 U.S. Highway 395 N., in Minden. The specific dates to mark on your calendar are Tuesday, November 19 through Thursday, November 21. The workshop will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday and end at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, so schedule your travel accordingly.

The target groups for this workshop are Nevada Field Office, Field Station, and California Eagle Lake and Surprise Field Office Wilderness Specialists and other resource program leaders and staff specialists from these offices. A special invitation is extended to managers at all Nevada State, Field Office, and Field Station levels who are interested in or involved with Nevada's Wilderness Management Program. A maximum of three participants per office may attend, except Carson City.

A block of twenty rooms has been reserved for workshop participants at the Carson Valley Inn. To reserve your room, please call the Inn at 1-800-321-6983 on or before **Monday, October 28, 2002**. Inform the reservations clerk you are attending the "BLM Wilderness Workshop" and give the clerk our group reservation number **239365** in order to receive the government rate of \$53.10 per night plus occupancy tax (10%) for one or two people. Please make your reservations as soon as possible. The per diem rate for Minden is \$85 per day (lodging \$55, M&IE \$30). If you are unable to reserve a room at the Carson Valley Inn, contact Terry Knight at 775-885-6173 for suggestions.

The workshop will provide training and information in a number of program areas including but not limited to: the NLCS, Performance-based Wilderness Management; Cost Management and How to Use the Existing System; Wilderness Management Program Elements and Project Codes; the Wilderness Inventory and Study Procedures Handbook (H-6310-1); National Wilderness Management Brochure; Wilderness Management Training Courses; Noxious Weeds in Wilderness/WSAs; BLM Land Use Planning and How It Relates to Wilderness; Update on implementation of Black Rock Desert - High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails NCA Act of 2002; Status of Clark County Conservation of Public Land and Natural Resources Act of 2002; coordination of wilderness management activities with California BLM Field Offices, wilderness advocacy groups, and other Federal wilderness management entities.

A portion of the field and class time will be devoted to Wilderness and Interim Management Policy issues. In this regard, each Field Office will be required to present one case study pertaining to a recently approved, denied, or pending proposed action or Wilderness/IMP violation within a designated Wilderness or WSA. Thirty minutes will be allocated for each presentation. The use of slides, maps, graphics, overheads and other visual aids is encouraged during the presentation. Please let Terry Knight know whether you have any particular audio-visual needs for your presentation.

A handout for each case study will be expected for the benefit of workshop participants. Plan on having about 25-30 copies of the handout available. The case study handout shall include the following:

1. A brief description of the proposed action or Wilderness/IMP violation;
2. A short narrative giving pertinent background information;
3. An identification of any underlying or contingency issues;
4. Wilderness management or IMP guidance and references relating to the case; and
5. Proposed or final decisions and other solutions.

A field trip is scheduled for Wednesday, November 20. We will visit the Burbank Canyons WSA. Topics to be discussed in the field include unauthorized uses and their rehabilitation/restoration, access issues and impacts of rural residences adjacent to WSA boundaries, and closures of abandoned mine lands within WSAs. Depending on the weather, there may be a three to four mile hike, so bring your boots, fanny packs, hats, jackets and other appropriate gear. Please let Terry know if you will be driving a multi-passenger vehicle to the workshop and would be willing to drive your vehicle on the field trip. Lunch will be offered on the trip at a reasonable cost and water, ice and coolers will be provided.

Following the field trip, a barbeque is planned at the Silver Saddle Ranch in Carson City. In the event of inclement weather, we will enjoy a family-style meal at one of Gardnerville's fine Basque restaurants.

Field Offices are asked to submit additional wilderness topics for possible agenda items to Steve Smith in the Nevada State Office via FAX (775-861-6712) or Lotus Notes **no later than Tuesday, October 15**. Please make an effort to identify issues and concerns which you feel would be appropriate as agenda items. A draft agenda will be assembled from the topics submitted and will be sent to each Field Office and Field Station prior to the workshop. Also **by Tuesday, October 15**, please provide a list of workshop participants, including titles, to Steve via FAX or Lotus Notes.

If you have questions or need additional information concerning the case studies or topics proposed for the Fiscal Year 2002/03 Nevada Wilderness Management Workshop, please contact Steve in the State Office at 775-861-6477.

Signed By:
Susan T. Stokke
Acting DSD, NRL&P

Authenticated By:
Deborah Spitale
Staff Assistant

Distribution

Director (170), (Attention: Jeff Middaugh, Rob Hellie, Jeff Jarvis, Gary Pavek)
SD, Colorado (Attn: Dave Porter)
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