

BLM "Making a Difference" National Volunteer Awards Criteria

Criteria (nominees should have demonstrated excellence in one or more of the following areas):

- Service to public lands and the American people
- Support of BLM's mission
- Raising the awareness of the public about conserving and protecting the public lands
- Building of partnerships or stewardship opportunities
- Support of the volunteer program

Eligible Nominees

- Individual BLM volunteers, hosted workers, and groups
- BLM employees: Volunteer Coordinators, volunteer supervisors/organizers

Nomination Process

Nominations should be submitted, via your State or Center Volunteer Coordinator, to Mary Tisdale, Manager of the BLM Environmental Education and Volunteers Group, by January 31, 2001. If a nominee is the State or Center Volunteer Coordinator, that nomination may be submitted separately and directly.

Contents of Nomination Package

Nominations should not be longer than one page each. Each nomination package should include the following:

- Nominee's name
- Nominee's address
- Nominee's phone number, fax number, e-mail address
- Name, office address, phone number, and e-mail address of volunteer's BLM contact or employee-supervisor, or BLM employee's supervisor
- Length of nominee's service in the volunteer program (if relevant)
- Narrative about the nominee's "Making a Difference" contribution in 2000:
 - Work or project description
 - Significance to BLM's mission, and/or dollar value of contribution
 - Two- or three-sentence summary describing how the volunteer "made a difference"

Selection Process

A selection committee consisting of one or more BLM Washington Office employees, one BLM field employee (or an employee with field experience), and one or more representatives from external organizations will convene to evaluate award nominees. Judges will not be required to select a specific number of winners; rather, they will be encouraged to select those nominees who they deem have made the most significant difference in helping BLM manage the public lands.

Please note that BLM nominees and private volunteers will be evaluated in separate groups.

Awards Ceremony

"Making a Difference" Award presentations will be made at a special ceremony in Washington, D.C. sometime near mid-April, 2001. Travel and ceremony costs for winners will be paid by the Washington Office.