Volunteering:
In Oregon and Washington the BLM ranks at the top nationally as one of the most productive state volunteer programs, utilizing 2,532 volunteers totaling 170,767 hours for an approximate value of $3,647,583. The BLM volunteers all have one thing in common: enjoyment and appreciation for our public lands. The BLM thanks all of our volunteers for their dedication and hard work.

Environmental Protection:
The BLM manages public rangeland and forestland in a continued effort to protect and enhance some of the Nation’s most remarkable and rugged landscapes. For example, the BLM protects and ensures the health of 152 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern throughout the Northwest:
- 25 Wild and Scenic Rivers
- 13.3 million acres available for livestock grazing
- 2.5 million acres of managed forest lands in western Oregon
- 9 Wilderness Areas and 81 Wilderness Study Areas totaling 2.6 million acres

Fire:
For over 50 years, the BLM, in partnership with Oregon Department of Forestry, has provided fire prevention, protection, and suppression in western Oregon. The BLM provides support to rural and volunteer fire departments through such activities as training, the purchase of equipment, and fire prevention. The BLM also conducts fuel reduction projects to limit the threat of catastrophic wildfire in at-risk communities. In addition, the BLM awards National Fire Plan contracts to local businesses, tribes, and organizations to benefit communities.
- More than $26.1 million in National Fire Plan grants since 2001
- Almost $5.4 million in Rural Fire Assistance programs across the decade to fund rural firefighter training, prevention programs and the purchase of basic firefighting equipment in rural communities.

Renewable and Conventional Energy:
The BLM is committed to helping to meet renewable energy goals identified for the state and the nation. The primary focus on renewable energy projects on BLM lands has been related to wind and geothermal. A key effort has been the establishment of the Renewable Energy and Eastern Oregon Landscape Partnership. This partnership is a collaborative effort of government agencies to address the needs and issues inherent to renewable energy and habitat conservation.

Oil and Gas Leasing:
172 leases (269,643 acres)

Geothermal: There are currently 75 Federal geothermal leases encompassing 98,883 acres in Oregon.

Wind Energy:
Sixteen wind site testing and monitoring right-of-way grants have been authorized. There are four pending wind farm applications (30,024 acres), and 15 pending wind site testing and monitoring applications.

Learning Opportunities:
The BLM has many sites throughout Oregon and Washington that provide interpretive and educational experiences that highlight Oregon’s rich cultural and natural resource heritage including the Riddle Brother’s Ranch, and the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center. We also have six special environmental education sites: Cascade Streamwatch, West Eugene Wetlands, Table Rock, National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, New River Area of Critical Environmental Concern, and Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area.
Contributing to the Oregon and Washington Economies

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has the privilege of protecting and maintaining some of the Nation’s most unique treasures. The BLM manages over 15.7 million acres of public land in Oregon and approximately 430,000 acres in Washington, together with some 22.4 million acres of Federal subsurface minerals.

In western Oregon the BLM manages approximately 2.5 million acres of forests, wetlands, beaches and tide pools in a checkerboard ownership pattern, interspersed among private, state, and other Federal lands. Many of these BLM lands are called O&C lands, named after the Oregon and Washington Economies

In eastern Oregon the BLM manages nearly 13 million acres of public lands covered with sagebrush, native grasses and forbs, juniper and white pine. There are magnificent canyons, 700 miles of raging wild rivers, and a mountain peak that reaches over 8,000 feet. Sage-grouse, mule deer, bighorn sheep, and herds of wild horses are just some of the wildlife that call eastern Oregon home. Eastern Oregon is also the last bastion of numerous rare plants.

The majority of BLM public lands in Washington are east of the Cascade crest in the central Columbia Basin and in the highlands of northeastern Washington along the Canadian border. In addition, public lands are found in northern Puget Sound, north of Seattle in San Juan County, which are managed for their natural, scenic, recreation, and historic values. A full range of habitats are found on the public lands in Washington and include the maritime Puget Sound lowlands, the central Columbia Basin sagebrush regime, many riparian zones, and the coniferous forest and sub-alpine areas of northeast Washington. The lands include one Wilderness Area, one Wilderness Study Area, 15 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, and numerous areas managed principally for their recreational, riparian, and wildlife values. These areas include recreation sites in the Yakima River Canyon (more than 600,000 visitor days each year), the Juniper Dunes Wilderness and nearby off-highway vehicle use area outside the Tri-Cities, and the Channeled Scablands riparian areas just west of Spokane.

The BLM lands provide for a variety of multiple uses throughout the Northwest – all of which contribute to the well-being of local communities through economic activities, social contributions, and land stewardship programs. Take a look around at these socio-economic contributions – we think you’ll be pleasantly surprised.

Revenues (Payments to States and Counties):

Proceeds generated by the sale of timber, grazing and mineral fees, payment in lieu of taxes, and other Federal fund sources are distributed to the state to produce revenues for schools, counties and the local taxing districts.

- $235.5 million Secure Rural Schools Funds from 2008 to 2010
- $25.5 million in Payments in Lieu of Taxes to Oregon and Washington
- $23.2 million in Minerals Income, Grazing Fees, Public Land and Material Sales, and other collections
- $251 million in annual expenditures for BLM resource management in Oregon and Washington

Employment:

Through the use of contracts, partnerships and special initiatives, the BLM employs local workers to fight fires, build bridges, and conduct fish and wildlife habitat improvement projects. These jobs result in cost savings for the state, achieved through maintenance of capital facilities, forest and rangeland health improvements, and wildfire preparedness.

- 1,489 permanent jobs
- $188,523,505 annual payroll cost
- 188 permanent fire jobs, approximately 20 permanent positions hired each year
- 150 temporary fire jobs across OR/WA

Tourism:

Each year millions of visitors enjoy the unique experiences offered by Oregon and Washington’s BLM public lands including rock climbing, bird watching, fishing, hiking, camping, hunting, river rafting, and mountain biking. These attractions generate income that supports local jobs, merchants and small businesses.

- 7,982,017 million recreation visits to BLM lands
- 70 recreation sites
- 21 rivers totaling 1,982 miles available for water recreation activities
- $1.9 million collected in annual recreation permits and fees

Community Enrichment:

The BLM provides many opportunities for community involvement in public land stewardship including Free Fishing Day, International Migratory Bird Day, and National Public Lands Day. These activities enhance public lands and contribute to the high quality of life in the Pacific Northwest.

Other community events sponsored by the BLM include: National Trails Day, National Fishing Day, Project WoodHelp, Kid’s Art, Catch a Special Thrill for Kids, Urban Nature Overviews and Migratory Bird Festivals, food drives, bloodmobiles, and coordinated fundraising drives. 15 routes in Back Country Byways bring visitors and income to Oregon’s rural areas.