

Partnerships and Volunteers Strategy 1.5.2011

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Arizona is committed to utilize partnerships and volunteers as an integral part of the mission delivery and accomplishments, emphasizing the goals of the Arizona Strategies.

The BLM faces continued challenges in effectively managing public lands. Increased pressures from urban/public lands interface, static or decreasing budgets and the overall downturn in the economy, have impacted the BLM and other agencies and organizations ability to meet Mission objectives and goals. By working together as partners, the BLM, state, tribal and local organizations can pool resources and talent to jointly meet public expectations for management of public lands and the delivery of community, recreation and other services.

Effective use of volunteer services, both at the organizational and individual level, provides additional capacity to meet Mission accomplishments. Volunteerism also provides for natural and cultural resource stewardship opportunities for all citizens, with a particular emphasis on seniors and youth.

Integrate the use of partnerships and volunteers in the design and implementation of the BLM Arizona Strategic Goals priority work

- Prioritize key work that shall include the use of partners and volunteers.
- Ensure that partnership opportunities are given high priority when developing initiatives and projects.
- Engage agencies, tribes, local community groups, and stakeholders in determining the best use of partners and volunteers in accomplishment of the Arizona Strategic Goals for Landscape Sustainability, Heritage Resources, and Community Support.

Identify and Implement the use of tools for maximizing our ability to utilize partnerships and volunteers in accomplishment of goals and mission.

- Ensure awareness and training is provided managers and employees on the use of appropriate tools for legitimizing use of partners and volunteers (Assistance Agreements, Memorandum of Understandings, etc.)
- Ensure all managers review proposed work for the opportunities to expand capacity with the use of partners and volunteers (Budget process and community planning).

Develop and Implement partnership and volunteer benchmarks and Best Management Practices to assess our level of involvement and success in accomplishing Arizona Strategic goals.

- Engage agencies, tribes, local community groups, and stakeholders in determining best management practices for use of partners and volunteers in accomplishment of the Arizona Strategic Goals priority work.
- Inventory and assess the current level of partnership and volunteer involvement in management of resources and delivery of services.
- Develop benchmarks for determining success of partner and volunteer involvement in accomplishment of mission.