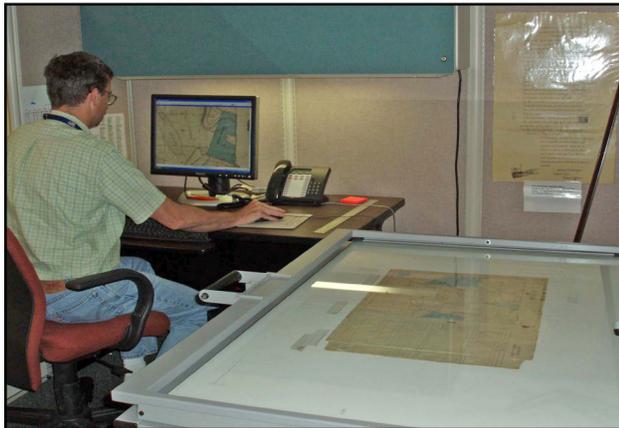




Historic Survey Records Now Available on the GLO Web Site

By Peggy Riek, Writer-Editor, and John Butterfield, General Land Office Systems Manager, BLM-Eastern States



BLM-ES General Land Office Systems Manager John Butterfield demonstrates the automation process using the first survey plat for the State of Louisiana.

Did you ever wonder how the early pioneers of our Nation saw our land as they moved from the colonies in the East to the West in search of a new life in the old Northwest Territory? You're in luck.

The BLM-Eastern States (BLM-ES) has added yet another interesting feature to the Department of the Interior's popular General Land Office (GLO) Records Web site at www.glorerecords.blm.gov. At the "New! Survey Plats" link, visitors can now view historical and current cadastral survey plats for the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Idaho, Michigan, Mississippi, and Oklahoma as well as current survey information performed for other Federal agencies in Texas and some of the 13 original colonies.

Continued on page 4

BLM-ES Sells Beachfront Tract in Walton County, Florida

Story and photo by Duane Winters, Supervisory Natural Resource Program Specialist, BLM-Eastern States, Jackson Field Office

In 2006 the BLM-ES sold a small, 0.58-acre beachfront tract in Walton County, Florida, to The Palms of Dune Allen Owners Association, Inc. The tract, known as the Dune Allen II, lies between the Gulf of Mexico and a condominium development, known as the Palms of Dune Allen.

The Association expressed an interest in acquiring Dune Allen II to ensure that no development would occur between their residences and the Gulf of Mexico. The Walton County Commission, however, as well as the Walton County Tourist Development Council also expressed interest

Continued on page 3

In this Issue

	Page
State Director's Message	2
2006 OWAA Conference in Louisiana	3
What is Split Estate?	5
BLM-ES Adoption/Holding Facility Now Adopting Horses Online.....	6
Wildfires Draw BLM-ES Archaeologist to the West	6
Nature and Invasive Weeds Draw BLM-ES Officials to Wisconsin Site	7
Dune Restoration in Alabama	7
BLM-ES Happenings	8
GLO Seal Press Heads to NPS.....	9
BLM-ES Photo Highlights.....	9
BLM-ES Feels the Loss of Two of Our Finest Employees!	10
We Need Your Input!.....	11
E-mail Briefs	12
Comings & Goings.....	12



State Director's Message



From the steamy swamps in Louisiana to the pristine islands in the Northwoods of Minnesota, BLM-Eastern States manages a variety of natural resources on widely-scattered tracts, located on more than 30,000 acres of BLM public lands. Through our natural resources program, we manage wildlife and fisheries for many species, including migratory birds and threatened and endangered species. This program also includes providing for recreation opportunities and cultural resource management (archaeology, paleontology, and historical), weed control, forestry, and soil, water and air.

Currently, we are concentrating our management efforts on several priority natural areas open to the public, including:

* Lower Potomac sites—Meadowood Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) in Virginia and Douglas Point in Maryland. At the Meadowood SRMA, visitors can enjoy recreational opportunities such as horseback riding, nature walks, birding, and viewing wildlife. In October, we formally opened the 300-acre Meadowood West Parcel for public trail use—hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding, bird and wildlife viewing, and control line flying (3 days/week). Also, on-site we are using state-of-the-art technology with remote satellite cameras to showcase western BLM programs using real time audio and video. In Maryland, the public can enjoy hiking, boating, hunting, and many cultural resources opportunities. This fall we plan to open an interpretive trail at the 18th century Historic Chiles Homesite at Douglas Point.

* Jupiter Inlet Natural Area in Florida, where BLM-ES has partnered with the Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management and South Florida Water Management District on cost-share efforts to maintain thousands of native plant species along the bank of the Loxahatchee River. The group also continues work on repairing areas of the bank damaged during last year's extraordinary hurricane season.

* Lathrop Bayou on the Florida panhandle, where we are working with State, private, and other Federal agencies to manage the public lands having the largest intact longleaf pine forests remaining in Bay and Gulf Counties. This area is also used for nature study. In May 2006, we partnered with St. Joe Timberland Company to band this year's endangered red-cockaded woodpecker chicks on this critical habitat property.

* Lake Vermilion in Minnesota, consisting of 86 small, widely-scattered islands of public land, where we continue efforts with officials of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and Island Stewardship Program volunteers to monitor recreation use and wildlife habitat on some of these islands. On the lake, visitors enjoy fishing, picnicking, and bird watching on these public lands. This year, we also established two new partnerships with the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa and the 1854 Treaty Authority to collectively manage and protect archaeological and tribal resources within the recreation area.

Our highly trained staff, partners, and volunteers in the natural resources program are also dedicated to teaching America's youth to value and respect the great outdoors. For example, we teach students about teamwork, survival skills in the woods, forestry, canoeing, and wildlife through the Piney Woods School's Environmental Education Camp in Mississippi. In Wisconsin, we provide environmental education programming to urban youth through the Milwaukee Urban Tree House site at Lynden Hill. We also host year-round events instructing students about the environment and conservation issues at the Meadowood SRMA in Virginia such as the Wonderful Outdoor World program that introduces urban youth, ages 8-12, to environmental education and outdoor recreation activities during overnight camping experiences in their own communities.

BLM-ES' primary program areas include:

- * Energy and Mineral Resources;
- * Wildland Fire;
- * Wild Horse and Burro Adoption and Compliance;
- * Natural Resources;
- * Lands and Realty;
- * Cadastral Survey; and
- * General Land Office Records Automation.

As we begin Fiscal Year 2007, we will continue to be good stewards of the public's priceless natural resources in the East. We will also continue expanding our efforts to connect the bright youth, our Nation's most valuable asset, to nature and the environment by hosting healthy, outdoor educational programs and activities to create healthy, responsible stewards for the future.

Michael D. Nedd
State Director, BLM-Eastern States



Dune Allen tract...continued from page 1

in the tract. In seeking a resolution to this conflict, the BLM-ES asked the two parties to work together to develop a solution. They agreed on a proposal that the Association would acquire the tract with certain restrictions.

On September 3, 2003, the Walton County Board of County Commissioners advised the BLM that it supported the Association's effort to acquire the property directly south of their development. Covenants were required to protect the public's right to cross the white sand beach along the property and to protect sensitive coastal dune habitat which supported the Choctawatchee beach mouse, a federally listed endangered species. It was also noted that the proposed direct sale was consistent with the Walton County Comprehensive Plan's goal to provide beach access and recreation to meet the demands of the county residents and visitors.



On February 1, 2006, BLM-ES sold the small 0.58-acre beachfront tract, Dune Allen II, and issued a patent to The Palms of Dune Allen Owners Association, Inc., in Walton County, Florida.

Lands & Realty

BLM—Highlights the Antiquities Act Centennial at the 2006 OWAA Conference in Louisiana

Story and photo by Bill Davenport, Public Affairs Specialist, BLM-Eastern States

From June 17-20, the BLM increased outdoor writers' awareness about the importance of the Antiquities Act of 1906 at the 79th Outdoor Writers Association of America (OWAA) Conference in Lake Charles, Louisiana.

The Antiquities Act includes a body of laws protecting cultural, historical and paleontological resources, including sites as diverse as ghost towns, Indian settlements and internationally significant fossil quarries.

BLMers from across the country worked with partners from Thunderbird Atlatl, Tabasco, Incorporated, Blue Heron Communications, and Flambeau, Incorporated, to demonstrate several primitive hunting practices and tasks, such as fire starting with sticks, fishing with spears, and hunting with atlatls. Additionally, the BLM provided over 1,500 outdoor writers with story ideas about archaeology efforts on America's public lands.

The BLM-ES has been BLM's point of contact for the OWAA conference for many years. This ongoing association between the BLM-ES and OWAA has provided national and worldwide professional outdoor media writers with valuable information for stories about BLM's programs and initiatives related to natural resources and recreation.



An OWAA conference participant takes a chance at primitive fishing with a spear, one of several activities dealing with BLM's Antiquities story available at the conference in Louisiana.

Partnerships

BLM personnel participating in this year's conference included: Terry Lewis and Bill Davenport, BLM-ES; Megg Heath, BLM-Colorado; Shelley J. Smith, BLM-Utah; Richard Brook, BLM's Washington Office; Bob King, BLM-Alaska; and Judy Pace, BLM-ES Jackson Field Office.



Historic Survey Records...continued from page 1

Survey plats and field notes are the official survey documents used when land title is transferred through land patents from the Federal government to individuals. Today, these critical historic documents help researchers locate the land referenced in a land patent's legal land description. These survey plats further tell the story of each area surveyed, like a picture during the early settlement of the United States. As the early surveyors moved and surveyed westward, pioneers followed and settled on the "best lands," as rated by the early surveyors and noted as first rate, second rate, or third rate.

Using the U.S. rectangular system of surveys, also called the Public Land Survey System, surveyors first created field notes describing, in detail, the surveyed lines, the terrain over which they passed, and the nature of the soil, vegetation and timber, salt licks and other items of economic interest. From those notes, survey plats were prepared. "These plats not only show the boundaries, but also define and name the parcels and subdivisions of the land as well as some of the physical features found in the notes. In many ways, these records were the first maps of the country which show the locations of rivers, early settlements, roads, forts and trails as well as items of topography," said BLM-ES new Cadastral Survey Chief, Michael Young.

BLM-ES maintains the repository for the Nation's original survey records for the Secretary of the Interior, totaling 133,000 survey plats and 2.75 million pages of field notes dating back to the 1820s. These records contain a complete description of each mile surveyed, every monument set, and every bearing tree scribed.

"Through the years, we have formed both Federal and State partnerships for the exchange of survey records, survey plats, and field notes. In 2004, we began making the records available on the computer," said BLM-ES State Director, Michael Nedd.

These survey plats are now being scanned to full color, high resolution images, then compressed and made available to the GLO Records Web site, while the uncompressed images are archived onto long-life optical media. To date, over 37,000 surveys have been added to the GLO Records Web site.

Another phase of the GLO Records Automation which is under development and testing for the GLO Records Web site involves the automation of the original

field notes. Currently, field notes for the "beta" test State of Oklahoma are being automated, with 40 percent completed.

Once the field notes are scanned, they are linked with the plats during the indexing phase to allow the end-user the ability to go directly from a survey plat to a boundary description in a set of field notes. In the past, public access to field notes required hours of researching records using microfiche at a county survey or records office, a State survey office, or a BLM State Office.

"Having these records available on the GLO Records Web site offers greater efficiencies for reliable and smooth flow of information to the public. Title companies, surveyors, historians, genealogists, schools, and other interested people will now be able to obtain data and images capturing historic and current land survey plats," said Nedd.

The GLO Records Web site is continuously expanding its archives to provide the public with more records on its user-friendly environment. As the data and images become available, survey information from additional States will be added to the GLO Records Web site.

"The GLO Records Web site debuted in May 1998. Since then, we have been improving public access to the Federal land patents within the 30 Public Land States," said BLM-ES Branch Chief, General Land Office Records Automation, Patricia Tyler. Now, more than 3 million cash entry and homestead patent documents for the eastern and western states between 1820 and 1960 are available online. Once automated, the documents are withdrawn from public use and placed in archival storage to protect the records. The public can access the GLO Records Web site 24 hours a day, free of charge, and view, print a copy, or request a copy of a document from the BLM.





What is Split-Estate?

Story and photo by Becky Metz, Physical Scientist, BLM-Eastern States, Milwaukee Field Office

The BLM is responsible for administering Federal minerals, including issuing Federal leases, permitting exploration and development, inspecting mineral exploration and extraction operations, and verifying correct measurement of mineral production.

While the majority of Federal minerals are under Federal surface, some Federal minerals underlie private and State lands. In the latter case, the lands are referred to as “split estate,” because the surface and subsurface estates are owned by different entities. Most “split estate” under BLM-ES’ jurisdiction has resulted from three situations: 1) the United States acquired lands and later conveyed the surface to a State with a mineral reservation to the United States; 2) the Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation acquired foreclosed farmlands and sold the surface with a reservation of 50 percent of the mineral estate that was later conveyed to the United States; and 3) the United States issued the title of Public Domain lands to private individuals, with a reservation of the mineral estate to the United States.

Case law has established that the mineral estate is dominant over the surface estate in split estate situations, with the exception of coal. A Federal lessee has the right to enter and occupy the surface of a Federal lease for the purpose of developing the Federal minerals, unless the lease terms stipulate otherwise. While BLM does not have authority in split estate situations to regulate how a surface owner manages his or her property, the BLM does have authority to require reasonable measures to avoid or minimize adverse impacts that could result from authorized mineral lease activity. The BLM offers surface owners the same level of protection that would be offered on Federal surface.

BLM-ES works closely with private and State surface owners during the leasing phase to develop stipulations to protect surface uses and resources; during the drilling permit phase to develop permit conditions to alleviate site-specific impacts; during production to assure protective measures are effective; and during the site restoration phase to assure that the site is restored to the satisfaction of the surface owner.

A recent example of this coordination with surface owners involved an 80-acre private surface tract in Wexford County, Michigan, where private industry requested that BLM-ES offer a lease for the 50-percent



This proposed location for an oil and gas well is staked on a Federal lease involving split estate land in Wexford County, Michigan. The privately owned land surface is used for Christmas tree farming.

Federal oil and gas estate. Prior to offering a lease, BLM worked with the private surface owner to identify his concerns and the resources on the tract that required special resource projection stipulations.

The tract was successfully bid on during the March 23, 2006, Competitive Oil & Gas Lease Sale, and the lease was issued in June 2006. In July 2006, an oil and gas operator filed a Notice of Staking for a location on the 80-acre tract. BLM conducted an inspection of the proposed drilling location with the private land owner, the oil and gas company, and a State of Michigan geologist in order to identify site-specific protective measures. BLM required the oil and gas operator to provide a Self-Certification Statement that provides proof of the arrangements made with the surface owner regarding surface use and compensation for damages.

The tract hosts a Christmas tree farm and the operator will compensate the owner for the trees removed and restore the surface to the private land owner’s specifications. When an operator cannot come to an agreement with a surface owner, BLM will require the operator to arrange for a bond to cover loss of crops and damages to tangible improvements.

More information about BLM and “split estate” lands can be found at www.blm.gov/bmp/Split_Estate.htm, which focuses on private surface issues nationwide in BLM.



BLM-ES Adoption/Holding Facility Now Adopting Horses Online

By Karen Malloy, Lead Wild Horse and Burro Specialist, BLM-Eastern States, Division of Natural Resources

Since July 12, 2006, potential wild horse adopters have been able to view on-line photographs of horses awaiting adoption at the BLM-ES Adoption/Holding Facility in Ewing, Illinois. The photos are posted on the Adopt-A-Horse Web site at the BLM Facility Photos link at www.blm.gov/adoptahorse/onsitegallery.php.

After viewing the selection of available horses, potential adopters can submit their application to adopt by fax to the nearest BLM office. Once the application has been screened and approved, adopters can pick up their horses by appointment, Monday through Saturday, in Ewing, or request shipment and pickup at the next temporary adoption location.

Internet adoptions take place every 8 weeks. During this time, a selection of animals from the Ewing facility is included on the main Gallery page at www.blm.gov/adoptahorse/onlinegallery.php. Once the on-line bidding has ended, any unclaimed horses remaining in the Gallery are available for adoption on a first-come, first-serve basis. Also, at this time, any unclaimed Internet animals from western holding facilities are shipped, along with adopted animals, to the Ewing facility for adoption or pickup.



Prairie Wind, a Special Needs filly from the Canon City, CO, corrals was adopted to a good home from the Gallery page.

At the end of on-line bidding for the July 2006 Internet adoption, plenty of healthy colorful animals were still available for adoption. A 3-year-old buckskin mare was immediately adopted by fax, before arriving in Ewing on the load from Colorado, and picked up one week later. Additionally, a Special Needs filly with a twisted front leg also found a good home after a caring adopter saw her photo on the Gallery page.

New photos of Ewing animals will be featured on the September Internet Adoption Gallery page. Once bidding ends on September 28, any unclaimed animals will be available for adoption via fax, with pickup in Ewing, or optional pickup at the adoptions in Lorton, Virginia, or Clinton, Tennessee, in October.

Wildfires Draw BLM-ES Archaeologist to the West

By Peggy Riek, Writer-Editor, BLM-Eastern States



Photo by Troy Ferone

BLM-ES Cultural Program Leader Troy Ferone served on a 2-week detail as a Resource Advisor (Archaeologist) on fires on the Klamath National Forest in northern California.

From July 31 through August 14, BLM-ES Cultural Program Leader Troy Ferone had an opportunity to serve as a line-qualified Resource Advisor (Archaeologist) and firefighter for the Happy Camp Complex of fires on the Klamath National Forest in northern California. He was the primary advisor to the Incident Command Team (ICT) on all fire suppression activities such as bulldozer operations, fireline construction, and crew mobilization. He provided on-the-ground recommendations to the ICT, division supervisors, and fire crews to mitigate impacts to archaeological, historical, and tribal resources during firefighting activities.

Troy worked closely with a liaison from the Karuk Tribe, who provided additional recommendations and insights for identifying and protecting sensitive areas and resources or the local Native American community.

Prior to leaving the incident, Troy was commended by the ICT, the Karuk Tribe, and the Forest Service District Ranger for his efforts in covering all areas of the fire, despite arduous and hazardous field conditions.



Nature and Invasive Weeds Draw BLM-ES Officials to Wisconsin Site

Story and photo by Martha Malik, Public Affairs Specialist, BLM-Eastern States, Milwaukee Field Office



(At center) Neighborhood House Nature Center’s Environmental Educator Matthew Flower discusses the nature hike and Nature Center activities with BLM-ES Milwaukee Field Manager Aaron Horton (at left) and State Director Mike Nedd while on a tour at the Neighborhood House of Milwaukee, Inc. in Dodge County, Wisconsin.

On May 24, 2006, BLM-ES State Director Mike Nedd joined Milwaukee Field Manager Aaron Horton and Public Affairs Specialist Martha Malik on a tour and nature hike at Neighborhood House of Milwaukee, Inc.’s Nature Center, a 90-acre nature center located in Dodge County, Wisconsin. The nature center offers environmental education programs, recreation activities, nature hikes, specific invasive weeds stewardship projects, and campouts—reaching approximately 2,500 students, families, groups, and individuals annually.

BLM-ES has been in partnership with Neighborhood House, since 1999, through America’s Outdoors’ “one stop” center for environmental education, urban conservation, and recreation information.

Neighborhood House’s Nature Center’s Environmental Educator Matthew Flower conducted the tour and nature hike, which focused on identifying, controlling, and managing invasive weeds currently inhabiting the site. Matthew explained the annual educational and recreational programs offered to students and school groups at the Nature Center. He illustrated how to identify garlic mustard and infested and quarantined garlic mustard, West Sugarbush, edible wild onions, Split Basswood and Butternut trees, and a Giant Oak. BLM representatives also received a demonstration from students and educators at the Sugarhouse on boiling sap to make maple syrup.

Neighborhood House of Milwaukee, Inc., founded in 1945, is a non-profit and family-oriented center for education and empowerment. The organization, in the settlement house tradition, calls for staff and neighbors to design responsive programming aimed at solving the problems of restoring a neighborhood’s sense of dignity and improving the quality of life for the inner-city working poor.

“Today, the Neighborhood House’s Nature Center faces the possibility of being underused due to funding constraints and is feeling the affects of invasive weeds on the site which may never be managed or controlled,” said Neighborhood House Outdoor Environmental Education Manager Bradley Blaeser.

A Natural Resource Inventory and Land Management Plan were conducted on the site through a Challenge Cost Share Agreement between BLM-ES and the Neighborhood House of Milwaukee, Inc. “Once the Plan is implemented, students, teachers, educators, families, groups, and youth-serving organizations will again be able to effectively use the site,” said Flower.



Dune Restoration in Alabama

Caption and photo by Shayne Banks



On May 24-25, 2006, about 70 volunteers attended a class to learn about re-establishing dunes and dune habitat on one of the BLM-administered tracts on Fort Morgan Beach in Baldwin County, AL. The class was conducted through a partnership with the BLM-ES Jackson Field Office, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service,

and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Following the class, volunteers received “hands on” experience by assisting with building sand fencing and planting sea oats and other native plant species in an effort to help rebuild the dunes. This will provide protection to local landowners from tropical storms and hurricanes.



BLM-ES Happenings

On May 7, the BLM-ES Lower Potomac Field Station (LPFS) helped host a benefit for St. Jude's Hospital for Children held at the Meadowood Special Recreation Area and other public properties on the Mason Neck peninsula in Lorton, VA. A trail ride, coordinated by the Mason Neck Horse Coalition, generated over \$3,000 in donations for the hospital.

In mid-May, BLM-ES Cadastral Surveyors Jerry Wahl and Corky Rodine conducted a Cadastral Survey Retracement Camp for 35 attendees in partnership with the Alabama Society of Professional Surveyors in Brent, AL. This 1-week course was part of a partnership with AL's 4-year surveying degree program at Troy State University and is held in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service on the Talladega National Forest (Oakmulgee Ranger District).

An Audubon Society of Northern Virginia volunteer assisting BLM-ES LPFS employees, Jinx Fox and Geoffrey Walsh (Wildlife Biologist), discovered a brass button from the Civil War Era. Further examination will be made by Fairfax County archaeologists and local Civil War artifact experts.

On June 29, BLM-ES and U.S. Customs employees donated 42 units of blood to help save lives through the Greater Chesapeake & Potomac Regional Red Cross Blood Drive. Thanks to all who participated.

On June 21, the second summer session of Teacher Conservation Workshops (TCW) was held for 37 educators and Project Learning Tree facilitators (educators) in Laurel, MS. For the 12th consecutive summer, the BLM-ES Jackson Field Office (JFO) participated in two TCWs sponsored by the MS Forestry Association. BLM-ES JFO personnel presented a 1-hour Lewis & Clark "Rock and Minerals and How We Use Them" program. About 80 educators attended the summer session workshops.

In July, a small group of volunteers turned out at Jupiter Inlet Natural Area in FL for a volunteer day working with local partners to remove 240 pounds of trash from the U.S. Highway 1 and Beach Road perimeters. They also removed love vine from scrub oak trees along the north fence line.

From July 26-30, BLM-ES JFO Public Affairs Specialist Shayne Banks and several volunteers staffed an informational/wild horse and burro booth at the 4-H Southern Regional 4-H Championship Horse Show in Raleigh, NC, where approximately 5,000 people were in attendance. Also, from September 7-10, BLM-ES JFO employees and several volunteers staffed a booth at the MS State Championship Horse Show at the MS State Fairgrounds, where BLM's Antiquities Act, Firewise, and the Wild Horse and Burro program were featured. Approximately 2,500 people were in attendance.

BLM-ES Holds Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sales on June 15 and September 7, 2006

The June 15 Sale brought in revenue amounting to over \$317,938 for 41 parcels of Federal subsurface mineral estate within the Ouachita and Ozark National Forests in AR, and the Bienville, Holly Springs, and Homichitto National Forests in MS. Bonus bids, filing fees, and rental revenue amounting to \$216,255 will go to the U.S. Treasury and \$101,683 will be shared by the affected States. Harco Texas, LLC, of Flora, MS, paid \$40,370 for a 160-acre parcel in Pope County, AR. The highest per acre bid at the sale for \$300 per acre came from SEECO, Inc., of Fayetteville, AR, on a 39.76-acre parcel located in Logan County, AR.

The September 7 Sale brought in \$1,301,616 for 56 parcels of Federal subsurface mineral estate offered within the Ouachita and Ozark National Forests in AR, privately owned lands in Bossier Parish, LA, and the Homichitto and DeSoto National Forests in MS. Bonus bids, filing fees, and rental revenue amounting to over \$951,510 will go to the U.S. Treasury and \$350,105 will be shared by the affected States. Sedna Energy, Inc., of Ft. Smith, AR, paid \$283,050 for an 880-acre parcel in Yell County, AR. Stellios Exploration Company, of Lafayette, LA, bid \$1,325 per acre, the highest per-acre bid of the auction, on a 135.17-acre parcel which is located in Pope County, AR.



GLO Seal Press Heads to National Park Service

July 27, 2006

General Land Office



General Land Office seal press.

Letter from Mark Engler, Superintendent, National Park Service

“Thank you very much for the Bureau of Land Management’s recent permanent loan of a seal press to Homestead National Monument of America. We are very appreciative of your office’s efforts to secure this item and send it to us for exhibit in the new Homestead Heritage Center, which is scheduled to open next spring. I am confident the seal press will add much to our interpretation of the Homestead Act and its role in the distribution of our nation’s public lands.

We have worked with the BLM-ES on past projects and have always enjoyed our partnership activities. You and your staff are cordially invited to visit Homestead National Monument of America at any time, and please consider coming to Nebraska for the opening of the Heritage Center. We anticipate dedicating the building on Sunday, May 20 of next year—the 145th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln signing the Homestead Act into law in 1862.”

BLM-ES Photo Highlights



On May 10, Lower Potomac Field Station Environmental Education Specialist Theresa Jefferson coordinated a monthly session on amphibians and reptiles for home school students at the Meadowood SRMA. Students presented their reports and participated in “hands on” activities to learn about frogs, toads, and lizards.



(From left to right) Lamar Liddell, BLM-ES Hotshot Crew Superintendent; Patricia Tyler, Branch Chief, GLO Records; Sharon D. Eller, Director, DOI, Washington Office of Civil Rights; and Lynda Nix, Equal Employment Opportunity Officer attended the 28th Blacks In Government Annual National Training Conference in New York City, New York, August 21-25, 2006. The theme of the conference was “Building Unity Through Excellence, Growth and Challenge.” BLM-ES’ Land Law Examiner Sherlena Clark (not pictured) was also in attendance at the conference.



(From left) Barksdale Air Force Base (BAFB) Forester Bruce Holland; BLM-ES Supervisory Geologist Ken Adams, Jackson Field Manager Bruce Dawson, Petroleum Engineer Technician Charlie Boyd, and State Director Mike Nedd, military personnel, and Public Affairs Specialist Shayne Banks (not pictured) met individually with four operators on BAFB in Louisiana to improve coordination and communication. Following the meeting, personnel at BAFB arranged for an outstanding B-52 Bomber tour for the BLMers.



BLM-ES Feels the Loss of Two of Our Finest Employees!

On August 10, 2006, two co-workers and friends lost their battles to cancer. Cozette Archie and Patrice Junius will both be missed, especially at the BLM-ES Jackson Field Office (JFO), and remembered by all. Cozette Archie, Wild Horse and Burro Program Specialist and Patrice Junius, Outreach Specialist were exceptional employees. Both were very accomplished career professionals, wives, and mothers.

Cozette Archie



Cozette was one of the first employees on site when the BLM opened its doors in Jackson, MS. Cozette enjoyed a very successful career with the JFO Office during her 23 years of service. She held several positions including clerk-typist, production clerk, GIS specialist, computer assistant and was later promoted to program specialist in the Wild Horse and Burro program. Cozette served as the office's EEO Counselor. She was an avid supporter of the Annual Black History program. Cozette was always willing to serve on numerous committees, line up speakers and entertainment, and generally lend a hand wherever needed.

Cozette found meaning and fulfillment in her family life and consistent career success in her professional life, which allowed her to remain centered, positive, and open to new challenges. Cozette bravely fought lung cancer for over 5 years. Even during her illness, she was always concerned about her colleagues and friends. She never complained one day about her illness. A hug, smile, kind words and a calming presence — that was Cozette.

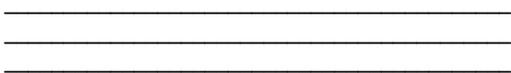
Patrice Junius

Patrice Junius began her career with the BLM in the Washington Office Public Affairs Group in 1994. The years spent in Washington, D.C. helped to shape her career path for the move to Jackson, MS, in 2001, to be closer to her family. In Jackson, she served as the outreach specialist. In this capacity, she had the opportunity to meet and work with a diverse group of professionals who would often call upon her to bring many projects to completion. Patrice was articulate, intelligent, and innovative. She truly had passion for public communication and outreach.

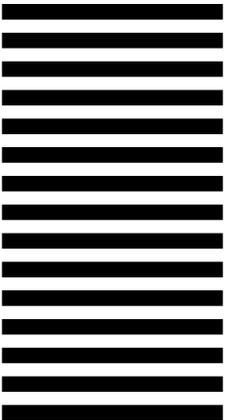
Patrice lead the Environmental Education Camp in coordination with Piney Woods School in MS. She coordinated and reshaped the Science Olympiad, working closely with Jackson State University and later with the University of Southern Mississippi. Patrice was always willing to learn new things, such as Project Archaeology, which grew under her leadership. She was an officer and active member of the Mississippi Council for Agriculture and Natural Resource Education and several other outreach programs. She proudly wore her red cowboy hat and took on the persona of "Wild Horse Annie" to educate students about the Wild Horse and Burro Adoption program. Patrice's dedication to environmental education was nationally recognized, in 2003, when she received the "Excellence in Interpretation or Environmental Education" Honorable Mention Award for her innovative approaches to educating young people in MS about environmental issues. She attended several Blacks in Government conferences and was an avid supporter of the Annual Black History program.



Patrice bravely fought breast cancer for 1 1/2 years. During her illness, she became a staunch advocate for women to be checked for breast cancer, since she herself got it at an early age. Patrice always came to work with a big smile on her face, an infectious laugh, and was admired and respected among her peers.



NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES



BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 14153 WASHINGTON, DC

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Vantage

U S DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BLM - EASTERN STATES (ES-912)
7450 BOSTON BLVD
SPRINGFIELD VA 22153-9938



(Please fold on this line and tape sides and top - DO NOT USE STAPLES)

We Need Your Input!

Dear Reader,

You are currently receiving our BLM-Eastern States' *Vantage* newsletter. In an effort to modify and improve our newsletter for our readers, we need your help. Please take a few minutes to answer some questions:

1) Is the current newsletter providing you with the type of information about our office that interests you such as programs, partnerships, and environmental education? If not, what would you like to see? _____

2) Are we providing adequate coverage of BLM's Eastern States? What types of articles on our programs or initiatives would be of interest to you? _____

3) Do you want to continue receiving a paper copy, view it at our BLM-Eastern States' Web site at www.es.blm.gov, or receive an electronic E-mail link to the Web site when the document is available for viewing (please provide your E-mail address)? _____

4) Do you want to remain on our mailing list to receive *Vantage*? Yes _____ No _____

Your ideas and input are important to us. Please send us your comments and fill in your name and address on the front of this postage paid mailing page by **November 15, 2006**. We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

Tear here



E-mail Briefs

General Land Office.—"I have used your site a lot, and I think you have done an absolutely great job of posting all the information you have for land patents. Every time I go to search the site, there is more information than the last time. Thank you so much for doing all that work!"

Randy Massey

Wild Horse and Burro.—"I wanted to pass on a success story. I adopted a burro in Archdale, NC, about a month ago. He's a 5-year-old jack, caught in NV last November, and named Ed McGuire. Within 2 days of getting him home, he was eating out of my hand. In the past month, we have cleaned and, believe it or not, trimmed his hooves. Two weeks ago, my wife sat on his back while I led him

Eastern States Vision Statement—As Guardians of the Past, and Stewards for the Future, Eastern States is committed to sustaining the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands spanning the 31 states east of and bordering the Mississippi River for present and future generations.

Vantage is published by the Bureau of Land Management—Eastern States, Office of External Affairs, 7450 Boston Boulevard, Springfield, Virginia 22153. For more information about our office, please contact us at (703) 440-1713, or visit our Web site at www.es.blm.gov. Editor: M.M. Riek

Field Offices: BLM-ES, Jackson Field Office
411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404
Jackson, Mississippi 39206

BLM-ES, Milwaukee Field Office
626 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 200
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-4617

BLM-ES, Lower Potomac Field Station
10406 Gunston Road
Lorton, Virginia 22079

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
7450 Boston Boulevard
Springfield, Virginia 22153

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

around the pasture. Now, I can put a halter on him anytime I need to. My wife is now riding him with a bareback saddle. We have several other burros (and a new baby, 2 weeks old). They are all getting along well, even though I have Ed separated in the pipe corral. We are quite relieved because some of the stories I have heard about how difficult a wild burro can be had us pretty nervous. Ed is a beautiful donkey, and we are proud to have the opportunity to help him out." Thanks! *Wendell Burton, Switchback Farm, Advance, NC*

Comings & Goings

New Employees.—*Gary Taylor*, Planning & Environmental Coordinator, Jackson Field Office; *Ann E. Stifel*, Field Manager, Lower Potomac Field Station; *Christopher Carusona*, Planning & Environmental Coordinator, Milwaukee Field Office; *Kemba Anderson*, Land Law Examiner, *Shawnda Cruz*, Human Resources Specialist, *Stephen Glasscock* and *Kimberly Reed*, Staff Assistants, and *Karen Roberts*, Public Affairs Specialist, State Office.

Transfers.—*Donna Jordan*, Human Resources Officer to Office of Personnel Management, *Diana Lamonica*, Accounting Technician to Department of Defense, *Yolanda Moore*, Procurement Analyst to Defense Logistics Agency, and *Ed Ruda*, Budget Officer to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, State Office; *Mary Figarelle*, Assistant Field Manager, Jackson Field Office to BLM-Montana State Office; and *Cherisse Tabron*, Administrative Specialist, Lower Potomac Field Station to the U.S. Marine Corps.

Retirees.—*Judy Hale*, Information Technology Specialist, and *Linda Vanzandt*, Management & Program Assistant, Jackson Field Office; and *John Scheumbauer*, Mining Engineer, Solid Minerals Team, Rolla, MO.

In Memoriam.—*Cozette Archie*, Program Specialist, Wild Horse and Burro Specialist, and *Patrice Junius*, Outreach Specialist, Jackson Field Office.



Eastern States — committed to sustaining the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands and resources in the 31 states east of and bordering on the Mississippi River for present and future generations.

