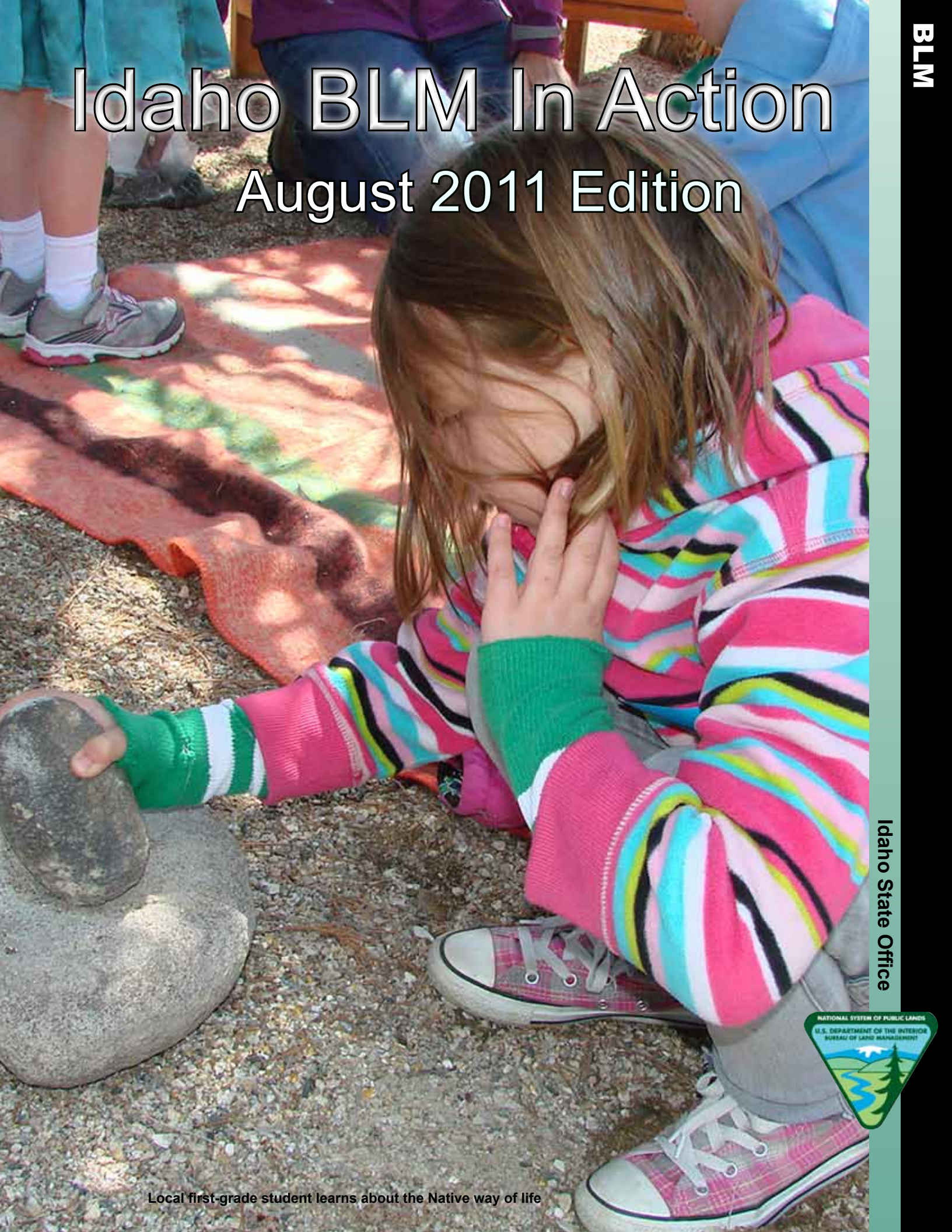


# Idaho BLM In Action

## August 2011 Edition



Idaho State Office



Local first-grade student learns about the Native way of life

## What's Inside this Issue

In the Field with Idaho Director Steve Ellis	3
Volunteering on Public Lands: Earth Day	4
Local Students Celebrate Earth Day	5
Let's Move Outside	6-8
Volunteer Highlight: Owl Banding at the Morley Nelson NCA	9
Volunteer Highlight: "Making a Difference" on Public Lands	10
BLM in the Community	11-12
Partnership with BLM	13
Be Firewise	14
Idaho's Wild Horses	15
On the Scene with the Idaho BLM Youth News Team	16
Honored BLM Employees	17
Welcome New BLM Employees	18-19
Stay Connected with BLM Idaho	20

## In the Field with BLM Idaho Director Steve Ellis....

### Idaho Falls District BLM Hosts Tour for Visiting BLM Deputy Director and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Lands and Minerals

On July 25-26, the Idaho Falls District Staff met with State Director Steve Ellis, BLM Deputy Director Marcilynn Burke and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Lands and Minerals Management Sylvia Baca, to tour the phosphate mines located near Soda Springs, Idaho.

On the first day of their tour, the group hiked the local Cress Creek Trail to learn about some of the interpretive/educational efforts of local recreation planners. They also learned more about the conservation efforts of the Idaho Falls District and partners along the South Fork of the Snake River. On the final day of the tour, the group headed to Pocatello for a brief overview of the phosphate program. The overview was followed by a trip to see historic phosphate mines and tour the active North Rasmussen Ridge Mine.

"We appreciate that Ms. Burke and Ms. Baca found time out of their busy schedules to visit the Idaho Falls District to see our phosphate mining program first-hand. Meeting staff and mining officials, as well as touring an active phosphate mine will help them better understand our program's needs and challenges as we continue to work with this complex program," said Idaho Falls public affairs specialist Sarah Wheeler.



### State Director Steve Ellis Tours Twin Falls District Field Offices

From Castle Rocks climbing area, to China Mountain and the proposed site for the Blaine County replacement airport, it was a busy three days for State Director Steve Ellis as he was provided information and site tours across the Twin Falls District. The mutual sharing of information and ideas between the staff and the Director about fuels projects, geothermal energy production, sensitive plant and animal issues, proposed Areas of Critical Concern (ACECs) and Travel Planning was helpful and productive for charting a course forward.



# Volunteering on Public Lands: Earth Day

## Annual Earth Day Clean-up of Blacks Creek Reservoir Helps Restore Critical Habitat

On Earth Day 2011, BLM joined about 30 volunteers from members of the Golden Eagle Audubon Society, students from Boise State University, Kuna High School students, concerned citizens and an Ada County prison crew to spruce up Blacks Creek Reservoir. During the clean-up, volunteers worked hard to fill over one full dumpster with garbage. A relatively unknown gem in south Ada County, Blacks Creek Reservoir provides critical habitat for over 130 migratory bird species year-round.

Pam Conley, a volunteer from the BLM, was proud to see so many people help out. "It was really exciting to see folks willing to come out and help restore some of the damage done to this beautiful place. Many expressed interest in helping again in the future."

The Golden Eagle Audubon Society, in partnership with the BLM Four Rivers Field Office, the private land owners, and the Land Trust of the Treasure Valley, are spearheading a recovery and restoration effort for the Reservoir and surrounding landscape.



Blacks Creek Reservoir

## Salmon Field Office Hosts Volunteer Event at Discovery Hill

In celebration of Earth Day, over 60 volunteers participated in helping to clean-up trash and complete trail work on the mountain biking trails and the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. Volunteers worked for nearly four hours and then were rewarded with a barbecue. Awards were given to individuals who helped sign and map the Discovery Hill mountain bike trails.

Salmon recreation planner Liz Townley was impressed with this event's turnout. "This was the biggest volunteer event that I have ever been part of while working for the BLM. I attribute the success of this day to our

established partnerships with Salmon Valley Stewardship, Salmon Motorcross Association, and the local mountain biking community.

## Kuna Middle School Students Clean-up Kuna Butte

About 80 students from Kuna Middle School celebrated Earth Day by collecting trash on the north side of Kuna Butte. The BLM donated work gloves, trash bags and first aid kits.

### Kuna Butte Clean-up



Discovery Hill

## Local Students Celebrate Earth Day

### Seymour Antelope Joins Boise First-Grade Students to Learn about Native Way of Life

The new BLM mascot for youth, Seymour Antelope joined about 45 first-graders at the BLM Boise District Native Garden in celebration of Earth Day. The students learned about native plants and traditional uses of the garden. BLM archaeologists also taught students how Native Americans used plant materials of the sagebrush steppe to provide food, medicine and shelter. They also showed the students traditional subsistence activities and displayed artifact replicas characteristic of the Northern Great Basin. The students participated in a series of hands-on learning activities and nature games; they tested their skills in food preparation by grinding seeds for flour, foraged for insects and eggs, and created their own shelters.

The coordinator for the day, BLM botanist Holly Beck, enjoyed her experience during this second annual event. "It is so important to introduce children at a young age to the natural world around them. I hope that their positive experience here at the BLM builds a lasting connection to and appreciation for the history, plants and wildlife of the sagebrush steppe of southern Idaho."

*Seymour Antelope raises public awareness about the importance of connecting children with nature and generates enthusiasm for the wide variety of BLM programs for young people.*



# Let's Move Outside

## BLM Helps Sponsor Environmental Competition Through *Take it Outside* Funding

The Idaho State Envirothon contest was held in Challis, Idaho in May 2011. Out of fifteen teams competing, Gooding High School finished third, Mackay High School came in second and the Rigby High team finished in first place.

This year, Idaho BLM helped sponsor this competition through a *Take it Outside* grant, which helped keep the popular environmental decision-making contest going strong though lean economic times. Envirothon is described as the ultimate natural resource education experience. Over the course of several months of study, participating teams prepare themselves for competition in the areas of forestry, soils/land use, wildlife, aquatic ecology, and this year's current topic – Salt & Fresh Water Estuaries. Designed to foster cooperation and teamwork, five-member teams are tested on their basic knowledge in these topic areas and ability to apply that knowledge to solve real-life problems. Problem solving and teamwork are skills that will enhance the participants' ability to take leadership roles after high school or college, in their chosen field or career.

Shoshone recreation planner David Freiberg appreciates the benefits of this program for both BLM and the students. "Being involved in a program like Envirothon creates a winning situation for BLM, the community, the resources, and particularly the students. These kids learn a lot, and will have a great advantage going into any natural resource discipline in college. They learn to weigh the issues from a balanced human perspective rather than from one extreme position or another. A number of Envirothon participants have gone on to study natural resource majors in college, and some have even come back to BLM to work as interns and seasonal employees."

As a result of the local competition, Rigby High School joined over 50 nationwide teams to compete in the international Canon Envirothon competition in Canada in late July. Teams competed for the title of "Envirothon Champs" and over \$75,000 in scholarships. Rigby High performed well in competition.



Challis students throw atlatls

## Challis Students Learn About Prehistoric Mammals

In honor of Idaho Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month, fourth-grade students from Challis visited the Land of the Yankee Fork Interpretive Center. In celebration of the 2011 theme "Paleoldaho," students learned about paleontology, studied stratigraphy and discovered how fossils are made. Students also threw an atlatl spear and learned about ancient life that roamed Idaho including woolly mammoths, giant ground sloths and saber-toothed cats.

This year's event was organized by Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation and the BLM. Employees from the Land of the Yankee Fork, the Forest Service and the BLM made presentations and worked with groups of children at the various activity stations throughout the day.



Local Envirothon Participants

## Let's Move Outside

### Upper Snake Field Office Guides Menan Butte Hikes for Public

In early summer 2011, the BLM Upper Snake Field Office hosted the North Menan Butte Trail re-dedication to celebrate the inauguration of the new trail interpretive signs. The festivities included two BLM-sponsored guided hikes up the Butte. Following the hike, the BLM featured a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

"We were very excited about hosting this event," said Shannon Bassista, recreation planner for the Upper Snake Field Office. "The Butte is a very unique geological site and we are happy that the new kiosk can help with education."

North Menan Butte is designated as a National Natural Landmark and a Research Natural Area. These designations help preserve the Butte so people can enjoy and study this unique geologic area in its natural condition.



### BLM Hosts 500 Local Students for the Snake River Birds of Prey Desert Discovery Days

The annual Desert Discovery Days event provides an opportunity for students in grades 3 through 6 to learn about the desert ecosystem and the Birds of Prey NCA. Students learn about the animals that inhabit the desert, including the snakes, lizards and raptors that call the Snake River canyon home. The students also explore desert vegetation and learn about the plant adaptations for living in an area with little water. At the rim of the Snake River canyon, students learned about the geology and cultural history of the area.

### Challis Field Office Sponsors Kids' Fish Fair

The annual Challis *Kids' Fish Fair* was held on June 11 at Blue Mountain Pond in conjunction with the National Fishing and Boating Week and the State of Idaho's Free Fishing Day.

This local event was sponsored by the Challis Field Office BLM, Idaho Fish and Game Salmon Region, Forest Service, National Marine Fisheries Service and many local merchants and businesses.

The Fish Fair and Kids Fishing Derby was free and open to all youth ages 16 years of age and younger. Idaho Fish and Game provided bait and equipment for participants.



## Let's Move Outside

### Upper Snake BLM Kicks Education Efforts into High Gear

The Upper Snake Field Office has been working hard on its educational efforts, targeting youth and teaching outdoor awareness throughout their local area.

Outdoor recreation planner Shannon Bassista and visitor information assistant Chris Deets participated in a regional water awareness day, teaching about 200 participating kids about water and outdoor ethics.

Deets worked with 90 cub scouts in Blackfoot, Idaho to give them

an outdoor education lecture.

Other representatives from the Upper Snake Field Office went to the 3B detention facility and gave an hour-long presentation to 21 people on *Leave No Trace* principles.

"It is wonderful that the BLM has the opportunity to provide educational programs that teach our youth about being stewards to public lands. Unfortunately, many young people don't know what the BLM is or what types of activities are encouraged on BLM lands. That is where we come in," said Bassista.



### Pocatello Field Office Helps Host Annual Pedal Fest

In June 2011, the City of Pocatello sponsored the second annual City Creek Pedal Fest competitive mountain bike race along the City Creek Management Area trail system. About 150 people of all ages participated. The BLM also hosted a booth at the event and provided maps and other materials related to public trails in the area. This event helped members of the public get outside and experience the great outdoors while promoting fun ways to exercise. In addition, the BLM educational trailer was available to teach the public about off-highway vehicle (OHV) safety.

## Volunteer Highlight: Owl Banding at the Morley Nelson NCA

### Owl & Hawk-Banding Trip in Morley Nelson NCA Thrills Girl Scouts from Portland

For the third year in a row, six girl scouts from Portland, Oregon participated in a thirteen-hour owl and hawk-banding excursion in the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey NCA. During the excursion, they viewed various raptor species and checked over twenty raptor nesting boxes and platforms, built and installed by the BLM. Their volunteer tour guide was retired BLM Wildlife Biologist John Doremus.

Their first stop was CJ Strike Reservoir, located approximately 50 miles southeast of Boise. At two locations around the reservoir, the visitors saw American kestrel nestlings, a pair of Great Horned owls with fledglings and Western Screech owl nestlings, which they banded. An occupied Swainson's hawk nest, likely a Long-Eared owl and a Burrowing owl, was also observed.

The scouts later hiked down a lava crater, and Doremus showed them the "Gaia's nostrill," a lava tunnel that blows air out of it.

The young scouts will receive a special badge for their assistance to BLM.

One of the parents commenting on the wonderful experience said, "Now I know why my nephew loves living in southwestern Idaho."



## Volunteer Highlight: “Making a Difference” on Public Lands

### Challis Field Office Volunteer Receives National “Making a Difference” Award

Duane Wilson, volunteer for the Challis Field Office, was selected to receive the BLM’s 2011 “Making a Difference” National Volunteer Award in Washington, D.C. on May 26. Duane has served as volunteer campground host at Cottonwood Campground for 12 consecutive years, going on 13 years in spring 2011. During that time, he has volunteered over 10,000 hours of his time to the successful operation of Cottonwood campground. “We are very proud and grateful to have a volunteer with such integrity as Duane,” said BLM Idaho Falls district manager Joe Kraayenbrink.

Kraayenbrink said the following comment, one of many Duane has received, sums up his service nicely: “Duane treats the place as if it were his own personal garden. It is immaculate. He works ten hours a day, just about every day of the week. He keeps a perfect balance between being friendly and helpful, yet in his quiet way people know he’s very much in charge. Cottonwood is a beautiful, well-run campground, thanks in large measure to the hard work and competence of one of your very best camp hosts, Mr. Duane Wilson.”

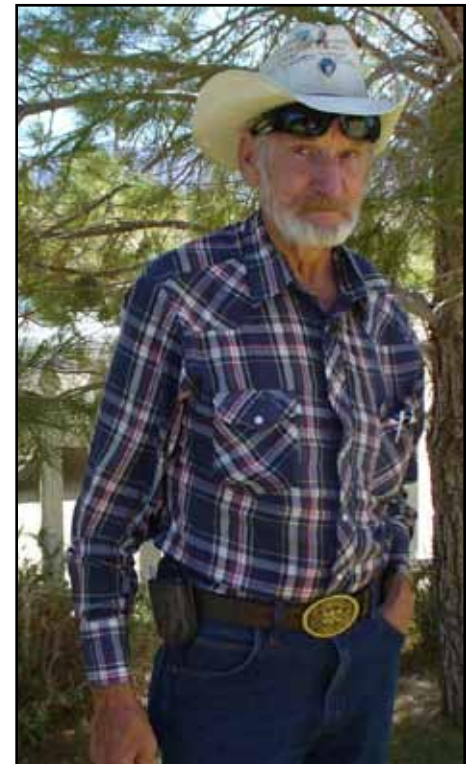
Without his volunteer services over the last 12 years, the Challis Field Office would not have been able to keep the campground running in a manner adequate to serve their visiting public, let

alone keep it as one of the hidden jewels of the BLM.

Congratulations to Duane Wilson!



Left to right: Mike Pool, Duane Wilson, Jeff Foss



## BLM in the Community

### BLM Botanist Helps Centennial Jobs Corps Students Improve Campus Landscaping

For the second year in a row, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Idaho State Office botanist Susan Filkins cooperated with the Centennial Job Corps to help beautify their campus with plants.

The partnership between the BLM and the Centennial Job Corps began in 2010. The Centennial Job Corps provides career technical training, education and professional skills to students at the Nampa campus. Job Corps is taking steps to help protect the environment and connect students with businesses and surrounding communities through “green training.” As part of this “green” effort, the Job Corps wanted to fill empty planters throughout their campus with new plants. To accomplish this, they enlisted the help of Filkins to provide the material.

Filkins is the Idaho program lead for the National *Seeds of Success* program. Through this program, Susan is able to locate, monitor and collect Native seed for restoration and research. For this project, Filkins worked with a fellow BLM botanist to grow seed originally collected in Idaho at a Montana greenhouse. These seedlings were later returned to Idaho and donated to the Centennial Jobs Corps. Additional seedlings were donated by the College of Western Idaho horticulture program.

A group of 17 students dedicated to this project are members of the campus “Green Committee.” Filkins educated these students

about horticulture, Federal land management and care of native plants. After Filkins’ instruction, students planted native seedlings in the cement planters throughout campus and were then responsible for the subsequent maintenance of the plants.

Filkins is proud to be a partner in this program. “This program benefits these diverse and unique students by engaging them in active conservation activities. It also builds horticulture skills, reinforces work ethic, and educates them about Federal land management. Throughout the process, they also gain knowledge of plant growth, biology, problem solving and critical thinking.”

“Next year we plan to show the students how the seeds are collected. I hope to see this valuable partnership continue into future years,” Filkins said.

*Job Corps is the nation’s largest residential education and vocational training program for the economically disadvantaged youth. Job Corps is a no-cost education and career technical training program administered by the U.S. Department of Labor that helps young people ages 16 through 24 improve the quality of their lives through career technical and academic training.*



*This program benefits these diverse and unique students by engaging them in active conservation activities.*



## BLM in the Community

### Public Land Users Join BLM for Large Clean-up Effort on Snake River Canyon

Nearly 100 people came out to assist with a big clean-up effort on the north rim of the Snake River Canyon.

Members and staff of the Southern Idaho Off-Road Association, Magic Valley ATV Riders, local geocachers, Twin Falls District Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and other organizations hauled off nearly 20 tons of garbage. Common findings included couches, mattresses, appliances, old baling wire, recreational shooting refuse and more.

Year after year, trash is illegally dumped on several areas of the north rim of the Snake River Canyon. "For those of us who love to play and recreate in this area, it is extremely important that we also care for it by organizing this clean-up each spring," said Robert DePew, president of the Southern Idaho Off-Road Association.

Organizers sought sponsorship help from companies like Western States Caterpillar and Cesco, which loaned the use of heavy equipment important for removing difficult to lift garbage. Western Waste Service and Southern Idaho Waste donated the use of the large dumpsters, while Balanced Rock, AJ and Columbia Electric all donated funds for fuel.

"It is clear by the turn-out of this event that people really do care about their public lands and keeping them clean, safe and beautiful for future generations to enjoy," said DePew. "While it is an unfortunate necessity that there is more garbage to pick up year after year, it is heartening to see the great turn out of support by those who enjoy this area."

BLM's Shoshone Field Manager Ruth Miller was happy about the turn-out, "We are so grateful to each and every person who came out last Saturday to pick up garbage. It's nice to see the support by members of the

community willing to commit time over a weekend to keep our public lands clean and safe for everyone to enjoy."

*"It's nice to see the support by members of the community willing to commit time over a weekend to keep our public lands clean and safe for everyone to enjoy."*

*-Shoshone field manager Ruth Miller*



## Partnership with BLM

### BLM Collaborates with REI, Idaho Trails Association for National Trails Day Event at Parker Trailhead

On June 4, the Boise District collaborated with REI and the Idaho Trails Association (ITA) on a National Trails Day Service project. REI and ITA volunteered to help BLM continue work begun in 2010 on the Parker Trailhead, located in the Owyhee Canyonlands. This trailhead provides access to the Big Jacks Creek Wilderness.

Seventeen volunteers assisted BLM staff in completing approximately 3,600 feet of trail work on the Parker Trail. This project continued the efforts to convert the former access road to a hiking trail. Additionally, a volunteer crew worked to improve the hiking trail below the canyon rim. They trimmed vegetation to define the hiking trail in places where multiple trails existed and then worked to naturalize those routes which were not the main trail. Over 85 hours of service were donated by volunteers to accomplish these tasks. Volunteers were treated to breakfast, lunch, and a T-shirt, all courtesy of REI.

According to a spokesperson for ITA, "This was an exciting trail stewardship project. Volunteer support was crucial for the success of this project."



*"This was an exciting trail stewardship project. Volunteer support was crucial for the success of this project."  
- Idaho Trails Association*



# Be Firewise

## Horticulture Student Completes Green Roof Project at BLM Firewise Garden

To reduce the risk of structure loss within fire-prone wildland areas, it's important for property owners to carefully choose exterior construction materials. An example of this type of construction is now viewable at the BLM firewise garden.

College of Western Idaho horticulture graduate student Scott Cook completed his individual project with the BLM. BLM Idaho State Office botanists Roger Rosentreter and Brett Van Paepghem collaborated with Cook on the installation of his model "Green Roof."

A green roof is designed to allow plants to be grown in a planting media over protective and waterproof roof membranes. This innovative model home demonstrates a fire resistant live roof, earth-filled bag construction and stucco finish. The benefits of green roofs include: increased roof life and insulation, reduced storm water run-off and habitat for birds, butterflies and insects.

The display is located at the BLM Firewise Garden, a cooperative effort with the CWI Horticulture program, BLM and the Idaho Botanical Garden.

More information on green roofs can be found at [www.livingroofs.org](http://www.livingroofs.org).



## BLM Partners with Local Students to Grow Fire-Resistant Plants

With help from the Bureau of Land Management, the Mid-Snake Resource, Conservation and Development (RC&D) assists eight counties in updating and implementing each county's Wildfire Protection Plan.

Together, they have partnered with the Agriculture and Plant Science Department at Shoshone High School and the Hagerman High School agriculture department to educate students on being firewise.

In 2008, the Firewise Landscape Nursery Program began. This program educates students about firewise landscaping and the different plant species that enhance protection of homes located in the wildland urban interface (WUI). The fire-resistant plants are germinated at the school greenhouses and each student has the opportunity to create a landscape design project. This design may later be shared with local homeowners.

"We have a great partnership with

the RC&D. This innovative program provides a great opportunity for the students to learn about the fire-resistant nature of these plants, and the importance of this type of landscaping in the south-central Idaho desert," said fire management officer Chris Simonson.

These plants will be available at the Lincoln and Jerome county fairs in August.

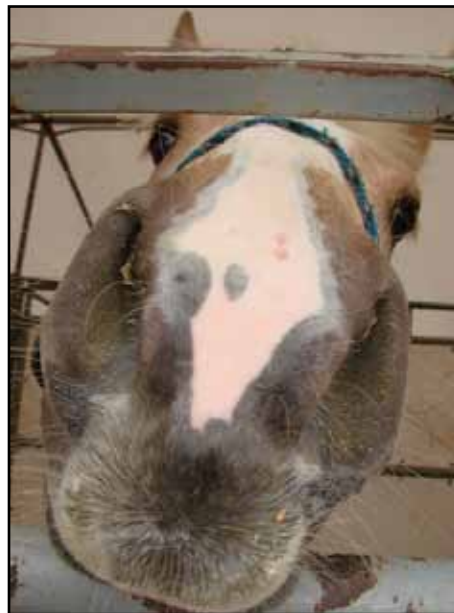


# Idaho's Wild Horses

## Lewiston Wild Horse and Burro Adoption a Successful Event

The wild horse and burro adoption event in Lewiston was well-attended by the public. During the day, a group of 20 home-schooled students visited the adoption and were given a presentation by public affairs specialist Heather Tiel-Nelson. The presentation included information about the history of the horse program in Idaho, the need to gather wild horses and burros and the methods used to gather these animals. The students were also able to pet wild horses that have been trained as saddle horses and used by outfitter Delbert Matson of Nez Perce, Idaho. Many students stayed and watched the ongoing gentling demonstrations by Mario Johnson of Georgetown, Idaho. Overall, five out of five burros and eight out of 30 horses were adopted.

Tiel-Nelson thought this adoption provided a great educational opportunity for visitors. "The adoption in Lewiston attracted a great deal of people, however, it seemed the large majority interested in adopting weren't ready with the appropriate facilities to house a wild horse or burro. This provided us a good opportunity to talk about the program and encourage them to set their sights for a future adoption when they have more time to build the necessary fencing and shelter. Those who did adopt learned some excellent gentling techniques."



## Eight BLM Wild Horses Adopted at 25th Annual Horse Expo

The 25th Annual Idaho Horse Expo was a huge success. Eight of the eleven 4H/College of Idaho trained horses were adopted.

The Idaho Horse Council was a fantastic partner in the promotion of our wild horses. The Mustang and the 4-H Weanling Training Program benefits greatly from this event.



## Upcoming Horse Events

August 12-13  
Adoption in Montpelier, Idaho  
Bear Lake County Fairgrounds

August 22  
Walk-in adoptions in Boise, Idaho  
Boise BLM Horse Corrals

September 9-10  
Adoption in Filer, Idaho  
Twin Falls County Fairgrounds

More Information on Idaho's wild horses.

## On the Scene with the Idaho BLM Youth News Team

### Youth News Team Participates in Assignments at National Interagency Fire Center, Boise Foothills

Our Youth News Team has been hard at work, gathering information about the Idaho BLM and telling our story with their photographs and pencils.

The team's first assignment was to visit the National Interagency Fire Center. During this project, they learned about the inner workings of the organization and the key role played by weather predictive services in fire management.

For their second story, the students hit the Boise Foothills area to learn about the many recreational opportunities offered by the Ridge to Rivers Trail System and the educational information available at the Foothills Learning Center. They also learned about how BLM partners with other agencies to manage the area.

Check our website for the student photos and stories to be posted soon.



## Honored BLM Employees

### **BLM State Safety Manager Receives 2010 National Wildland Fire Safety Award**

Idaho State Office BLM safety manager Jan Peterson is the latest recipient of the 2010 National Wildland Fire Safety Award. This award is presented each year for outstanding leadership and service in wildland fire safety.

Peterson is the chair of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group's (NWCG) Incident Emergency Medical Subcommittee (IEMS). Jan's tireless effort and leadership of the IEMS for the last three years has been invaluable, not just for the BLM, but for the entire wildland fire community.

Congratulations to Jan for her efforts to improve firefighter safety! She has instilled safety as a core value within the BLM fire and aviation program.



### **Idaho Falls District Manager Joe Kraayenbrink Wins 2011 National Take Pride in America Award**

Idaho Falls District manager Joe Kraayenbrink was recently recognized for winning the 2011 National *Take Pride in America* award at the White House.

"Joe is an extraordinary professional who has made outstanding contributions to public land management through the use of partnerships and volunteers," BLM Director Bob Abbey said. "Joe's skill, dedication, and professionalism are evidenced in his on-the-ground accomplishments that include the engagement of several private and community-based groups in the management of public lands."

Through Kraayenbrink's leadership, the BLM Idaho Falls District has continually found ways to support volunteer efforts, including scouting projects, providing educational experiences, planting trees, cleaning-up public lands, and more. He has also cultivated partnerships with the Great Basin Institute and the Youth Employment Program, which engage young people.

Left to Right: Director of the Office of Youth in the Great Outdoors Julia Chavez Rodriguez, Director of the National Landscape Conservation System Carl Rountree, BLM Deputy Director Mike Pool, Idaho Falls District Manager Joe Kraayenbrink, Director of *Take Pride in America* program Lisa Young

# Welcome New BLM Employees

**Dave Murphy**  
**Chief, Lands and Minerals**  
**Idaho State Office**

Dave grew up in Michigan exploring the forests, meadows, ponds and lakes near his home. He always thought he would grow up to become a biologist until a high school class ignited his passion for geology. In pursuit of this goal, Dave earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in geology from Algion College. He continued his education at the University of Michigan where he earned a Masters Degree in geology. Dave began his career as a petroleum geologist for Mobil and Amoco and then moved on to become a cartographer with the Defense Mapping Agency. During his career path he was a geologist in Nevada, assistant field manager in Wyoming, associate field manager in Utah, and program analyst in Washington DC. Before he came to Idaho, he was the deputy division chief of fluid minerals in Washington, DC. Murphy is married to a retired high school art teacher and they have two grown children and six grandchildren.



**Eric Mayes**  
**NEPA Specialist**  
**Idaho State Office**

Eric Mayes came to BLM Idaho from the Vale, Oregon district, where he spent the last five years as the district planning and environmental coordinator. Before his time in Oregon, Eric was in Idaho's Burley Field Office working in water rights and also getting his feet wet in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Prior to his BLM career, Eric and his wife, Teresa, were self-employed in Coeur d'Alene where he developed a customer service perspective that he can apply to BLM managers and interdisciplinary teams. Eric's experience in Oregon closely parallels the programs and issues BLM faces in Idaho - particularly livestock grazing and application of the various NEPA tools. Eric's hobbies include vegetable gardening and birding. Eric and his wife both grew up in Owyhee County where they met at the Wagon Wheel Bar in Murphy at the age of 13.

**Linda Price**  
**Field Manager**  
**Salmon Field Office**

Linda Price graduated from Arizona State University with a degree in Range Ecology. She began her BLM career as a seasonal technician in Kingman Arizona in 1989. She came to the Arizona Strip in 1991 as a Range Conservationist and was assigned to the desert tortoise habitat along the Nevada border. In 1998, Linda became the team leader for the pilot project to implement the new Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Administration. The team developed a process that is now used across the State of Arizona. In 2008, she became the first permanent Vermillion Cliffs Monument Manager. She is excited about working with the expanding recreation program in the Salmon Field Office and learning about the recently honored Salmon Valley Stewardship organization. Linda's husband is a field supervisor with Arizona Game and Fish Department and they have two children. She enjoys spending time riding her mules, fly fishing and target shooting.



## Welcome New BLM Employees

**Suzanne Endsley**  
**Public Affairs Specialist**  
**Coeur d'Alene Field Office**

Suzanne Endsley began her position with BLM Idaho in June 2011. Her Federal career began in the Blue Mountains of Eastern Oregon, where she spent her college summer breaks working, hiking and exploring on a seasonal timber sale prep crew. She developed a love and appreciation for the outdoors that she didn't know existed as her family wasn't big on "outdoorsy stuff" while growing up. She pursued a career with the Forest Service and had the opportunity to work in a variety of disciplines including timber, recreation and fire, in Central Oregon, Northeastern California and finally, the Idaho Panhandle. Endsley has two children - her son has just completed his first year at the US Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs and her daughter is looking forward to her senior year in high school next school year. Both avid triathletes, Suzanne and her husband enjoy swimming, biking and running throughout the beautiful Coeur d'Alene area.



**Kathy Mondor**  
**Executive Assistant**  
**Idaho State Office**

Mondor came to BLM Idaho from the Bureau of Reclamation where she was a Secretary in the Regional Director's Office for two years. Prior to that position she was a Field Office Assistant, and got her Federal Service start with the Emmett Ranger District. Kathy grew up in Meridian as the youngest of four children. She graduated from Meridian High School and then attended Links School of Business in Boise. She spent time in Salt Lake City, which was just the beginning of many moves. She married her husband, Harry, who was in the Air Force and together they were stationed in the Netherlands, Arkansas, California, Florida and a short time in Antigua. Kathy and her husband live in Sweet where they raised their three children, who are now grown. They are enjoying their 19-month old granddaughter while they await the birth of their second granddaughter. Kathy's hobbies include camping, hiking, kayaking, reading, and being with friends and family.

## Charity Donation

### BLM Employees Donate Nearly \$30,000 to Local, National Charities

The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) announced another successful charitable giving drive by the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), the world's largest workplace giving campaign. Despite a very tough economic year in 2010 and a drop in charitable giving across the country, Federal civilian, military and postal employees pledged more than \$281.5 million to the CFC. The amount raised was the second highest in the CFC's 50 year history.

The Southwestern Idaho CFC Campaign also had its second highest year of contributions, raising almost \$520,000.

The Southwestern Idaho CFC region encompasses 19 counties and about 100 agencies. Among these agencies are the BLM; Mountain Home Air Force Base; U.S. Postal Service; Boise, Payette and Sawtooth National Forests; National Interagency Fire Center; Social Security Administration; and the Bureau of

Reclamation.

Pippin said BLM employees in the southwestern region stepped up and contributed nearly \$29,000 through CFC fundraisers, donations and payroll deductions.

The top 25 local charities in southwestern Idaho's 19 counties to receive funds in 2010 include The Idaho Foodbank, Idaho Humane Society, Operation Warmheart, Boise Rescue Mission, Women's and Children's Alliance, Idaho Guard and Family Reserve Support Fund, Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest, Idaho Youth Ranch, Wildland Firefighter Foundation, 2nd Chance Animal Shelter, United Way of the Treasure Valley, Ronald McDonald House, Catholic Charities of Idaho, Make-A-Wish Foundation of Idaho, Terry Reilly Health Services, IEA Children's Fund, Life's Kitchen, Susan G. Komen For the Cure-Idaho, American Red Cross SW Idaho, Idaho Conservation League, Senior Solutions, Boy Scouts, Veteran Advocates, Idaho Botanical Garden and Boise Public Schools Foundation.

## Stay Connected

Subscribe to Idaho BLM Newsletter



**Facebook**  
Idaho | National



**YouTube**  
Idaho | National



**Twitter**  
Idaho | National



**RSS**  
Idaho | National

## Upcoming Events

September 24  
National Public Lands Day

September 24  
Fee-Free Day

