

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
(BLM MOU WO-230-2007-005)  
**Between**  
**U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,**  
**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**  
**And**  
**COEVOLUTION INSTITUTE**

This MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) is hereby entered into by and between the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management (BLM), herein after referred to as the BLM, and the Coevolution Institute to facilitate cooperation and coordination in the conservation and management of pollinators, their habitats, and associated ecosystems.

**I. BACKGROUND**

The BLM is responsible for managing approximately 258 million acres of public lands under a multiple-use mandate dedicated to the conservation, protection, and sustainable management of natural resources. The public lands are managed in a manner that will protect scientific and ecological values, provide food and habitat for fish, wildlife, and native plants, preserve ecosystem services such as clean water and air, and provide for outdoor recreation. The BLM mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of these lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

The Coevolution Institute's mission is to act as a catalyst for stewardship. One of its stewardship strategies is to improve the health and survival of all species by promoting the importance of insects and related animals, and by protecting their native plant communities. The Coevolution Institute coordinates the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC), a unique partnership designed to produce measurable reductions in pollinator extinctions and habitat loss. Pollinators such as bees, birds, bats, and insects play a vital role in flowering plant reproduction and in the production of most fruits and vegetables. Without the assistance of pollinators, most plants cannot reproduce. Declines in the health and populations of pollinators pose substantial threats to the integrity of biodiversity, to global food webs, and to human health.

It is the goal of both parties to cooperate with each other in matters relating to the management and conservation of pollinators and the native plant ecosystems they depend upon. The framework for cooperation and coordination is especially needed to establish, where practical, management procedures that support pollinators and their habitats, as well as educational and interpretational activities, across public lands.

**II. PURPOSE**

The purpose of the MOU is to provide a framework for cooperation and coordination between the Coevolution Institute and the BLM in achievement of the mutual goals. Cooperation and coordination may involve a wide range of activities, including, but not limited to, the following: training, conducting assessments, inventory, research, monitoring, protection, restoration,

education, interpretation and other activities necessary to conserve, manage and restore pollinators and their native plant habitats and ecosystems. The framework for cooperation and coordination is especially needed for restoration and conservation of threatened, endangered, and sensitive pollinator species.

### **III. AUTHORITY**

This MOU is entered into by the BLM and the Coevolution Institute under the provisions of the Federal Land Management and Policy Act (43 U.S.C.1701-1782) as amended.

### **IV. RESPONSIBILITIES and PROCEDURES**

#### **A. The BLM will:**

1. Where practical, make BLM lands available for the furtherance of this partnership, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other applicable federal laws, regulations, and resource management plans.
2. Cooperate with the Coevolution Institute's NAPPC to identify tasks that will assist BLM in carrying out its programs and activities that help, conserve, protect, or restore native pollinators and their habitats in accordance with the BLM mission and policies.
3. Conserve and manage pollinators and their habitats in accordance with applicable federal laws, regulations, and specific direction in resource management plans.
4. As needed, enter into additional agreements with the Coevolution Institute, including but not limited to special use permits, research permits, cooperative agreements, or contracts to accomplish work projects agreed upon by both parties.
5. Meet annually, or as necessary, with representatives of the Coevolution Institute to develop collaborative strategic plans, identify programs and activities of mutual benefit, and implement agreed to projects.

#### **B. The Coevolution Institute will:**

1. Cooperate with the BLM to identify tasks that will assist BLM in carrying out programs and activities and implement projects that both parties have agreed upon.
2. Provide the BLM with expertise for the implementation of agreed-upon projects.
3. Enter into additional and appropriate subsidiary agreements with the BLM, if required, to accomplish projects agreed upon by both parties.
4. Meet annually, or as necessary, to identify, plan, and implement programs, projects, and activities of mutual benefit.

5. As determined by specific agreement, provide support for the implementation of specific projects on public lands that further both parties' missions of conserving pollinators and their habitats.
6. Inform the general public about pollinator conservation projects conducted cooperatively with the BLM.
7. Assist in the training of BLM staff relative to pollinator or pollinator habitat conservation and management.

## **V. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

The BLM and the Coevolution Institute agree that:

- A. Nothing in this MOU shall obligate either the BLM or Coevolution Institute to obligate or transfer any funds. Specific work projects or activities that involve the transfer of funds, services, or property among the various agencies and offices of the Department of the Interior and Coevolution Institute will require execution of separate agreements and be contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. Such activities must be independently authorized by appropriate statutory authority. This MOU does not provide such authority.
- B. Nothing in this MOU may be interpreted to imply that the United States, the Department of the Interior, or the BLM endorses any product, service, or policy of the Coevolution Institute. The Coevolution Institute will not take any action or make any statement that suggests or implies such endorsement.
- C. Any information furnished to the BLM under this instrument is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).
- D. The parties will comply with the Federal Advisory Committee Act to the extent it applies.
- E. This MOU in no way restricts the BLM or the Coevolution Institute from participating in similar activities or arrangements with other public or private agencies, organizations, or individuals.
- F. During the performance of this agreement, all parties will abide by the terms of Executive Order 11246 on nondiscrimination and will not discriminate against any person because of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or disability.
- G. Nothing herein is intended to conflict with the current Department of the Interior or Coevolution Institute directives. If any term of this agreement is deemed inconsistent with those directives, then the portions of this agreement that are inconsistent will be null and void; but the remaining terms and conditions will remain in full force and effect.

- H. Prior to issuing any press, media releases, published advertisements, or other statements for the public, involving activities covered in this MOU, the Coevolution Institute will consult with and obtain permission from the BLM.
- I. Modifications within the scope of the MOU will be made by mutual consent of the parties hereto, by the issuance of a written modification, signed and dated by parties, prior to any changes being performed.
- J. This MOU becomes effective upon signature by the BLM and the Coevolution Institute and, unless terminated, shall be in force for five years from the date of the last signature, at which time this MOU shall automatically terminate unless renewed by all parties hereto. Any party to this MOU reserves the right to withdraw from this agreement, or any part thereof, at any time upon 30 days prior written notice to the other party hereto.
- K. The principle contacts for this MOU are:

<b>Bureau of Land Management</b>	<b>Coevolution Institute</b>
Peggy Olwell Plant Conservation Program Manager Fish, Wildlife, and Plant Conservation Bureau of Land Management 1849 C Street NW, LSB-204 Washington, DC 20240 Phone: (202) 452-7764 Fax: (202) 452-7702 e-mail: peggy_olwell@blm.gov	Laurie Davies Adams Executive Director Coevolution Institute 423 Washington Street, 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor San Francisco, CA 94111-2339 Phone: (415) 362-1137 fax: (415) 362-3070 E-mail: LDA@coevolution.org

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this agreement as of the last written date below.

/S/ Henri R. Bisson

6/28/07

James M. Hughes  
For Acting Director, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Date

/S/Laurie Davies Adams

June 28, 2007

Laurie Davies Adams  
Executive Director, COEVOLUTION INSTITUTE

Date