

BLM'S 2000 VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

In Fiscal Year 2000, thousands of volunteers contributed their time and talents to care for the many natural, cultural, and recreational resources on our public lands. Collectively, these individuals donated more than 700,000 hours of work, the equivalent of over 400 work years! The monetary value of BLM volunteers' contributions is estimated at more than \$11 million.

With a workforce of some 9,000 employees, BLM is responsible for 264 million acres of public land. To sustain the health, productivity,

and diversity of this much land would seem an insurmountable task without the help of volunteers. Whether participating in 1-day events, serving as campground hosts throughout the summer, or coming in to the office on a daily basis, volunteers enable BLM to provide a wide range of services to public land users. Great emphasis is given to the fact that public lands belong to all Americans, but it's volunteers who take the responsibility of ownership seriously. They serve as an example to all citizens, and for that we salute and thank them.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY FOR FISCAL YEARS 1995–2000

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 ^a
Total Hours	1,219,489	1,097,115	1,149,294	1,355,130	962,293	755,576
Value to BLM (\$)	13,602,369	12,369,325	14,428,428	19,378,359	14,270,805	11,628,315 ^b
Work-Years	677	609	638	753	535	420
Value of One Work Hour (\$)	11.15	11.27	12.55	14.30	14.83	15.39 ^c
Value of One Work Year (\$)	20,077	18,413	22,615	25,735	26,694	27,702

^a Data for the year 2000 are incomplete because information from some Field Offices (in Arizona, California, Colorado, and New Mexico) had not been received at the time this report was printed.

^b The 2000 volunteer program was accomplished at a cost of \$795,071, a return of about \$14.60 for every \$1.00 expended.

^c The value of volunteer contributions was calculated at the rate of \$15.39 per hour, a figure calculated by the Independent Sector (<http://www.indepsec.org>), a national leadership forum committed to volunteerism and citizen action. The amount was based on the latest data available on the average hourly wage for nonagricultural workers as published in the *Economic Report of the President* (2001 Edition).

NATIONAL TOTALS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000^a

Program	Volunteer Hours	Hosted Worker Hours	Total Hours
Recreation	337,244	17,506	354,750
Biological Resources	50,607	17,842	68,449
Wild Horse	24,939	58,426	83,365
Cadastral	1,189	401	1,590
Wilderness	19,748	32	19,780
Riparian/Watershed	18,286	331	18,617
Cultural/Historical	53,510	5,449	58,959
Minerals	9,514	75	9,589
Support Services	18,261	53,077	71,338
Environmental	30,666	7,434	38,100
Education/Interpretation			
Other	24,431	6,608	31,039
Total	588,395	167,181	755,576
Funds Expended (\$)	772,656	22,415	795,071
Value of Work (\$)	9,055,399	2,572,916	11,628,315

^a The term “volunteer” as used in the text of this report includes “hosted workers.” Volunteers work for BLM without being paid. They donate their time and, in some instances, equipment and money to assist BLM with a variety of jobs. Hosted workers, on the other hand, are paid by another organization but work for BLM at no charge. Hosted workers made up about 22% of the total volunteer time in 2000. Their contributions are included in the State and National Totals tables.



Although National Public Lands Day at the Wedge Overlook near Price, Utah, was cold and windy, more than 250 volunteers showed up to participate in cleanup and construction work. Volunteers built some 720 feet of buck and rail fence.