

**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

**Forest
Service**

R-6

OR/WA

**Bureau of Land
Management**

**United States
Department of
the Interior**

Reply Refer To: 1300 (FS)/1132/1263 (BLM) (OR-910) P **Date:** October 11, 2006

FS-Memorandum

**EMS TRANSMISSION 10/12/2006
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To: Leadership Team of the Forest Service, Region 6 and Bureau of Land Management, Oregon/Washington State Leadership Team

Subject: Service First Business Case for Shared Computer Services DD: 10/25/2006

As leaders in the Service First environment, the states of Oregon, Washington and Colorado identified a shortcoming in our ability to communicate across our information technology structures (see attached information paper). After a briefing in January of 2006 by Elaine M. Brong and Linda Goodman, our national offices made a commitment (reference March 2, 2006 letter in reply to 1132 (WO-100)) to work on this issue. Their commitment was to work with us on the issues of uncoordinated Information Technology (IT) development and to facilitate shared computer services by joining with Colorado in the Virtual Private Network (VPN) pilot effort. From this work we will be able to examine solutions that may be adopted eventually as national policy.

Towards this end, both national offices have established an interagency working group that includes both Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Forest Service (FS) Chief Information Officer (CIO), Washington Office Security Departments, and members from IT policy staff and centers. Their first task is to build the business case that building an interface between the BLM and FS networks requires. They need to know the types of task and functions that our Service First business world requires or would benefit from with a supportive IT environment. This will help them focus on solutions that can deliver better service and save employee time (and money).

We are requesting an assessment of the common Unit business functions that need to be provided. These functions could be provided by accessing a common network, by working across a network, or through either the BLM or FS agency networks.

Please list the business functions that are accomplished or that you would like to accomplish that require access to one agency's equipment across another agency's network or into their work sites. Examples of "business functions" include Geographic Information System, QuickTime, Federal Personnel Payment System, timesheets, training, job applications on line, grants and agreements, procurements, AgLearn, DOI Learn, budget, and work planning systems. Please list all of the areas that the Unit needs assistance with and consider the functions your Unit requires to be more effective or save costs that currently require employees to go across a BLM or FS network or accessing through the BLM or FS network.

We are interested in learning what would be helpful in increasing effectiveness or efficiency including for remote sites where access may be limited. Please send your comments to Lloyd Gilham by close of business October 25, 2006. If you have questions please contact Lloyd at (503) 808-6063.

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for ELAINE M. BRONG
State Director, OR/WA
USDI Bureau of Land Management

Liz Agpaoa, Deputy Regional Director
for LINDA GOODMAN
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Authenticated by
Mary O'Leary
Management Assistant

1 Attachment

1 – [Information Paper](#) (1p)

BLM Distribution
WO-100 (MS 5660-MIB)
OR-955 (Lloyd Gilham)

cc:
FS Margaret Petersen