

WYOMING NATIONAL
LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION
SYSTEM THREE YEAR
STRATEGY



The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

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NLCS Wyoming Three year Strategy 2013-2015

Theme 1: Ensuring the Conservation, Protection, and Restoration of National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS) Values

National Emphasis:

- Policy Development
- Science
- Data Management

State Strategic Approach: Management actions and projects are conducted to:

- **Policy:** Emphasize at risk resources (objects and values), such as scenic quality, view shed, air quality, Threatened and Endangered (T&E) species and habitat, paleontology, botanical and ecological resources unique to Wyoming.
- **Science:** Consider other National and Wyoming Strategies, including the Wyoming Landscape Conservation Initiative (WLCI), Ecological Function, Climate Change, Assessment, Inventory and Monitoring (AIM) and Tribal Strategies. Actions will inventory assess and monitor resources, remove invasive plant species and restore native communities, control impacts of off-highway vehicles, assess sustain and improve ecosystem function, involve tribal interests in site protection, and develop tribal relations to protect and restore heritage resources and maintain site integrity within Conservation System areas.
- **Data/ Information Management:** Identify a cohesive regional approach to developing monitoring and reporting on local projects by coordinating with regional partners.

Goal 1A: Clearly communicate that the conservation, protection, and restoration of NLCS values is the highest priority in NLCS planning and management, consistent with the designating legislation or proclamation.

State Level Actions:

- Develop a clear description of the National Scenic and Historic Trail (NSHT) and Wilderness Study Area (WSA) objectives and conservation values for Wyoming.
- Take action and implement projects and partnerships that inventory, monitor, emphasize and protect the described objects and conservation values across all lands in the conservation system in Wyoming.
- Actively and widely conduct outreach regarding NLCS priorities and partnership opportunities.
- Field offices with National Trails (including the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDNST) and National Historic Trails (NHT)) support one BPS project annually for National Trails

- Continue with route designation implementation for all 42 wilderness study areas (WSAs) and landscapes associated with National Historic Trails
- Complete at least one paleontological inventory in a Conservation unit annually, using permittees, partners, volunteers
- Initiate at least one Botanical resource and vegetation classification inventory in a Conservation unit annually until all are complete.
- Initiate at least one Pollinator resource inventory in a Conservation unit until all are complete
- Establish long-term trend monitoring study plots for botanical and pollinator resources in each Conservation unit; implement long-term monitoring such that Conservation unit study plots are revisited at least once every 10 years to facilitate tracking of effects of climate change, invasive species, fire, grazing, recreation, or other disturbance or permitted activities
- Establish demographic trend monitoring study plots for rare and sensitive species in all Conservation units
- Maintain database, geospatial information, aerial imagery of botanical resources and vegetation classification mapping; fund scanning of herbarium specimens and inclusion in virtual herbaria; collaborate with federal, state, and non-governmental partners
- Establish seed & propagule bank for *ex situ* conservation of all species in Conservation Units
- Collect and increase seed and propagules from Conservation units to support potential restoration (stabilization, rehabilitation, reclamation) activities and/or assisted migration
- Fund genetic analyses to assess intra-species biodiversity differences in and among conservation units. Use results to inform guidance for restoration plant materials sources.
- Design, establish and maintain educational and outreach materials regarding biological, botanical, ecological, and ecosystem resources for/at all Conservation units and the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center (NHTIC)

Unit Level Actions: (These are derived in coordination with the Resource Management Plan (RMP) implementation strategy actions):

- Continue Interpretation and Environmental Education events that promote NLCS values
- Manage WSAs under visual resource management (VRM) Class I objectives
- Work with willing land owners and partners to pursue conservation easements on lands adjacent to areas managed as VRM Class I on a case by case basis
- Maintain the primitive route closures as prescribed in the existing travel management plans. Acquire inholdings and /or lands or interest in lands within NLCS Units
- Manage acquired inholdings to preserve their wilderness characteristics.
- Maintain an intensive route inventory of primitive routes and check against the 1978-81 inventory files for WSAs. Use these travel and transportation management (TTM) inventories for decisions

- In cooperation, consultation, and coordination with permittees/lessees, cooperators, and other stakeholders, develop and implement appropriate livestock grazing management actions to enhance rangeland health, improve forage for livestock, and meet other multiple use objectives by using the *Wyoming Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management*, and other appropriate best management practices (BMPs), and develop appropriate range improvements
- Prohibit the placement of salt, mineral, or forage supplements within ¼ mile of water, wetlands, riparian areas, reclaimed or reforested areas, or as determined by the authorized officer
- Inventory potentially sensitive cultural places identified during Native American consultation independent of specific land-use actions. Apply tools (such as site avoidance and buffers) to protect sensitive cultural sites, as necessary
- Continue to manage travel and transportation activities according to approved Travel Management Plans. Update the plan as needed.
- Implement BMPs to protect water quantity and water quality within cave and karst areas exhibiting unique underground drainage characteristics
- Manage National Scenic and Historic trails for long-term heritage, scenic and educational values and to enhance the public experience
- Enhance public experience through interpretive facilities and support for heritage tourism
- Finalize and implement the National Trails Management Corridor and management actions
- Begin preplan, solicit partnerships, and initiate funding request, to develop and enhance offsite information and orientation to National Trail based recreation opportunities
- Begin preplan, solicit partnerships, and initiate funding request to develop a system wide interpretive plan for the National Trails and associated landscape
- Continue partnerships and visitor information support of permits in NLCS units
- Continue maintenance of 8 National Trail interpretive exhibits, and 10 CDNST water sources

Goal 1B: Expand understanding of the NLCS values through assessment, inventory and monitoring

State Level Actions:

- Establish Wilderness Character Monitoring following the protocol in WSA Manual 6330
- Assess and use baseline data compiled in the National Historic Trails American Reinvestment and Recovery project
- Establish National Scenic and Historic Trails Monitoring/Inventory following the protocol in the NSHT Manual
- Conduct/update wilderness characteristics inventories as needed in all field offices
- Conduct/update Visual Resource Inventories as needed in all field offices

Unit Level Actions:

- Maintain an intensive aerial and ground monitoring program for all WSA's.
- Use public outreach to enlist public partnerships for WSA Monitoring.
- Coordinate wilderness and wildlife monitoring and research within NLCS units.
- Continue visitor impact monitoring program along the National Historic Trails.
- Coordinate with the Greater Yellowstone Coalition in a White Bark Pine Inventory within WSAs
- Coordinate closely with the Wild Horse Specialist to attain wild horse and WSA management objectives for WSAs with a wild horse population
- Continue to monitor caves within WSAs for bat populations and conditions
- Continue inventories for trail identification, documentation and mapping
- Continue annual monitoring of all WSAs
- Update lands with wilderness characteristics (LWC) inventories for field office planning as needed
- Address Cultural Data Backlog where it exists
- Continue analysis of the Overland/Cherokee Trail Study

Goal 1C: Provide a scientific foundation for decision-making.

State Level Actions:

- Support and promote research activities, consistent with protection of unit values, so long as they relate to furthering knowledge and understanding NLCS unit values or objects, landscape sustainability, heritage resources or support to community participation in management of the NLCS unit.
- Ensure that research and management activities are based on best available science by coordinating with external subject experts and requiring peer review of plans, proposals, and products
- Ensure that Department of the Interior (DOI) Scientific Integrity Policy is upheld in all NLCS actions.
- Partner with National Park Service (NPS) Long Distance Trails Office and other NPS Divisions to work on projects/initiatives and NSHT Comprehensive Management plans.

Unit Level Actions:

- Coordinate and maintain wilderness and wildlife monitoring and research with the Wyoming Game and Fish to study Grizzly Bears habitat and migration patterns within WSAs

- Coordinate research with the Greater Yellowstone Coalition and other partners for White Bark Pine Inventories
- Continue to allow scientific research of cave and karst areas within WSAs
- Continue to regularly monitor and evaluate climatic and vegetative data. Compile and share these data with other land managing agencies of the area. Using a cooperative and collaborative approach, should the analysis of such data reveal a substantial shift (either upward or downward) in both the timing and level of production of native rangelands, initiate actions to ensure the long-term productivity of such areas
- Host science workshop in conjunction with Wyoming Landscape Conservation Initiative (WLCI)
- Conduct ecological site inventories where needed
- Continue visitor impact monitoring program along the National Historic Trails

Goal 1D: Use the NLCS as an outdoor laboratory and demonstration center for new and innovative management and business processes that aid in the conservation, protection, and restoration of NLCS areas.

State Level Actions:

- Set up projects to remove and eradicate invasive plants, from all Conservation System areas in Wyoming; Ensure that needed restoration tasks (e.g. re-seeding or planting and protecting seedlings or plugs) are planned for and implemented, monitored, and reported on, preferably with collaboration with external scientists who can ensure scientific rigor and involve graduate students, undergraduates and/or partners and volunteers in project implementation and data collection.
- Implement projects to emphasize and protect the described objects and conservation values across all lands in the conservation system in Wyoming.
- Support and promote projects and research that further BLM Wyoming's knowledge in biodiversity, ecological, ecosystem, heritage and paleontological resources
- Support and promote projects and research that involve partnerships with educational and community entities; Recruit scientists and subject matter experts to present science at Conservation units, Field Offices, and local events
- Collaborate with schools and universities to facilitate NLCS units being used as outdoor laboratories and demonstration centers for natural resource management and business processes
- Collaborate with external experts on conservation, protection and restoration of NLCS areas; consult with experts on unit needs and competitively offer assistance agreement funds to implement projects and education/ outreach
- Ensure that plans, projects, and products receive external expert peer review

Unit Level Actions:

- In cooperation with other agencies, organizations, and interested stakeholders, seek opportunities to promote public awareness and prevention of noxious and invasive species through public outreach, volunteer programs, signage, and other appropriate measures
- WSAs will be available for Grizzly Bear research, such as moth sites and occupancy, with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD)
- WSAs may be used as a classroom, as well as a key research station, in researching White Bark Pine in coordination with the Greater Yellowstone Coalition
- Coordinate with the wildlife specialists and WGFD to enhance wildlife objectives (elk parturition areas) while maintaining wilderness objectives within NLCS units.
- Continue to allow scientific research of cave and karst resources within NLCS Units. Research includes water recharge systems, bat occupancy, and White Nose Syndrome;
- Provide for additional public outreach/education and opportunities for users wishing to explore the area through the use of local outfitters and outdoor recreational businesses
- Sites associated with National Trails will be interpreted and developed as needed
- Host Resource Education events (such as the World Water Monitoring Day Event) for local students at NLCS units
- Implement Sagebrush Habitat Treatment Projects as needed

Goal 1E: Limit discretionary uses to those compatible with the conservation, protection and restoration of the values for which NLCS lands were designated.

State Level Actions:

- Implement available guidance from the National Historic Trails Act, WSA Manual, and NSHT Manual for planning purposes and impact assessment
- Develop public outreach materials for biological, ecological and ecosystem resources, health and complexity, and for primitive recreation opportunities in Wyoming Conservation Units
- Comply with DOI Scientific Integrity Policy and involve expert peer review at all stages of NLCS planning, management, implementation and projects

Unit Level Actions:

- Outreach to the niche market for primitive recreation in the WSAs
- Avoid surface-disturbing activities and protect the foreground of National Scenic and Historic Trails where setting is an important aspect of the integrity for the trail. Use BMPs to avoid or mitigate adverse effects.
- Maintain Historic Landscapes

Theme 2: Collaboratively Managing the NLCS as Part of the Larger Landscape

National Emphasis:

- Ecosystem-based Management
- Conservation Values in Planning
- Share Collaboration Stories
- Community Based Recreation

State Strategic Approach:

- Incorporate rapid eco-regional assessments in Wyoming, incorporating these assessment products and identified step-down actions into the management decision making processes
- Collaborate with Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs); investigate how NLCS units relate to the goals, objectives, activities of the LCCs to which Wyoming belongs; how they might contribute to or be included in landscape-scale studies, activities, projects, or information syntheses
- Collaborate with Regional Climate Science Centers to ensure best possible science is used in NLCS management and planning; identify potential role for or contributions of NLCS units in landscape-scale climate change research and monitoring.
- Use results of WO Climate Change Vulnerability and Species Distribution Modeling projects (for plants) to identify landscape-level botanical issues in which BLM can play a role (e.g. *ex* and *in situ* conservation and management).
- Maintain seed (and propagate) banking, seed increase, and seeding trial efforts to facilitate 1) germplasm conservation and 2) best management practices regarding use of local genotypes and plant materials in restoration and reclamation
- Implement standardized inventory, assessment and monitoring of biological resources in all NLCS units
- Use simulation and view shed capability in landscape impact assessment

Goal 2A: Emphasize an ecosystem-based approach to manage the NLCS in the context of the surrounding landscape.

State Level Actions:

- Integrate available research and tools in support of conservation unit assessment within the surrounding landscape
- Collaborate with external subject experts, comply with DOI Scientific Integrity Policy, and ensure scientific peer review of management plans and implementation.

Unit Level Actions:

- Maintain setting for contributing trail segments where setting is an aspect of integrity by using view shed management tools

- Begin to incorporate Rapid Eco-regional Assessments into management decision making processes
- Implement sagebrush grasslands annual treatment to minimize the expansion of invasive grasses within WSA boundaries
- In cooperation with other agencies, organizations, and interested stakeholders, seek opportunities to promote public awareness and prevention of noxious and invasive species through public outreach, volunteer programs, signage, and other appropriate measures
- Work with willing landowners and partners to pursue conservation easements on lands adjacent to areas
- Educate the public about the critically important resources and associated functions found within NLCS units.

Goal 2B: Adopt a cross-jurisdictional, community-based approach to landscape-level conservation planning and management.

State Level Actions:

- Involve community members/volunteers and partners in collaborating and monitoring WSAs
- Collaborate with expert researchers to ensure scientifically rigorous information synthesis and translation, information gap identification, and needed research is available or being obtained to support planning and management

Unit Level Actions:

- Work with the public to help manage the WSA (National Public Lands Day, and Take it Outside initiatives for example), which includes monitoring, public land day events, youth programs, etc.
- Maintain collaboration with special user groups (such as Wyoming Wilderness Association) to provide and encourage group hikes and outings
- Acquire inholdings and /or lands or interest in lands within WSA boundary in cooperation with willing landowners. Manage acquired inholdings to preserve their wilderness characteristics
- Pursue Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) Agreements for the cooperative management of surface activities in watershed on US Forest Service-administered and private lands within NLCS units
- Pursue Restoration in NLCS Units
- Continue collaboration with partners and existing working groups

Goal 2C: Work with tribes, state agencies, federal agencies, landscape consortia, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academia, and local communities to identify and protect lands that are critical to the long-term ecological sustainability of the landscape

State Level Actions:

- Enhance tribal consultation across all NLCS units within Wyoming
- Identify one WSA annually, and host field visits with tribal elders to identify areas of tribal interest
- Monitor and evaluate pertinent data
- Ensure that ecological long-term sustainability identification and protection actions are based on best available science, and that scientific information needs are identified and pursued

Unit Level Actions:

- Coordinate wilderness and wildlife monitoring and research with the Wyoming Game and Fish within WSAs
- Maintain coordination with wildlife resources and WGFD to enhance wildlife objectives while maintaining wilderness objectives within WSAs
- Develop and maintain working relationships with those tribes having an interest in the area through regular meetings; consult with tribal governments regarding proposed land uses having the potential to impact cultural resources identified as having tribal interests or concerns; determine the types of resources of concern to various tribes, and take tribal views into consideration when making land use allocations or decisions
- Enhance tribal consultation across all NLCS units
- Maintain and enhance WLCI partnerships. Educate the public about the critically important resources and associated functions found within WSAs, such as the important aquifer recharge system, and the fragile and extensive cave and karst resources, and proactive measures to minimize or eliminate the threat of WNS, such as bat monitoring, cave permits, etc.
- Continue to regularly monitor and evaluate climatic and vegetative data. Compile and share these data with other land managing agencies of the area; using a cooperative and collaborative approach, should the analysis of such data reveal a substantial shift (either upward or downward) in both the timing and level of production of native rangelands, initiate actions to ensure the long-term productivity of such areas.

Goal 2D: Adopt a community-based approach to recreation and visitor services delivery, consistent with the conservation purpose of the NLCS and the socio-economic goals of the local community.

State Level Actions:

- Work collaboratively with Office of Communications, district and field offices to create a brochure highlighting our Wilderness Study Areas and other Conservation Unit literature and websites

Unit Level Actions:

- Sites associated with National trails will be interpreted and developed as needed.
- Use community based approach for environmental education

- Partner with local recreation and visitor information providers to better link host communities and local recreationist to NLCS based recreation opportunities
- Work with willing landowners and partners to pursue conservation easements on lands adjacent to areas
- Enhance public experience through interpretive facilities and support of heritage tourism
- Improve access to WSA's with existing access limitations.
- Continue to work with the public to help manage the WSAs which includes monitoring, public land day events, youth programs, etc.
- Maintain collaboration with special user groups (such as Wyoming Wilderness Association) to provide and encourage group hikes and outings
- Provide for additional public outreach/education and opportunities for users to explore WSA's (trails, pull outs, trailheads, interpretive panels etc.)
- Develop educational materials and facilities to enhance the knowledge of resources and the unique character within WSA's and along National Designated Byways.
- Continue to work closely with local outfitters and tourism related special recreation permittees (SRPs) who market their business based on primitive opportunities the WSAs have to offer (for example, The Hideout SRP) to provide for additional public outreach and education and opportunities for users wishing to explore the WSAs
- Acquire additional legal and/or physical access for recreational opportunities

Theme 3: Raising Awareness of the Value and Benefits of the BLM's NLCS

National Emphasis:

- Communication and Outreach
- Volunteer, Partnership, and Education Strategies
- Veteran Engagement and Employment
- Youth Engagement and Employment

State Strategic Approach:

- Utilize current social media outlets to raise awareness of values and benefits of the Conservation units in Wyoming.
- Collaborate with state educational units at all levels.

Goal 3A: Launch a long-term public awareness initiative about BLM Wyoming's NLCS units, including statewide and local outreach, communications and media plans.

State Level Actions:

- Use current technology, including social networking as authorized; stories and items of immediate interest will be posted to the BLM Wyoming Facebook page

- Develop and implement a “common feel and look” image for all BLM Wyoming NLCS material, information and messaging using national direction.

Unit Level Actions:

- Educate the public about appropriate wilderness recreation and outdoor ethics (leave no trace - LNT)
- Educate the public about the critically important resources and associated functions found within the WSAs, such as the important aquifer recharge system, and the fragile and extensive cave and karst resources, and proactive measures to minimize or eliminate the threat of WNS, such as bat monitoring, cave permits, etc.
- Promote the significance and importance of cave resources found within WSAs through interpretive and educative programs and techniques
- Maximize partnership and cooperative management opportunities (e.g., cooperate with private landowners to install trail markers, provide public access, etc.)
- Provide for additional public outreach/education and opportunities for users to explore NLCS Units
- Develop educational materials and facilities to enhance the knowledge of resources and the unique character of the Red Gulch/Alkali Road National Back Country Byway, specifically showcasing the Alkali Creek WSA
- NHTIC assistance in outreach and awareness, contact point for media in area regarding interpretive education.

Goal 3B: Advance and strengthen partnerships to facilitate shared stewardship and to advance the relevance of the NLCS to communities of interest and place.

State Level Actions:

- Conduct partner capacity studies for community involvement in NLCS areas. Utilize social studies, existing information gathered for resource management plan (RMP) development, University of Wyoming, and other efforts
- Continue partnerships with Conservation Corps, University of Wyoming faculty, Wyoming Natural Diversity Database; other University faculty, work closely with Conservation Districts and educational entities at all levels
- Work with the nonprofit organizations and conservation organizations/foundations, local communities, and others to establish a Friends Group for each national scenic and historic trail

Unit Level Actions:

- Maintain collaboration with special user groups (such as Wyoming Wilderness Association) to provide and encourage group hikes and outings
- Involve public with Wyoming Site Stewardship Program (WYSSP) for monitoring of trail routes

- NHTIC and National Historic Trails Center Foundation partnership used to promote shared stewardship and provide community connections
- Continue the USFS partnership for educational outreach public events

Goal 3C: Expand use of volunteers within the NLCS.

State Level Actions:

- Each field office with NLCS unit(s) will sponsor a minimum of one youth volunteer project per year starting in 2013. Types of projects and youth organization will reflect the local resources in the unit. Projects can be funded and sponsored through the “Let’s Move Outside” Initiative, Take It Outside, Hands on the Land Partnerships, National Public Lands Day events, or other sources.

Unit Level Actions:

- Continue to work with the public to help manage WSAs (NPLD, TIO, etc.), which includes monitoring, public land day events, youth programs, etc.;
- NHTIC and National Historic Trails Center Foundation volunteer programs as part of NLCS unit engagement of local community, continual recruitment and promotion for opportunity to be involved for public
- Host a National Public Lands Day Event with local volunteers which will benefit a NLCS unit
- Continue to allow scientific research of cave and karst areas within WSAs through the use of volunteers
- Continue to provide the opportunity for volunteers to monitor caves within WSAs for bat populations and conditions

Goal 3D: Engage the public in stewardship of the NLCS through education and Interpretation.

State Level Actions:

- Continue efforts through the NHTIC and community partnerships to provide information and visitor services for the National Historic Trails; provide consistent information delivery
- Offer public outreach on stewardship of conservation lands
- Collaborate with schools and universities to offer intensive on-site courses related to conservation and management

Unit Level Actions:

- Educate the public about appropriate wilderness recreation and outdoor ethics
- Maintain collaboration with special user groups (such as Wyoming Wilderness Association) to provide and encourage group hikes and outings

- Provide for additional public outreach/education and opportunities for users to explore WSA
- Manage historic trails for long-term heritage and educational values and to enhance the public experience
- NHTIC as a NLCS unit providing public programming and events to inform and educate the public on natural and cultural resources, especially historic sites and historic trails
- Collaborate with local schools/partners to highlight the NLCS and the conservation management goals

Goal 3E: Recruit and retain well-trained youth from diverse backgrounds for entry-level careers, and engage youth in recreation, education, and stewardship on conservation lands.

State Level Actions:

- Emphasize youth employment opportunities on the NLCS units. Focus on nurturing students and youth toward seeking permanent careers in natural resources management. Early exposure to environmental education concepts and experiences encourages students to pursue academic training and employment in the natural resources. Include partnerships with tribes to develop employment opportunities.
 - Each District will plan to sponsor at least one project a year on NLCS units employing Youth Corps, Student Conservation Association, or other internship employees. These may be funded through various sources such as Challenge Cost Share or other programs
- Environmental Education – Engage youth in appreciation of the natural environment through both formal and informal settings. Include the use of family-oriented programs, as well as school, tribal, and youth group programs. Use social networking and other current technologies to deliver messages and experiences.

Unit Level Actions:

- Continue to work with the public to help manage the WSAs which includes monitoring, public land day events, youth programs, etc.
- Continue youth recruitment from the Wind River Indian Reservation; engage youth in outdoors and provide opportunities for their involvement and understanding in public lands
- Hire Chicago Botanical Gardens interns .
- Recruit additional youth through the BLM Pathways program.
- Collaborate with the Career Outdoor Recreation Education (CORE) group on a variety of projects that will benefit NLCS Units.
- Continue the Wyoming Conservation Corp and Encana partnership funding for young adult education and hands-on natural resource to promote leadership through service projects

Theme 4: Building on BLM's Commitment to Conservation

National Emphasis:

- Internal Communication Plan
- Policy Coordination
- National and State Strategy Integration
- Budget Coordination

Goal 4A: Improve internal communication and understanding of the NLCS and its potential to enhance the BLM as a whole.

State Level Actions:

- Create and deliver, as needed, presentations for Wyoming BLM Field Offices, Management and other internal resource specialists.

Unit Level Actions:

- Develop BLM Wyoming NLCS traveling exhibits that can be shared with other BLM offices – NHTIC staff. (actually completed) ; Involve the NHTIC in coordination of other education opportunities for staff on NLCS.

Goal 4B: Cultivate shared responsibility for the NLCS conservation mandate as an integral part of BLM's multiple-use, sustained-yield mission.

State Level Actions:

- Educate staff on importance of biodiversity and healthy ecosystems, both in and outside of NLCS units, for long-term sustainability and production of public lands.

Unit Level Actions:

- Maintain current travel management planning decisions within NLCS units
- Improve access to the WSA through comprehensive travel and transportation management planning
- Maintain close coordination with the wildlife specialists and WGFD to enhance wildlife objectives while maintaining wilderness objectives;
- Improve access to the WSAs through comprehensive travel and transportation management planning
- Continue to work closely with wildlife, hydrology, and cave and karst resources in maintain and enhance the resources found within the Medicine Lodge and Trapper Creek WSAs

Goal 4C: Clearly define, understand, and justify staffing needs, and administratively organize the NLCS areas to operate as a cross-cutting program within the BLM.

State Level Actions:

- Ensure each component of the NLCS has a designated lead in the state office; primary duties include: budget development and execution, leadership in development and administration of partnerships and assistance agreements, policy implementation and support to the field staff; one person may serve as lead for multiple components

Unit Level Actions:

- NHTIC staff interpreters can serve as a resource for other state wide BLM staff and offices to help with interpretive design and planning for cultural and natural resources
- Ensure all District and Field offices have a designated point of contact for each NLCS Unit

Goal 4D: Ensure the NLCS budget is coordinated with the other BLM programs. Set clear expectations and procedures for interdisciplinary budget development, priority setting, and reporting of accomplishments.

State Level Actions:

- Maintain an up-to-date implementation strategy for each conservation area or grouping of areas based on the approved RMP; the implementation strategy will serve as the basis for interdisciplinary budget development; have Program leads review and give input to implementation strategies

Unit Level Actions:

- Maintain high level of coordination with other resource programs to continue intensive aerial WSA monitoring program; this normally consists of sharing budgets with NLCS, and wildlife, wild horse and burro programs
- Maintain funding for the NHTIC