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Here! I attached the PDF too!

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WO-410: National Conservation Lands

Rivers and Trails 50th Anniversary

- October 2 marked the 49th Anniversary of the Rivers and Trails Systems. A BLM Daily article and a press interagency press release marked the anniversary (the release went out October 3).
- The Public Lands Foundation's Student Congress in 2018 will focus on the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and National Trails System Act. Planning is well underway for the August 22-25, 2018 event, including a draft agenda, location (Baker City, Oregon), and list of potential speakers and advisors. Cathi Bailey is representing WO-400 on the planning team.
- Products and projects in process for the Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSR) 50th Anniversary include: a WSR 50th Toolkit, conference and event displays, fact-sheets, and a communication strategy. WO-420 is creating a Junior Ranger booklet (currently in draft). WO-420 is also creating a middle school Wild and Scenic Rivers teaching guide where students will analyze maps to determine the nearest wild and scenic river, practice persuasive communication skills, explore clauses of the WSR, and interpret poetry about rivers.
- Products and projects in process for the National Scenic and Historic Trails Anniversary include: the Trails Authentic Adventures Story Map, the BLM's National Trails Anniversary Guide for State and Field Offices to prepare activities or events in recognition of the anniversary (both released on the October 2), portal and wayfinding signage, conference and event displays, training offerings, and a communications strategy. WO-420 is working on a Junior Ranger booklet (currently in draft) for National Trails and a middle school teaching guide, including excerpts of pioneer diaries that illuminate diverse views about cross-cultural interactions as emigrants traveled the trails. The guide is currently at the NOC for design.
- The BLM is participating in external and interagency efforts such as a trail intern mini-grant program that will be offered by the Partnership for the National Trails System, and a training workshop in coordination with Rivers.

National Monuments & National Conservation Areas

- Final beta testing of all five online NMs/NCAs training modules has been completed. WO-410 continues to work with the NTC on the training. The NMs/NCAs online training course is anticipated to be released this fall.
- On September 27, with other divisions, WO-410 submitted BLM's Action Plan per Secretarial Order 3356 - Hunting, Fishing, Recreational Shooting, and Wildlife Conservation Opportunities and Coordination with States, Tribes, and Territories.

National Wild & Scenic Rivers

- The Interagency Wild and Scenic Rivers Coordinating Council is working with the River Management Society to hire a training coordinator and develop a collaborative Wild and Scenic Rivers Training Program.

National Scenic & Historic Trails

- October 15 is the Partnership for the National Trails System National Trail Intern Grants program deadline for applications. The Partnership's program was developed in collaboration with the BLM, NPS, and USFS. Deb Salt is leading the BLM's efforts on the program.
- Deliberations will be completed on the two initial proposals received for the Statement of Work to address programmatic needs for National Trail Inventory and Monitoring protocol.
- The Old Spanish National Historic Trail Comprehensive Administrative Strategy is nearing completion. BLM Utah has the lead on finalizing the strategy with the NPS.

Travel and Tourism Program

- The draft BLM Travel and Tourism Plan is in DTS for review and a briefing with leadership will be scheduled to discuss the Plan's release.
- BLM is working with an interagency team that has started planning for IPW 2018, to be held in Denver Co. (5/19-23). The IPW event is the largest generator of travel to the U.S. America's public lands and waters are a key attraction for both domestic and international travelers. Federal agencies provide natural and cultural destination, access, and visitor services information and work with federal, tribal, state, local and industry travel and tourism partners; including Brand USA and U.S. Travel Association.

Wilderness

- Peter Mali, Wilderness Lead, is currently on a detail as the BLM Chief of Staff, through September of 2018. Bob Wick, James Sippel, and Sally Butts are working together to cover the program.

Science

- Mara Alexander is meeting on a monthly basis with Citizen Science Coordinators from USGS, FWS, NPS, and BIA to create a Citizen Science Framework that DOI agencies can utilize when working with the public to gather data. This framework will contain guidance on monitoring and managing natural resources on public lands. It will also incorporate relevant examples of joint DOI efforts, practical guidance, and encourage collaboration by leveraging each of bureau's resources and mandates.
- National Conservation Lands Scientific Studies Support Program projects are underway. Final reports will be submitted by the end of calendar year 2017.
- WO-400 continues to be an active member of the BLM National Science Committee and has a role leading and supporting many of the FY17 priorities.
- Four National Conservation Lands units began work on science plans this fiscal year: Rio Grande del Norte National Monument, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, Craters of the Moon National Monument and Steese National Conservation Area.

WO-420: Education, Interpretation, and Partnerships

Education—General Updates

- WO-420 is recruiting field offices to host “Teachers on the Public Lands” interns for summer 2018. In partnership with the University of Colorado-Denver approximately 30 teachers will work with BLM staff in local communities on education and youth engagement programs that focus on local public land resources and management issues.
- My Public Lands Junior Ranger “Citizen Science” activity book is at the BLM National Operations Center for design and layout. The booklet (for youth ages 7-12) will be available for distribution in October.
- A Classroom Investigation Series teaching guide about National Scenic & Historic Trails is at the NOC for design and layout. The guide includes three activities for middle school teachers and will be printed and available for distribution by the end of October.
- Education websites have been updated. Materials and programs are now categorized under the “for kids” and “for teachers” banners. Ten field offices have developed individual “education and youth engagement” web pages that highlight programming available at their local level. It’s anticipated that the number of field pages will increase to 20 by the end of the month and fuel continued expansion throughout the fiscal year.
- In conjunction with State Youth and Education Leads WO-420 will conduct a needs assessment to gauge field needs and ways the WO can support expanded outreach and education efforts with States and local communities to increase awareness of BLM priorities, its multiple-use mission, and the public lands. Outcomes will help inform our Education priorities for 2018.
- In response to Secretarial Order 3356, WO-250 developed “Recommendations for Section 4.b.(5), Streamlining and Improving the Special Recreation Permitting Process.” WO-420 assisted by identifying examples of existing activities engaging youth in hunting and fishing as well as current and potential partners that could facilitate expansion of these activities across the BLM. Establishing partnerships with organizations that serve youth, veterans, and underserved communities could provide an alternative to the need for special recreation permits.

Every Kid in a Park Program

- Year 3 of Every Kid in a Park (EKiP) began on September 1. BLM offices reported 304 EKiP passes distributed during September.

Youth

- The BLM team (from WO-420, Office of Recruitment and Retention Programs, and the Grants Policy Program Manager) distributed a draft of the Public Lands Corps Program guidance to State Leads in September, with feedback and comments due back to the WO by the end of the month. The WO team will meet on October 11 to review the comments and resolve any outstanding issues.

Volunteers

- National Public Lands Day (NPLD) was on Saturday, September 30, 2017. The BLM planned 280 projects at 140 sites that were hosted by 90 different BLM offices. An estimated 10,000 volunteers participated. T-shirts for volunteers were delivered in early September. Extra shirts are available at the NOC. These volunteer recognition shirts are extremely popular and greatly appreciated by field staff and volunteers.

Partnerships

- On October 2, registration for the 2018 “Managing by Network” partnerships and collaboration training program opened to BLM managers and employees; on-line applications are due by November 1. This BLM co-hosted and sponsored, multi-agency, 6-month applied learning program uses WebEx conferencing and other tools to engage participants in building their partnership and collaboration skills, while fostering peer-to-peer learning.
- On October 27, WO-400/420 will brief the Director on the final version of the BLM’s Donations, Solicitation, and Fundraising Policy – MS 1105, in final preparation for issuance to the field.

Interpretation

- Nominations for the BLM’s Excellence in Interpretation and Education award Program will be accepted through October 6. The nominees will be judged by a group of BLM staff from WO-250, WO-410, WO-420 and a representative from the National Park Service. The winners will be selected by October 17, and they, their supervisors, and the State Directors will be notified. An IB will be sent out as well. Winners will receive awards at the National Association for Interpretation Conference in Spokane, WA on November 16.