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From: Barret, Michelle
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[Raw submissions.pdf](#)

Hello,
Attached is this week's submissions we received in WO610.

Have a nice weekend,

Michelle Barret



Weekly Report ▶ WashingtonOfficeReport



Internal Document

WEEKLY REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
August 14 - 20, 2017

Weekly Report Items Approved / All States & Directorates☐ Item Content☒ Submitting Office : **AD400 National Conservation Lands and Community Partnerships (4)**

On August 21, Bob Wick will be working with the Communications Directorate, Idaho State Office, and Idaho Falls District to capture footage of the total solar eclipse for use on various social media platforms. The current tentative location is Jerry Peak Wilderness area. The BLM has been coordinating with DOI to have access to several platforms during the event.

On September 1, Every Kid in a Park (EKIP) launches Year 3. This popular program provides free access to federal lands and waters for fourth graders and their guests throughout the school year, from September 1 through August 31. During Year 2, the BLM distributed approximately 10,000 EKIP passes. In preparation for the upcoming launch, the BLM will be making available copies of the EKIP brochure in Spanish.

On September 11-14, Sally Butts and Angela West will participate in the annual American Indian and Alaska Native Tourism Association's (AIANTA) meeting in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Angela, the BLM's National Travel and Tourism Program Lead, has been invited to present during the session on "Federal Partners: Resources and Programs." The new BLM Travel and Tourism Action Plan will be shared at the event. The Action Plan is now in the final stage of review and will be briefed to BLM leadership for final approval. There is an opportunity for a signing ceremony in which BLM leadership would sign a Letter of Intent that has been developed between the BLM and AIANTA. The letter provides direction on implementing an existing Memorandum of Understanding between the DOI and AIANTA specific to the BLM.

On September 30, National Public Lands Day will be held. The BLM has over 120 projects in the works and is on track to mobilize approximately 10,000 volunteers again this year. A public BLM website is under construction and the site will enable prospective volunteers to locate BLM projects in their areas.

☒ Submitting Office : **Alaska (15)**

On August 16, BLM-AK State Director Bud Cribley plans to attend a luncheon with visiting Congressional staff following their visit to the North Slope of Alaska with U.S. Geological Survey Regional Director Aimee Devaris. The Congressional staffers include Annie Hoefler, Exec. Assist., Senate Energy & Natural Resources Cmte.-GOP; Fayeisha Mathews, Legis Counsel, Senate Energy & Natural Resources Cmte.-Dems; Josh Hoffman, Prof. Staff, House Natural Resources Cmte., Subcmt. on Energy and Mineral Resources, GOP; Steve Feldgus, Sr. Energy Policy Advisor, House Natural Resources Cmte.-Dems; Laura Comay, Congressional Research Service-Alaska expert; Pierce Wiegand, Legis. Asst., Sen. Dan Sullivan's (R-AK) office; Jocelyn Hunn, Staff Asst., Subcmt. on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations-Dems; Jimmy Wade, Rep. Liz Cheney's (R-WY) office; Rebecca Bonner, Staff Asst., Senate Energy & Natural Resources Cmte.-Dems; Tim Petty, Sen. Jim Risch (R-ID) aide on Senate Energy & Natural Resources Cmte.; Joshua Jackson, Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK) aide for Energy, Environment; Katie Allen, Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-WA) aide Energy, Environment; Jeff Lang, DOI Budget; and Amy Surber, Rep. Ken Calvert (R-CA) aide, Science & Technology.

August 17, BLM-AK Central Yukon Field Office will host a National Public Lands Day event in the Dalton Highway community of Coldfoot, Alaska. Volunteers will assist BLM staff in installing interpretive panels to complete a new walking trail leading to the Arctic Interagency Visitor Center, which the BLM operates cooperatively with the National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

July 7-Sept. 11, BLM-AK continues reviews of the Army Corps of Engineer's preliminary Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Donlin Gold Mine as part of the process leading to a decision on the right-of-way grant. Comments are due to the Corps by Sept. 11. The Final EIS is scheduled for release in March 2018.

On August 22, BLM-AK State Director Bud Cribley will attend the Alaska Mapping Executive Committee meeting held at the BLM-AK Campbell Creek Science Center. The committee coordinates critical mapping activities, including acquisition of key map data layers in Alaska. Executive level managers from 15 Federal agencies and the State of Alaska serve as committee members.

From August 23-27, BLM-AK Campbell Creek Science Center Manager Nancy Patterson will attend the Association of Nature Center Administrators Conference in Nauvoo, Alabama. The 2017 summit focuses on budgeting, outdoor education, innovation, and board development. Patterson received a scholarship from the association to attend.

From Sept. 28-Oct. 1, BLM-AK Campbell Creek Science Center staff will lead educational activities in the western Alaska village of Unalakleet. Science Center staff will lead activities focused on watersheds, water quality monitoring, riparian ecosystems, and other science topics with Unalakleet School students.

On Sept. 1, BLM-AK State Director Bud Cribley will attend the Alaska Mapping Executive Committee meeting held at the BLM-AK Campbell Creek Science Center. The committee coordinates critical mapping activities, including acquisition of key map data layers in Alaska. Executive level managers from 15 Federal agencies and the State of Alaska serve as committee members.

Sept. 6-7, BLM-AK State Director Bud Cribley and North Slope Science Initiative Executive Director Sara Longan and Deputy Director Mark Miller will attend the Arctic Council's Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna first board meeting under US Chairmanship in Bethel, Alaska. Sara Longan will be serving in her role as co-lead for the

Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program, along with the Kingdom of Denmark. Also expected to attend are representatives from the Arctic Council eight member states, permanent participants representing the six indigenous people's organizations of the circumpolar north, observer states, organizations and partners.

BLM-AK continues work on the Ambler Mining District Industrial Access Road Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a proposed 211-mile controlled industrial access road in the southern foothills of the Brooks Range. Once the third-party National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) contractor is selected this month, they will develop a project management plan and scoping strategy for rural communities, as well as Anchorage and Fairbanks. The public scoping period ends January 31, 2018.

On Sept. 13, BLM-AK facilitates the next monthly teleconference planning meeting with cooperating agencies and the Native Village of Nuiqsit for the Greater Mooses Tooth 2 (GMT2) National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska project. The agenda includes a GMT2 project status update and preliminary discussions about preferred access road alternatives for the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (scheduled for release in Nov. 2017). Cooperating agency attendees include the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, State of Alaska, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the North Slope Borough.

From Sept. 13-15, BLM-AK Campbell Creek Science Center will host the 17th annual Water Discovery Days, which teaches fourth-graders the importance of healthy watersheds to animals, plants, and people. More than 800 students are expected to participate this year. BLM's partners in the event include the Anchorage School District, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Park Service.

Sept. 18-21, BLM-AK State Director Bud Cribley will attend OCEANS 17 ANCHORAGE conference/exhibition, the first time OCEANS North America will be hosted in Alaska. With the theme "Our Harsh and Fragile Ocean," the event will address modern technology and traditional knowledge working together on issues including the diminishing Arctic ice pack, ocean acidification, increased vessel traffic in Arctic waters, and energy extraction. OCEANS hosts conferences/exhibits worldwide, with an average of two per year. Sponsored by the Marine Technology Society and the IEEE Oceanic Engineering Society, OCEANS conferences/exhibits draws an international audience of more than 2,000.

Sept. 19-21, BLM-AK Glennallen Field Office partners for the annual "Changing Seasons" outdoor learning stations that focus on animal and forest adaptations, changing weather patterns, and fall harvest activities. This "Hands on the Land" program began in 2003. The event is for Copper River elementary students in second and third grades. Partners include the Wrangell Institute for Science and Environment, Copper River School District, National Park Service, and State of Alaska agencies and local nonprofits.

Sept. 26, BLM-AK State Director Bud Cribley (tentative), North Slope Science Initiative Executive Director Sara Longan and Deputy Director Mark Miller will attend the Arctic Council's Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna Working Group Alaska partners' meeting in Anchorage. Also expected to attend are representatives from the Arctic Council eight member states, permanent participants representing the six indigenous people's organizations of the circumpolar north, observer states, organizations and partners.

Sept. 30, BLM-AK Campbell Creek Science Center in Anchorage will celebrate National Public Lands Day with trail projects and other volunteer service opportunities to encourage support for our public lands.

Submitting Office : Arizona (1)

On August 22, Arizona Representative Martha McSally will visit the BLM Aravaipa Veteran Firefighting Crew's facility, as part of a larger tour of the U.S. Army's Fort Huachuca post in Sierra Vista, Arizona. The Army will lead the overall tour of the Fort while BLM Arizona representatives will lead the visit to the fire station located on the installation. The BLM Arizona State Director and Gila District Manager will accompany Rep. McSally to the facility. Her visit will include an overview by the State Fire Management Officer of how the crew was established, the partnership with the Fort to house them, the uniqueness of the mostly Veteran crew, and their goal of future qualification as a BLM Hot Shot crew. The crew is scheduled to meet Rep. McSally if they are not called away on a fire assignment.

Submitting Office : California (25)

On August 14, BLM-CA State Director Jerry Perez will have a conference call with Southern California Edison from 1-2:30 p.m. PT to discuss projects with the BLM. Point of Contact: Martha Maciel.

August 14 to 18 August 14 to 18, the BLM-CA Barstow Field Office, California State University at Northridge, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Department of Anthropology, are entering into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding ongoing archaeological field and research projects within the Barstow Field Office resource area. The MOU will facilitate cooperation in identifying activities and locations on BLM Barstow public lands suitable for projects or land management activities that will benefit from restoration, research, monitoring, education, outreach, and interpretation. Point of Contact: Tiffany Arend.

On August 15, California Coastal National Monument Piedras Blancas Light Station volunteers will dress up in period clothing for tours to celebrate National Lighthouse Day. Point of Contact: Ryan Cooper.

On August 16, BLM-CA Bakersfield Outdoor Recreation Planner Somer Shaw will attend the Fresno, Sportsmen's Club meeting to give an overview on the San Joaquin River Gorge and discuss volunteer opportunities. In the past, the Sportsmen's Club has assisted the BLM with spring monitoring, and the BLM would like to revive this partnership. Point of Contact: Somer Shaw.

On August 17, the BLM-CA Bakersfield Field Office will be meeting with former Atwell Island landowner Jack Mitchell to discuss our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for final restoration on the remaining 500 acres of farmland. The MOU is very similar to ones BLM has had in the past, but it does identify an end date and goes over the plans for the former landowner to vacate the property. This meeting's discussion will focus on the former landowner's concerns and to decide on an end date that meets everyone's needs. Point of Contact: Gabe Garcia.

On August 17, the BLM-CA Eagle Lake field manager will attend the regularly scheduled meeting of the Lassen County, California Fish and Game Commission. Public lands managed by the BLM provide habitat for big game animals and upland birds and are important to the hunting community across California. The BLM regularly updates the commission on public lands activities and projects. The commission advises the elected county board of supervisors. Point of Contact: Stuart Mitchell.

On August 18, the BLM-CA will host Craig Crutchfield, Chief, Interior Branch of the Office of Management and Budget, and Olivia Ferriter, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition at the Department of the Interior, for a tour of the Headwaters Forest Reserve. The approximately 7,000 acre forest reserve was established by Congress in 1999 to protect the world's last unprotected, intact, old-growth redwood forest ecosystem. The tour will include a hike and discussion on the management of the forest reserve. Attendees from the BLM include; Alan Bittner, Northern California District Manager; Molly Brown, Arcata Field Manager; and Chris Heppe, Arcata Associate Field Manager. Point of Contact: Martha Maciel.

On August 18, the BLM-CA Arcata Field Office Interpretive Specialist Leisyka Parrott will lead a Humboldt State University sociology class on a field trip to the Headwaters Forest Reserve. The students will be discussing the sociology behind activism that led to federal and state acquisition of the Headwaters Forest in the 1990s. Point of Contact: Molly Brown.

On August 19, the first "Mother Lode Epic" competitive mountain bike race will take place on BLM-CA managed public lands in Sacramento and El Dorado counties. The 26-plus mile event is expected to draw up to 150 participants biking across public, private and state lands, including the Cronan Ranch and South Fork of the American River Trail. BLM-CA Mother Lode Field Office outdoor recreation staff will serve as onsite monitors. The event is organized by Time Your Race, a professional race coordinator, which will provide first aid, hydration, and radio communication for the event, as well as shuttle service for bikers to minimize impacts. Point of contact: William Haigh.

On August 21, Ormat Nevada Inc. plans to begin a 30-day flow and injection test of two existing geothermal wells near the town of Mammoth Lakes in Mono County, California. The BLM-CA Bishop Field Office, in coordination with the Inyo National Forest Mammoth Lakes Ranger District, approved the flow and injection test on August 1. The flow and injection test will include data collection from both the geothermal reservoir and the groundwater aquifer, as specified in the Casa Diablo IV Groundwater Monitoring and Response Plan. Ormat, the Mammoth Community Water District and the U.S. Geological Survey, will be participating in the monitoring and data collection effort throughout the duration of the test. Point of Contact: Steve Nelson.

On August 22, the BLM-CA will have a public outreach booth at the 2017 Lake Tahoe Summit hosted by Senator Dianne Feinstein (CA-D) in South Lake Tahoe. The theme of the event is "A Pivotal Point for Lake Tahoe." Senator Feinstein and Congressman Tom McClintock (CA-04-R) are expected to speak on the issues of climate change and wildfire. The annual event began in 1996 to bring together leaders and stakeholders committed to the health of the Lake Tahoe Basin. Point of Contact: Erica St. Michel.

On August 22, the BLM-CA Central Coast Field Office will host a meet-and-greet with the California Resources Corporation, Marina, to share information about upcoming oil and gas development project proposals in the Kettleman Hills area in Fresno County, within the boundaries of the Central Coast Field Office. The meeting is not expected to be controversial. Attendees from the BLM-CA will include Field Manager Ben Blom; Planning and Environmental Coordinator Sky Murphy; Archaeologist Erik Zaborsky; Botanist Ryan O'Dell; Geologist Greg Middleton; and Wildlife Biologist Mike Westphal. Attendees from California Resources Corporation will include Project Manager Palmira Hernandez. Point of contact: Ben Blom.

On August 23, BLM-CA Redding Field Office staff will attend a quarterly board meeting of the Sacramento River Conservation Forum, a group that works with communities, agriculture interests, landowners and land management agencies, to facilitate effective and balanced resource management and restoration efforts along California's largest river. Point of contact: Jennifer Mata.

On August 23, BLM-CA Redding Field Office staff will attend a quarterly board meeting of the Sacramento River Conservation Forum. The group works with communities, agriculture interests, landowners, and land management agencies to facilitate effective and balanced resource management and restoration efforts along California's largest river. Point of contact: Jennifer Mata.

On August 24, BLM staff from the Cosumnes River Preserve will participate in a tour for Delta Counties Coalition members, including staff from Congressman Ami Bera (CA-7-D) and Senator Kamala Harris' (CA-D) offices, of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. The tour will be educational and provide background and overview on the Delta. The Cosumnes River Preserve consists of over 50,000 acres of wildlife habitat and agricultural lands managed by seven partners including the BLM. Point of Contact: Erica St. Michel.

On August 25, BLM-CA Eagle Lake Field Office staff will attend a meeting of the California Cattlemen's Association Public Lands Council in Susanville. The meeting is billed as an opportunity for public land grazing permit holders to discuss issues among themselves, BLM managers, and staff from the neighboring Lassen, Modoc and Plumas national forests. Agenda topics include wild horse and burro management, road closures and maintenance, permit holder access to vacant grazing allotments, water quality, endangered species, fire control, management of wolves and other predators, and other topics raised by attendees. Point of Contact: Stuart Mitchell.

On August 26, the BLM-CA Bakersfield Field Office will host a booth at the 2017 Coastal Discovery Fair and 25th anniversary celebration for the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary at San Simeon Bay. This free educational outreach event is geared towards youth. The booth will highlight the California Coastal National Monument Piedras Blancas Light Station, which is a focal point in the community. Congressman Salud Carbajal (CA-24-D) will deliver the VIP presentation for the anniversary. Point of Contact: Ryan Cooper.

On August 30, BLM-CA and community partners will host hikes and tours at the California Coastal National Monument Piedras Blancas Light Station Outstanding Natural Area. Approximately 150 hikers are expected to use a portion California Coastal Trail to access the Light Station. Point of Contact: Ryan Cooper.

From September 1 to 4, Increased visitation is expected at the BLM-CA Keyesville Special Recreation Management Area, particularly at the campgrounds along the Kern River, near Lake Isabella. Keyesville is an age-old mining area with a historic fort, the famous Walker Cabin, as well as other structures. It offers white-water rafting, fishing, recreational gold panning, and a network of more than 70 miles of trails for mountain biking, horseback riding, and off-highway vehicle use. The extra outdoor enthusiasts during the holiday weekend will give a boon to the local economy with added visitors from southern California. Extra law enforcement will be on hand working as a collaborative task force with the Kern County Sheriff's Department and the U.S. Forest Service. Point of Contact: Gabe Garcia.

From September 1 to 24, BLM-CA Desert District will participate in the 1 ½ acre America's Great Outdoors Exhibit for the 2017 Los Angeles County Fair in Pomona. The outdoor exhibit is a popular attraction for over 1.3 million people who annually visit the fair. Visitors enjoy a wide range of BLM activities that include "Discover the Desert" and "Discover the Coast" education and outreach, a live wild horse and burro exhibit, a full operating replica of a pre-BLM General Land Office, an environmental magic show in the outdoor amphitheater, a live desert reptile display, button making, a nature discovery trail, and visits from Seymour Antelope. Point of Contact: Doran Sanchez.

On September 7, BLM Central Coast Natural Resource Specialists Mike Powers and Santa Cruz County Supervisor Ryan Coonerty will host a public guided tour of Cotoni-Coast Dairies, a unit of the California Coastal National Monument. The tour will provide an opportunity for the public to learn about this unique coastal landscape, which was donated to the BLM in 2014, by the Trust for Public Land. Point of Contact: Ben Blom.

On September 7, BLM-CA Natural Resources Specialist Mike Powers and Santa Cruz County Supervisor Ryan Coonerty will host a public guided tour of Cotoni-Coast Dairies, a unit of the California Coastal National Monument. The tour will provide an opportunity for the public to learn about its unique coastal landscape, which was donated to the BLM in 2014, by the Trust for Public Land. Point of Contact: Mike Powers.

On September 23, BLM-CA San Joaquin River Gorge Outdoor Recreation Planner Somer Shaw, the Fresno Audubon Society, and the Sierra Foothill Conservancy will offer its annual series of birding classes. All skill levels and children are welcomed to participate. Point of Contact: Somer Shaw.

On September 29, Bakersfield third grader will visit the BLM-CA San Joaquin River Gorge as part of the educational field trip "Who Lives Here," a discovery of the plants, animals that call the Gorge home. The students will participate in a discovery hike, see animal adaptation costumes, and make pine nut beads. Point of Contact: Somer Shaw.

Around October 11, the Military Vehicle Preservation Association (MVPA) will participate in its Route 66 2017 convoy. This is an official MVPA sanctioned event and the route begins in Chicago, Illinois and travels through Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and into California to Santa Monica. The convoy will begin in Chicago on Sept. 16, and end in Santa Monica, California, on Oct. 14. The convoy will travel through the BLM-California Desert District at a maximum speed 35 mph. In addition to the 80 vintage vehicles for the full tour, there will be an extra 20 regional-section teams bringing their vehicles as well. The 2017 MVPA Route 66 Convoy, from Chicago, IL, to Santa Monica, CA, retraces the original 1926 route when the Bureau of Public Roads launched the nation's first Federal highway system. Point of Contact: Beth Ransel.

☐ Submitting Office : **Montana-Dakotas** (3)

On August 24, the Executive Vice President of the North Dakota Petroleum Council will host a meeting in Miles City, Montana, with BLM Montana/Dakotas staff to discuss federal ownership/leases on resurvey of the Missouri River, overlapping Communitization Agreements, and Application for Permit to Drill (APD) streamlining. Jon Raby, Acting State Director; Don Judice, Deputy State Director for Energy, Mineral & Realty; Diane Friez, Eastern Montana/Dakotas District Manager; and Loren Wickstrom, North Dakota Field Manager, will help answer questions, including the new Secretarial Order on Permit Processing.

On August 24, staff from the North Dakota Field Office will meet with the General Accounting Office (GAO) in Dickinson, North Dakota. They will discuss how the Inspection & Enforcement (I&E) Strategy has changed, and how this change as affected the I&E Staff in the North Dakota Field Office (FY2008 thru FY2017). If time is available, the GAO would also like to have a short field tour in the Bakken. Attendees from the North Dakota Field Office include Allen Ollila, Supervisory Petroleum Engineer; and Don Herauf, Joe Bramhall, Mike Erickson, all Supervisory Petroleum Engineering Technicians. Chris DeVault, Petroleum Engineering Technician from the Montana/Dakotas State Office may also attend.

During October (date TBD), BLM-MT Branch Chief Kim Prill and staff from the BLM Montana/Dakotas Branch of Land, Realty, and Renewable Energy will be scheduling a briefing with the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) Division of Lands in Helena, Montana, to provide a status update on processing of Montana's In Lieu Selection application. This is an internal meeting/briefing, not a media event.

☐ Submitting Office : **New Mexico** (3)

August 15 - 17. Executive Management Team Meeting: The BLM New Mexico Executive Management Team has been rescheduled for these dates and will now meet in Santa Fe for their quarterly meeting.

August 22. BLM-New Mexico Associate State Director Aden Seidlitz will attend a meeting with the New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Las Cruces.

August 24. Albuquerque District Manager Danita Burns will meet with the New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts to discuss the Restore New Mexico Program and projects.

☐ Submitting Office : **Utah** (4)

On Aug 14-19, BLM-UT will conduct a wild horse gather in the Bible Springs Complex, located in southwest Utah. The objective of this gather is to capture and remove approximately 100 head of wild horses that are currently impacting lands managed by the State of Utah, School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration. Approximately 50 head will be captured at two different locations and then transported to the Axtell wild horse facility. The body condition of the horses is currently not an issue, but that may change as available water and/or forage decreases.

On Aug. 22-24, the State of Utah will host a National Wild Horse and Burro Management Summit in Salt Lake City. Registration for the Summit is by invitation only and the BLM has been invited to participate. The Summit will begin with a field tour of the Onaqui Herd Management Area followed by a tour of the BLM's Delta Wild Horse and Burro Facility coordinated by Utah Wild Horse and Burro Program Lead, Gus Warr.

During the week of Aug. 28, 2017, the BLM-Monticello Field Office intends to issue a decision approving a modification to the plan of operations for the Daneros Uranium Mine, San Juan County, Utah. The proposed modification could increase ore production from 100,000 tons over seven years, to 500,000 tons over 20 years. The project could generate up to 40 jobs. The mine is located just outside the current boundary of the Bears Ears National Monument and may be controversial with several conservation groups based on location and groundwater concerns near the processing facility, White Mesa Mill.

During the week of September 4, 2017, the BLM-Canyon Country District and the Manti-La Sal National Forest intend to approve a mine plan modification for the La Sal Uranium Mine Complex. This will consolidate plans of operation for several mines, authorize expansion of operations, and phased expansion of exploration. The decision will include additional safety, environmental protection, and reclamation measures and monitoring requirements. The project is expected to generate 80-130 jobs. The USFS issued a proposed decision in 2015 and recieved objections from Uranium Watch and others, it is likely to be controversial.

☐ Submitting Office : **WO International Affairs** (3)

BLM-AZ Public Affairs Specialist Dolores Garcia and BLM-MT Fire Mitigation and Education Specialist Terina Goiochea are traveling to Jamaica as part of a USAID/USFS project to raise fire awareness at the request of the Jamaican government. They will help to increase the Jamaican government's ability to deal with stakeholders and local communities in an effective manner. All costs associated with travel will be covered by USFS. Miriam Morrill, a Fire Education Specialist from the California State Office, will fill in for Terina Goiochea in case of passport problems

BLM paleontologists Gregory Liggett, Greg McDonald, and Phil Gensler from Montana, Washington, DC, Utah, and New Mexico, respectively, will travel to Calgary, Canada to attend the annual meeting of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology.

Tim Fisher, the National program lead for National Monuments, and Jeffrey McCusker, Deputy Division Chief for the Division of Recreation & Visitor Services will be meeting with an International Visitor Leadership Program group to present on Conservation areas and Recreation. The meeting will occur between 9-10:30 at Main Interior Building and will precede the group meeting with The Fish and Wildlife Service.

Submitting Office : Wyoming (7)

On August 15 through August 19, the Wyoming Wild Horse and Burro Program will host a wild horse and burro showcase and adoption at the Wyoming State Fair in Douglas, Wyoming. The showcase will include competitions among wild horse owners. Local media is likely to attend.

On August 16, BLM Wyoming State Director Mary Jo Rugwell will speak at the next Petroleum Association of Wyoming quarterly meeting in Casper. State Director Rugwell will discuss current oil and gas activities in Wyoming, including ongoing projects, applications for permits to drill, and leasing. Attendees will include members of the Petroleum Association of Wyoming. Media may attend.

On August 21, for the first time since 1918, a total solar eclipse is coming to Wyoming. The eclipse's path of totality will make its way through Wyoming as it spans three million acres of public land. The eclipse is expected to bring hundreds of thousands of tourists to Wyoming who are likely to watch on public lands. Many of these visitors may be unfamiliar with land management boundaries, roads, facilities, and other details that may influence their experience. BLM has been working with state and local partners to plan and promote awareness by educating the public about fire danger, safety tips, and appropriate behavior on public lands. There is already intense media interest.

On August 22, BLM Wyoming Deputy State Director Duane Spencer will speak at the U2017 Global Uranium Symposium in Casper, Wyoming. Spencer will provide an update on the current BLM Wyoming uranium program, as well as the processes in place to mine uranium on public lands. A diverse audience will be present. U.S. Representative Liz Cheney will also be speaking at the event. Media likely to attend.

On August 26, the BLM Rock Springs Field Office invites families, individuals, clubs and organizations to help cleanup and complete needed maintenance at the Three Patches Picnic Area on Aspen Mountain. Volunteers of all ages are welcome to participate. The event runs from 8 a.m. until approximately 12 p.m. Check-in at 8 a.m. at the BLM Rock Springs Field Office, located at 280 Highway 191 North. Media may attend.

On August 26, the Cody Field Office will celebrate National Public Lands Day early with a public workday to improve the Hogan and Luce Recreation Area. Volunteers and BLM staff will upgrade facilities to meet Americans with Disabilities Act and Architectural Barriers Act standards by assembling and installing new accessible picnic tables, fire-rings and bear boxes at the campsites.

On August 26 and 27, the BLM, together with the Mustang Heritage Foundation Tip Challenge, will host "Mustangs - Branded at Heart" at the Sweetwater Count Event Complex, Indoor Arena in Rock Springs, Wyoming. This competition will feature youth and veterans who have trained 12- to 24-month-old mustangs for 90-days. Competition events include: Conditioning, In-Hand Trail Class, Showmanship, Costume and Freestyle. Media may attend.

Add new item

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Week Ahead

On August 14, the public comment period for the Silver King Herd Management Area Preliminary Environmental Assessment closes. The preliminary EA analyzes the need to gather and remove excess wild horses from in and outside the Silver King HMA located in eastern Nevada. Appropriate Management Level for the HMA is 60-128 wild horses. The estimated population is 850 wild horses. Under the proposed plan, the BLM could conduct an initial gather as early as late summer 2017 followed by maintenance gathers over a 10-year period. Mares released back into the HMA would receive fertility control treatments of PZP and GonaCon. (Chris Hanefeld, 775-289-1842)

August 15- The public comment period closes on the Preliminary Environmental Assessment for the Washoe County School District Sun Valley School Campus Project. The project area is located in Sun Valley, north of Reno, in Washoe County. (Lisa Ross, 775-885-6107)

On August 15, Nevada State Director Marci Todd will sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the US Forest Service to enable a “Good Neighbor” agreement allowing State of Nevada employees to be paid with federal funds. The signing will occur at the USFS Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest’s Galena Creek Visitor Center outside of Reno. (Chris Rose, 775-861-6480)

On August 15, Congressman Mark Amodei’s legislative staffers, Stephanie Walker and Lauren Currie from his DC office will be touring the Indian Lakes contracted off-range corral in Fallon, NV. This is a privately owned contract facility that is not open to the public on a daily basis, although public tours are given twice a year. (Jenny LeSieutre, 775-861-6594)

On August 15, Congressman Amodei will meet with Elko District Manager Jill Silvey. Discussion will focus on Wells Rural Electric and status of Right of Ways. (Greg Deimel, 775-753-0386)

On August 16, Congressman Mark Amodei and his staff will meet with Carson City District Manager Ralph Thomas to discuss issues related to the proposed expansion of the Fallon Naval Air Station’s public land withdrawal. (Lisa Ross, 775-885-6107)

On August 17, Congressman Amodei has requested a meeting with BLM Nevada State Director Marci Todd. (Steve Clutter, 775-861-6629)

On August 18, Klondex Gold and Nevada Rural Electric have scheduled an event with the Western Shoshone. Congressman Amodei is expected to attend. Although this is not a BLM-sponsored event, some BLM staff may also attend. (Greg Deimel, 775-753-0386)

On August 18, the Vegas to Reno off road race will take place. The race is the longest off road event in the U.S. and the course runs 550 including sections on public lands. (Kirsten Cannon, 702-515-5057)

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On August 18, Congressman Amodei has requested to meet with Winnemucca Acting District Manager Mike Toombs and Acting Black Rock Field Manager Mark Hall. Discussion topics are expected to include this year's Burning Man event. (Rudy Evenson, 775-861-6411)

On August 19, the Ely District will offer three saddle-trained wild horses and one burro for adoption at the White Pine County Fair. The horses were trained by inmates at the Northern Nevada Correctional Center. (Jenny Lesieutre, 775-861-6594)

30-60 Day Look Ahead

On August 21, Senator Cortez-Masto and her staff will be touring the Indian Lakes contracted off-range corral in Fallon, NV. This is a privately owned contract facility that is not open to the public on a daily basis, although public tours are given twice a year. (Jason Lutterman, 775-861-6614)

On August 21, the public comment period for the Antelope and Triple B wild horse complexes in Eastern Nevada Preliminary Environmental Assessment closes. The preliminary EA analyzes the need to gather and remove excess wild horses from in and outside the wild horse herd management areas (HMA) consisting of the Antelope HMA, Antelope Valley HMA, Goshute HMA, Spruce-Pequot HMA (collectively called the Antelope Complex (approximately 1,324,745 acres) and the Triple B HMA, Maverick-Medicine HMA, Antelope Valley HMA, and Cherry Springs Wild Horse Territory (collectively called the Triple B Complex (approximately 1,682,998 acres)). The County boundary is also the boundary dividing the Elko and Ely BLM Districts within the Project Area. The combined Appropriate Management Level for all the HMAs is 899-1,678 wild horses. The estimated population, as of March 1, 2017 is 7,739 wild horses which does not include new foals born this year. Fertility control treatments, sex ratio adjustments and management of a portion of the male population as non-reproducing geldings is addressed in the EA. (Greg Diemel, 775-753-0386)

On August 27, the Burning Man event begins. The event is the largest Special Recreation Permit managed by BLM. (Kyle Hendrix, 775-635-4054)

On August 28, the 30-day public comment period for the Egan and Johnson Basin Restoration Project Preliminary Environmental Assessment closes. The project goal is to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire and improve Greater Sage-grouse habitat through manual and mechanical pinion-juniper tree-thinning, invasive plant treatments and prescribed fire use. The project would treat up to 24,375 acres in 21 treatment units. The BLM would also manually thin pinion-juniper in specified areas outside the treatment units, but within the total 84,675-acre project area. (Chris Hanefeld, 775-289-1842)

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On September 5, 6 and 7, Southern Nevada District will tentatively hold public meetings to gather input and suggestions for the draft Red Rock Canyon NCA Business Plan. Meetings will be held at local libraries. (John Asselin, 702-515-5046)

On September 12 a competitive oil and gas lease sale will be held for 3 parcels totaling 3,680 acres in the Battle Mountain District's Tonopah Field Office. (Chris Rose, 775-861-6480)

On September 27, the Mojave Southern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council will tentatively hold a meeting at Rainbow Library in Las Vegas. (Kirsten Cannon, 702-515-5057)

On October 14, Northern Nevada Correctional Center Wild Horse Adoption; 15-20 saddle trained wild horses and possibly a burro will be offered for adoption, to the public through a competitive bid process. (Jenny Lesieutre, 775-861-6594)

On October 24, the Nevada State Office will host a competitive sale of geothermal leases located in the Ely District. For more details, please see the news release at <https://on.doi.gov/2uf6hyA>. (Chris Rose, 775-861-6480)

BLM Congressional / Legislative Report

August 9, 2017

Congressional Meetings

House Energy & Minerals Subcommittee / NEPA: On August 15, Steve Tryon, Deputy Assistant Director for Resources and Planning, and Leah Baker, Division Chief for Decision Support, Planning and NEPA, will meet with majority staff of the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources for an informal briefing on NEPA.

House Energy & Minerals Subcommittee / Oil & Gas Leasing: Majority staff of the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources have requested a briefing on BLM's oil and gas leasing process the week of Aug. 21. Date and BLM participants TBD.

Congressional Visits in the Field

Crooked River Ranch Fire Protection / Sen. Walden: On August 9, Sen. Walden plans to visit the Crooked River Ranch to discuss fire protection legislation. BLM participants include Deschutes Field Manager Jeff Kitchens and staff.

Southern Nevada District Office / Rep. Rosen: On August 9, Rep. Rosen (D-NV-3) plans to visit the BLM Southern District office to discuss general BLM issues and Secretary Zinke's monument review. BLM participants include BLM Southern District Manager Tim Smith and staff.

WH&B Facility Tour / Sen. Cortez Masto: On Aug. 21 Sen. Cortez Masto (D-NV) plans to tour the Wild Horse and Burro off range holding facility in Fallon, NV. BLM participants TBD.

Arizona Veterans Fire Crew / Rep. McSally: On Aug. 22 Rep. McSally (R-AZ-2) plans to meet with BLM's Aravaipa veteran firefighting crew when she tours Fort Huachuca. BLM participants include AZ State Director Ray Suazo and Gila District Manager Scott Feldhausen.

Idaho Land Management Briefing / Sen. Crapo: On Aug. 29 representatives of the BLM, FS and other land managing agencies will brief Sen. Crapo at his request at his Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, office on land management issues, including forestry, fuels, fire and recreation. BLM participants TBD.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT
August 11, 2017**

Report for the BLM Resources & Planning Directorate (WO200)

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

August 15th-17th, 2017. Visual Resource Management – Short Course (8400-04), Casper, Wyoming - This training provides a general overview of the Bureau of Land Management's Visual Resource Management (VRM) policy, land use planning procedures and field implementation to improve the visual quality of projects. Each offering of this course is tailored to focus on the key issues identified by the State, District and Field Office serving as the training venue. John McCarty, Chief Landscape Architect, Washington Office Division of Recreation and Visitor Services will serve as lead instructor. (Michael Brown, NTC, (602) 906-5619)

August 14-17, 2017 Tribal Lands & Environment Forum. The Forum will feature special training, field trips, and breakout sessions focused on solid/hazardous waste management, brownfields, UST/LUSTs, Superfund sites, and emergency response. Tribal water program topics will also be included with breakout sessions, training and field trips related to tribal water programs – water quality, drinking water, and habitat restoration (including wetlands, streams and fisheries). Location Tulsa OK. (Dee Llyod 202-912-7636)

August 14-17, 2017 The BLM Compliance Assessment Safety, Health, and Environment (CASHE) Audit program - evaluates all BLM facilities and operations to improve Environmental Safety & Health performance. The next CASHE audit will be at the Alturas California Field Office. (Ken Morin (303) 236-6418 or kmorin@blm.gov)

30 - 60 Day Look-Ahead

By September 27, the BLM will submit a report to the DOI Secretary regarding ways to improve the planning and NEPA processes, as directed by the Secretarial Memo issued on March 27, 2017. On August 10, WO-210 and Cynthia Moses-Nedd will have a call with WGA officials to continue conversations regarding this effort, and WO-210 is preparing to brief the Acting BLM Director, ASLM, and the Deputy Secretary in the next few weeks on this effort. (Contact Heather Bernier 202-912-7292)

August 31, 2017 Cedar City Draft Resource Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement – BLM Utah completed the BLM Director's briefing in July. There are changes being made to the presentation before it will be reviewed further by the Department. The target date for publication is August 31st. (Contact Heather Bernier 202-912-7292)

From September 21-23, 2017 a cross section of 13 BLM leadership would attend the Public Lands Council Annual Meeting in Flagstaff, Arizona. This is one of four regular coordination events with BLM grazing permittees. This particular meeting has the greatest attendance of permittees as PLC actively represented the cattle and sheep producers who hold public lands

grazing permits. BLM's participation is primarily on Friday, September 22. BLM is requested to provide an agency update during the General Meeting. We propose to have a signing ceremony for the Monitoring Memorandum of Understanding with PLC during this session. During lunch, BLM managers would present Stewardship Awards for 2017. The BLM would also continue the BLM "Opportunities for Collaboration" workshops. The initial workshops got overwhelming positive response. PLC has requested that these workshops become a permanent part of their meetings. (Joe Tague, 202-912-7222)

September 7-9, 2017, American Cultural Resources Association (ACRA) Annual Conference, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. ACRA is the national trade association representing cultural resource management firms, and member firms represent a large percentage of the cultural resource permittees and contractors hired by the BLM and land-use proponents to support Section 106 compliance reviews for proposed land use actions. BLM Federal Preservation Officer Ranel Capron and WO-240 Deputy Division Chief Emily Palus will attend ACRA's annual meeting. WO-240 continues to engage with ACRA and other heritage resource professional organizations to create partnerships and opportunities. Agenda topics include case studies on Section 106 and information briefings pertinent to the cultural resource management industry. (Contact: Emily Palus 202-912-7242)

October 23-27, 2017, Project Archaeology Leadership Team Meeting, Bozeman, Montana. Ranel Capron, BLM Federal Preservation Officer, serves as BLM's representative on the national Project Archaeology Leadership Team. She will participate in such discussions as transitions and sustainability, Section 508 compliance and collaboration across state lines as well as review the informal educator's guide proposed for use in BLM field offices. (Contact Ranel Capron 202-912-7241)

Automatic Adjustment of Minimum Special Recreation Permit (SRP) Fees and Assigned Site Fees – The Division of Recreation and Visitor Services has prepared a Federal Register Notice and Instruction Memorandum to communicate to the public and BLM offices the adjustment that BLM makes every three years to minimum SRP and Assigned Site fees in coordination with the Forest Service. Minimum SRP fees are scheduled to increase from \$105 to \$110 and assigned site fees from \$210 to \$220 based on a standard measure of inflation. BLM will directly notify all of the SRP permit holders of the change in fees through certified mail. The Federal Register Notice and Instruction Memorandum are currently being reviewed within the Washington Office (Peggi Brooks, 202-912-7254).

August 22-27, 2017. The National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council (NOHVCC) will be holding their annual conference in conjunction with The International Off-Highway Vehicle Administrators Association (INOHVAA) Conference. These events will be held this year in Manchester, New Hampshire August 22-27, 2017. The BLM has been asked to present during both the INOHVAA and NOHVCC events. Dennis Byrd, Recreation and Visitor Services Division (WO250), will discuss BLM's long-time partnership with NOHVCC as well as the BLM's Recreation Opportunities Interactive Mapping Project. Brad Colin (Butte Field Office, Montana/ Motorized subject matter expert) will discuss the development of BLM's National Motorized Recreation Strategy and the collaboration process with NOHVCC. Over the last two years NOHVCC has worked with BLM state offices to contribute information gathered from the

public to statewide Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Recreation Action Plans that fall under the umbrella of this national project and agreement.

Each year at its annual conference NOHVCC honors one OHV program manager (state, federal, local) who has shown an exemplary dedication to providing for motorized recreation or who has spent years working toward an OHV success story. In 2017 NOHVCC has chosen to remember a close friend that was lost earlier this year by renaming the Program Manager of the Year Award to the "Rob Perrin Program Manager of the Year Award." Rob Perrin was a long-time employee of the BLM and a very important partner to NOHVCC. Rob has been the driving force behind the successful BLM National Motorized Recreation Strategy. (Dennis Byrd, 202-912-7252).

September 11-12 and 14-15, 2017. Recreation Permits on Public Lands (8300-24)

The BLM-National Training Center is offering the Recreation Permits on Public Lands class in Billings, Montana on September 11-12, and again in Pocatello, Idaho on September 14-15, 2017. This class explores Special Recreation Permits from application through compliance and Recreation Use Permits from proposal through implementation. The target audience for this training is recreation planners, park technicians, and others processing recreation permits and fees as well as managers/supervisors with significant permit and fee programs in their field office. Peggi Brooks, Outdoor Recreation Planner from the Washington Office, Recreation and Visitor Services Division will be one of several course instructors. (Michael Brown, NTC, (602) 906-5619).

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LAND AND MINERALS MANAGEMENT
August 14 - 18, 2017

Week Ahead Schedule of Meetings, Hearings, and Travel

- **August 14 – 18** – Al Elser (Deputy Chief), Adam Merrill (Mining Law program co-lead) and John Lewis (Coal program co-lead) will be travelling to Denver for the Nationals Minerals Tracking System (NMTS) meeting with subject matter experts and contractors for intensive work on developing Statement of Work and Business Case for NMTS development contract. This is the second of three planned meetings this calendar year.
- **Week of August 14** – Marilyn Wegweiser, National Minerals Testing Lab, Worland, Wyoming, will be coming to the Washington Office with their interns to present interim research results to WO-320 staff and management.

Week Ahead Announcements and Actions

- **Week of August 14th**, WO-350: Managing Major Rights-of-Way course redesign meeting in Phoenix at NTC. Steve Fusilier attending.
- **August 14-18**, WO-310: BLM is hosting Natural Resource Specialist training on Visual Resources Management in the Casper Field Office; Janna Simonsen assisting.
- **Week of August 21** – WO-301: There will be training for BLM Colorado Realty and Cadastral staff. Jayme Lopez instructing.
- **August 13-19**, WO-350 providing instructors for Air Force Civil Engineering Center's Advanced Realty Course will be held in San Antonio, TX – Celeste Mitchell and Brenda Wilhight will be attending this meeting.

30 - 60 Day Look-Ahead

- **August**, WO-310: working with the Division of Public Affairs on a communications plan for the new National Fluid Minerals Support System (NFLSS). A successful soft release of NFLSS was initiated on July 26, 2017.
- **August 21 – 30** - The House Appropriations staff has requested a briefing on the LWCF 2018 Core List. The specific date and time is TBD. – Kathy Lawson and Don Buhler will be handling this briefing.
- **August 28-31**, WO-310 will be hosting an oil field operator outreach and Petroleum Engineering Technician (PET) refresher training on the new oil field site security and production management regulations in Grand Junction, CO. Mike Wade and Rich Estabrook will be attending for WO-310.
- **August**: 43 CFR 3170, 3173, 3174, 3175 (Onshore Order 3, 4 and 5) Holding PET refresher training on the new regulations as follows:
 - Montana, August 1-3

- Colorado, August 28-30 (date is tentative)
- **September:** Online oil and gas lease sales planned for 4th Q - September 2017 timeframe:
 - September 7 - Colorado - 10 Parcels covering 1,227.468 acres available for lease.
 - September 7 - New Mexico - 62 Parcels covering 15,731.91 acres available for lease.
 - September 12- Nevada - 3 Parcels covering 3,680.00 acres available for lease.
 - September 12 - Montana - 15 Parcels covering 4,438.07 acres available for lease.
 - September 12 - Utah - 9 Parcels covering 14,943.09 acres available for lease.
 - September 21 - Eastern States - 6 Parcels covering 191.71 acres available for lease.
 - September 21- Wyoming - 140 Parcels covering 118,055.54 acres available for lease.
- **September 18th thru 29th,** WO-350 and 301: Beginning Lands Academy course redesign meeting in Phoenix at NTC. Stephen Fusilier, Jeff Holdren, and Shered Mullins attending.
- **July-September,** WO-310: rollout of the final Section 368 Energy Corridor Region 1: Final comments were incorporated from the interagency working group in preparation for a 30 day comment period. The 30 day release, targeted for September, 2017, will be scheduled once internal review is completed and with final approval by the 368 Executive Team. Next Regional Review will be a consolidated review of Regions 2 & 3; now assembling an expanded project team to include Region 3 and preparing corridor abstracts. September/October is target to review and revise corridor abstracts prior to releasing for public input in November, 2017.