

View as: [HTML](#) | [Text](#) Data: [With](#) | [Without](#) Version: [Email](#) | [Online](#) 

Preview email:

Subject: BLM Colorado E-News - June E-News 2012

[View as Web Page](#)[Subscribe](#)[Send to a Friend](#)[Bureau of Land Management - Colorado](#)

June 2012

BLM in the Spotlight

BLM Reminds Visitors to be Mindful of Fire Risks

By Public Affairs Specialist, Deanna Masterson



Denali Burnout

As Colorado moves into the summer and fire season, the Bureau of Land Management would like to remind you to do your part to reduce wildfire risks. The National Weather Service has issued multiple Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings for much of western Colorado and the state as a whole. Wildfires throughout the state have already impacted numerous communities and kept firefighters busy. Colorado is predicted to see above normal fire potential through the early part of the summer.

Fire restrictions are currently in place in many areas throughout Colorado. You can find information about fire restriction in Colorado by visiting <http://www.coemergency.com/p/fire-ban-info.html>.

Fire managers base decisions about fire restrictions in coordination with partners, and take into consideration factors such as local fire conditions, number of fires, and the amount of resources available to respond to wildfires. Please remember that fire danger is always present and be very careful with fire, smoking, chainsaws and vehicle exhausts – all of which can cause fires. As you begin recreating outdoors this year, please be cautious with all flammable materials. Wildfire safety is everyone's responsibility.

The BLM prohibits the use of fireworks as well as other incendiary devices on all public lands year round to reduce the likelihood for wildfires throughout the state. This ban is particularly

In This Issue

[BLM in the Spotlight](#)

[American Recreation Coalition Honors Don Brunns with 2012 Legend Award](#)

[In the News](#)

[Recent Press Releases](#)

[Contact Us](#)



Employee Spotlight

BLM Colorado Welcomes Lura Matthews, Service First Coordinator

Lura Matthews started as the Service First Coordinator at the Bureau of Land Management Colorado State Office on June 4.

Prior to joining the BLM, Matthews was a program analyst with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. She led the EPA's RE-Powering America's Land: Siting Renewable Energy on Potentially Contaminated Land and Mine Sites initiative. Matthews began her career at EPA in 2006 as a Presidential Management Fellow in the Office of the Chief Financial Officer. She has a Master's degree in Public Policy from Indiana University's School of Public and Environmental Affairs and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Lawrence University.

In her free time, you will find Matthews rock climbing, whitewater canoeing and generally enjoying the mountains.

June Fun Fact

National Get Outdoors Day-June 9th

Why should you Get Outdoors?

important given the high number of dead or dying beetle-infested trees and widespread visitation on public lands – both of which increase the risk for large-scale wildfires. The ban is also consistent with other federal and state agencies. People and/or organizations with written consent from the local agency administrator to possess and use incendiary devices will be able to carry on with their planned activities.

Residents living in the wildland urban interface are encouraged to take personal responsibility by implementing Firewise principles to reduce the risk of wildfire to their life and property. Please do your part to implement defensible space around your home. By thinning vegetation on your property, removing flammable materials from immediately around the structure, and improving the fire resistance of the building materials, you can reduce the wildfire risk of your home. For more information about reducing the risk of wildfire around your home, visit www.firewise.org.

American Recreation Coalition Honors Don Bruns with 2012 Legend Award

On May 30, the American Recreation Coalition (ARC) presented its 2012 Legends Awards to seven federal managers in recognition of their outstanding work to improve outdoor recreation experiences and opportunities for the American people. The awards were presented during Great Outdoors Week--ARC's celebration of the value and importance of outdoor recreation. Among the winners, was BLM's Don Bruns, an Outdoor Recreation Planner with BLM-CO.



Don Bruns Receives the 2012 Legends Award

Don has been an Outdoor Recreation Planner for the BLM in Colorado for over 40 years. He has played an instrumental role in establishing the Arkansas Headwaters State Recreation Area. This partnership was precedent-setting work that established a recreation area with multiple jurisdictions to be managed consistently and efficiently under one agency but with oversight by all.

In addition to his work on the Arkansas Headwaters State Recreation Area, Don also was influential in establishing Outcomes Focused Management. He assisted in writing one of the first Outcomes Focused Management plans ever done at the McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area. Because of Don's work, the BLM has adapted this approach in its recreation planning policy.

When not hard at work, Don enjoys canoeing and backcountry skiing. He also spends time carving, working on his artwork and spending time with his wife Cheryl and their family. Don attributes much of his success to his ability to develop creative solutions and programs, constant efforts to share news of creative solutions within the agency and his unique talents to collaborate through partnerships with both for-profit and nonprofit organizations in the U.S. and abroad. Those who know Don and have had the opportunity to experience his passion know that he has made

Recent research has proven that exposure to nature can benefit the body, mind and soul. In Richard Louv's 2005 book, *Last Child in the Woods*, Louv developed the phrase "Nature Deficit Disorder" to describe the physical, cognitive and emotional costs of being disconnected from nature. His book has sparked research into the benefits of nature. Some of the results:

1. Children with ADHD concentrate better after walking in a park
2. Nearby nature reduces stress in children
3. Outdoor experience for teens has self-reported life-changing results
4. Access to nature nurtures self-discipline
5. Physical activity and exposure to nature are important to good health
6. Outdoor skills education supports our health, learning, and lifestyle
7. Pregnant women living in areas with more trees had better birth outcomes
8. An outdoor program enhances children's well-being, physical activity, and feelings of health, safety, and satisfaction
9. Children with ADHD functioned better in the woods than in a built setting
10. Nature-Smart Kids Get Higher Test Scores
11. Children Living in Areas with More Street Trees Have Lower Prevalence of Asthma
12. Exposure to nature results in great sensory awareness

Challenges

1. Youth participation in outdoor activities has declined since 2006
2. Children spend considerable time with media and multiple forms of media
3. Children know more about Pokémon than common wildlife
4. Children are walking and bicycling to school less than they used to

What you can do:

Doctors are more frequently writing nature prescriptions. The "Rx for Healthy Living" includes eating more fruits and vegetables, stepping away from technology, breathing in fresh air, awakening the senses and shedding weight.

Find ways to get outdoors: watch clouds, go for a hike, sit by a river, picnic, start a garden, and most of all, look for something beautiful every time you go outside.

Visiting and recreating on public lands contributes to living a healthy lifestyle. We manage your public lands for you to explore and enjoy.

Source:

<http://www.childrenandnature.org/downloads/FINALVolume5.pdf>
<http://www.childrenandnature.org/downloads/C&NNHealthBenefits.pdf>



Mountain Biker

Places to Visit

Ribbon Trailhead, Grand Junction

Use: Mountain Biking, Hiking

Length: 3.1

Difficulty: Very Difficult

Season of use: March-November

Fees: None

Note: The level of difficulty for this trail depends on which direction you ride it. Starting at the Ribbon Trailhead off Little Park Rd. and taking the trail to Andy's Loop is the easier route, as you will begin at an elevation around 6600' and descend to 5100'. For a more strenuous ride, start where the trail intersects with

significant positive changes to BLM that will not be forgotten.

Don is truly a legend in the BLM and in the outdoor recreation community. He continues to innovate and challenge employees to do better, to expand mutually beneficial partnerships with local communities, explore opportunities that the BLM can offer to underserved populations, and ultimately provide the public with the highest level of service.

Initiated in 1991, the Legends Award program calls on Federal land management agencies to nominate an individual whose extraordinary personal efforts have made a real difference in enhancing outdoor recreation programs and resources. The 2012 Legends Award recipients represent the Bureau of Land Management, Federal Highway Administration, National Park Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Forest Service.

Andy's Loop and ride SW towards the trailhead, an overall elevation gain of roughly 1500 feet over 3 miles.

Site Overview: The Ribbon Trailhead provides access to the top end of the Ribbon Trail which snakes its way down massive slickrock slabs, past towering Ponderosa pines, and along a narrow ribbon of slickrock sloping toward the canyons below. Sweeping vistas of the Grand Mesa, Grand Valley, and Little Bookcliffs are another highlight of this trail.

Directions: From the intersection of First Street and Grand Avenue in Grand Junction, travel west on Grand Avenue (Highway 340) for approximately one mile and turn left on Monument Road. Turn left again on D Road. D Road becomes Rosevale Road. Turn right onto Little Park Road. Travel approximately 10 miles to Ribbon Trailhead on the right.

[Click here for a map](#)

In the News

[River restoration project to hire 20,000 young people](#) (06/06/12)-In response to President Barack Obama's urging to expand opportunities for young people during the summer while connecting them with the outdoors, the Southwest Conservation Corps and Dolores River Restoration Partnership was one of three Colorado entities selected for summer work on public lands.

[More fire restrictions set in wake of Sunrise Mine blaze](#) (06/06/12)- Public lands and surrounding counties have joined Montrose County in imposing fire restrictions in the wake of hot and dry conditions that helped spread a human-caused blaze north of Paradox on May 25.

[Makeover for mustangs: Trainers take 90-day challenge to produce adoptable horses](#) (06/06/12)- During the past 90 days, trainers from throughout Colorado and the region have taken mustangs from wild to mild. Now, they are hoping their hard work will mean homes for their horses.

[Sunrise Mine Fire fully contained](#) (06/06/12)- The Sunrise Mine Fire that began on May 25 during 60mph winds in the Manti-La Sal National Forest and adjacent lands was fully contained Sunday, and the Type 1 Incident Command Team handed fire management back to forest personnel on Monday.

Recent Press Releases

[BLM to hosts information meeting on proposed Sutey Ranch land exchange in Aspen June 13 \(06-06-12\)](#)

[Logging projects on BLM land underway in Grand County \(06-05-12\)](#)

[BLM and U.S. Forest Service Institute Fire Restrictions \(06-05-12\)](#)

[Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area secures 400 additional acres \(06-05-12\)](#)

[BLM Seeks Input on Plaza-Waverly Project \(06-04-12\)](#)

[Stage 1 Fire Restrictions Initiated for SLV \(06-04-12\)](#)

[BLM seeks public comment on proposed Sutey Ranch land exchange \(05-29-12\)](#)

Contact Us

Stay up-to-date with BLM Colorado via:

[Web page](#)

[Facebook](#)

[YouTube](#)

[Flickr](#)

Bureau of Land Management - Colorado • 2820 Youngfield St. • Lakewood, CO 80215

[Subscribe](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) | [Send to a Friend](#) | [Preferences](#) | [Report Spam](#)

Powered by [MyNewsletterBuilder](#)

 del.icio.us  Digg  reddit  Facebook  StumbleUpon  Twitter  MySpace

Close Window