

# BLM-Eastern States

## ANNUAL REPORT

*Fiscal Year 2008*



*Guardians of the Past -  
Stewards for the Future*

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## Cover Photo: Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse

On May 8, 2008, Public Law-110-229 established the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area (JILONA) on south Florida's Atlantic Coast. The designation created the first Outstanding Natural Area in the BLM's National Landscape Conservation System east of the Mississippi River. JILONA is one of only three Outstanding Natural Areas within the Bureau.

This 126-acre area is located at the confluence of the Loxahatchee and Indian Rivers and offers a unique opportunity for conservation. JILONA contains nationally important natural, historic and prehistoric resources, including the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse, a host of special status species, and imperiled habitats, all within the highly urbanized setting of south Florida. *(for more information see page 11)*



# Welcome to BLM-Eastern States

## *From the State Director*

**This Fiscal Year 2008 (FY08) Annual Report outlines the many accomplishments the BLM-Eastern States achieved this year. In addition to meeting our work load targets and objectives in FY08 we have chartered a new course for our Leadership Team. I have engaged our leaders in a journey that focuses on a crisp agenda for strong supervision and leadership.**

**At BLM-Eastern States I believe that good governance is of the utmost importance. Our decision-making processes should be participatory, consensus oriented, accountable, responsive, equitable and inclusive, effective and efficient, and transparent to the public and our employees.**

**It is important to note that in FY08 the BLM-Eastern States generated about \$124 million in revenues in the minerals program alone, while our total operating budget for all program areas is around \$18 million. The revenues we generated helped to add value to communities by providing direct employment for the citizens who are employed in Bureau related industries, as well as stimulating local economies which provide services to these industries.**

**The BLM-Eastern States has also provided numerous volunteer opportunities. In 2008, volunteers contributed 25,637 hours of work, with a value of \$467,637. Our volunteers are invaluable in extending the services of BLM and we gratefully rely on the help of interested citizens, who believe in our mission, who love the public lands, and who are willing to volunteer time and energy in a spirit of cooperation.**

**Additionally, in FY08 we continued our commitment to maintaining active partnerships with states, counties, communities and groups interested in public land and resource management. We see opportunities for expanding existing partnerships and forming new and beneficial partnerships in 2009.**

**As you read this document, I invite you to look for ways in which you can help the BLM-Eastern States with the wise use and stewardship of our public lands.**

*Juan Palma*



# BLM-Eastern States Executive Leadership Team

**State Director: Juan Palma**

**Associate State Director: A. Barron Bail**

**Jackson, Mississippi, Field Manager: Bruce Dawson**

**Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Field Manager: Mark Storzer**

**Lower Potomac Field Station Manager: A. Este Stifel**

**Chief, External Affairs: Terry Lewis**

**Deputy State Director for Natural Resources: Steven Wells**

**Deputy State Director for Business Resources: Corey Grant**

**Special Agent in Charge: John Silence**

*Photos in  
order from  
top to  
bottom*



# History, Mission and Vision



In 1946, the Grazing Service merged with the General Land Office (GLO) to form the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The BLM was charged with managing the Nation's Public Domain—the lands held in Federal ownership for the benefit of the American people.

The Eastern States Land Office (ESLO) carried on the GLO business of providing cadastral survey records and land title information from BLM's headquarters office in Washington, DC. By 1954, the BLM had taken on Federal onshore minerals responsibilities, resulting in greater activity in the Eastern States. More and more natural resource related challenges emerged in the East, and soon the ESLO began to operate in the same manner as BLM offices in the Western states, where most of the public land is located.

The ESLO officially became BLM-Eastern States (BLM-ES) on April 8, 1980. Since then, we have played a central role in fostering the management and conservation of public lands and resources spanning the 31 states east of and bordering on the Mississippi River for present and future generations. This area encompasses 30,000 surface acres of public lands and more than 40 million acres of subsurface Federal mineral estate.

The surface acreage we manage for the American public is important for recreation and wise resource use, especially because of its location in the highly populated East. We continually seek input from the public and forge new partnerships to ensure that these lands and resources are managed effectively.



# Program Accomplishments



## Energy and Mineral Resources

The energy and mineral resources program is the BLM-ES' largest program. We manage about 40 million acres of mineral estate, including substantial leasing for oil and gas. We work effectively with partners in industry and conservation organizations to oversee environmentally sound fluid and solid mineral development to help sustain a healthy economy. In FY08, the BLM-Eastern States generated \$124 million. This money helped to add value to communities by providing direct employment for the citizens who are employed in Bureau related industries, as well as stimulating local economies which provide services to the industries.

### *Oil and Gas Program*

The BLM-ES's oil and gas program produces significant revenues that are shared with the states from which those revenues are generated. In 2008 we administered more than 3,600 Federal mineral leases, covering approximately 2 million acres in 15 of the 31 Eastern states.

In addition we:

- Issued 315 leases for oil and gas parcels, covering over 179,593 acres in the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, and West Virginia.
- Conducted 1,036 compliance inspections of drilling and production activities on leases in the states of Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Louisiana, Kentucky, Arkansas, Minnesota,

Mississippi, Alabama, and Virginia.

- Closed 12 reservoir management drainage cases to resolve the loss of lateral oil and gas reserves to private wells.
- Approved 38 oil and gas agreements to prevent unapproved drainage of Federal minerals.
- Approved 2,691 fluid minerals Sundry Notices, which are changes to operations on existing oil and gas wells.
- Plugged two orphan wells in Ohio through a cooperative effort with the United States Forest Service and the State's Oil and Gas Division.

### *Coal Program*

Part of the BLM-ES mission is to oversee leases of Federal coal. There are an estimated 26.26 million tons of coal which are recoverable from existing and proposed coal leases in the BLM-ES area of jurisdiction. In 2008, we



*In 2008 we approved 94 applications for drilling permits.*

administered 11 coal leases, covering more than 11,310 acres in the states of Alabama and Kentucky.

In addition we:

- Performed 28 compliance inspections and production verification activities on existing coal mines.
- Processed 5 post lease actions, including lease renewals modification, terminations, and relinquishments.
- Completed over 300 case file reconciliations jointly with the Minerals Management System

### *Solid Minerals Other Than Coal*

In 2008 we administered 60 solid mineral permits and leases for clay, gold, lead/zinc, limestone, olivine, phosphate, quartz crystals, and wavellite on more than 70,500 acres in the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Wisconsin, and Virginia.

We also:

- Completed 39 mineral reports on actions such as prospecting permit applications and minerals conveyance.
- Processed 55 post lease actions; such as lease modifications and renewals, reviewing mining and exploration plans, and bonding modifications.
- Performed 286 compliance inspections and production verification activities.
- Administered 30 mining claims in the states of Arkansas and Florida.

## **Other Energy and Mineral Resources Program Highlights**

The BLM-ES continues nearing the completion on the Alabama/Mississippi Resource Management Plan (RMP) which focuses primarily on energy and minerals. We also initiated the Southeastern States RMP which is the largest multiple state RMP ever proposed by BLM. This is a 9 state planning effort to address public domain and Federal mineral estate issues across the Southeast.

We participated in many conferences to include; the Ohio Oil and Gas Association (OOGA) Annual Meeting/Trade Show, in Columbus, OH, and the Independent Oil and Gas Association (IOGA) Annual Meeting, in Charleston, WV.



*The BLM-ES held four competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sales, offering 286 parcels with total acreage over 179,593 acres, bringing in over \$18.6 million in rentals, fees, and bonuses.*

### **Estimated Revenues from BLM Administered (Onshore)**

#### **Mineral Leases and Distributions to States in Calendar Year 2008\***

**(values are calculated to the nearest dollar)**

State	Total Mineral Revenues	Revenues Distributed to States
		Disbursements
Alabama	\$2,331,019	\$845,297
Arkansas	\$34,932,660	\$13,189,227
Florida	12,341	6,298.00
Illinois	\$382,539	\$286,562
Kentucky	\$2,005,207	\$508,473
Louisiana	\$55,154,987	\$3,703,240
Michigan	\$4,255,575	\$1,171,445
Minnesota	\$50,410	\$13,030
Mississippi	\$4,011,949	\$1,008,265
Missouri	\$17,806,274	\$4,561,312
Ohio	\$1,014,331	\$574,972
Pennsylvania	\$90,992	\$69,369
Virginia	\$596,268	\$227,155
West Virginia	\$2,050,217	\$776,252
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$124,694,769</b>	<b>\$26,941,089</b>

\*Based on the Minerals Management Service (MMS) 2008  
For more information, visit the MMS Web site at:  
[www.mrm.mms.gov/MRMWebstats/Home.aspx](http://www.mrm.mms.gov/MRMWebstats/Home.aspx)



*Simple Changes Therapeutic Riding Center, located at Meadowood, provides therapeutic riding to children and adults with cognitive and physical disabilities.*

## **Natural Resources**

From the steamy swamps of Louisiana to the pristine islands in the Northwoods of Minnesota, BLM-ES manages a variety of natural resources on widely scattered tracts, located on more than 30,000 acres of BLM public lands. Some of these resources are truly outstanding, and we are proud to be stewards of these priceless “jewels” in the East.

### *Meadowood Recreation Area, Virginia*

Meadowood Recreation Area, consisting of 800 acres on the Mason Neck Peninsula in Fairfax County, Virginia, is located just 25 miles south of Washington, D.C. The scenic hiking and horseback riding trails throughout the property provide visitors with the opportunity to experience a variety of natural settings and view abundant wildlife, including occasional bald eagles perched high in trees or soaring overhead. BLM manages recreation and natural

resources on the property and offers a variety of environmental education programs to local schools and groups. A BLM contractor also offers public horse boarding at Meadowood’s 46-horse equestrian facility.

This year we :

- Provided over 6,000 volunteer hours on a wide variety of projects at Meadowood.
- Helped Girl Scouts plant native tree and shrub species to enhance wildlife habitat, built a deer enclosure, and designed an education program for Gold Award Projects. The Gold Award is the highest achievement within the Girl Scouts.
- Entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Science Museum of Virginia to facilitate the study of local watershed functions and provided environmental education opportunities.
- Worked with Fairfax County and other agencies to develop plans to manage the large deer population, identify invasive pests, and control erosion.

- Hosted student programs on bird, animal and plant identification, habitat hikes, watershed protection, horseback riding, and astronomy.
- Participated and hosted 15 Wonderful Outdoor World (WOW) events. WOW is a unique program that introduces rural and inner-city youth, ages 8 to 12, to environmental education and outdoor recreation activities during overnight camping experiences in the heart of the youngsters' own community.
- Organized volunteers for the Annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup, Gunston Elementary Afterschool Programs, National Get Outdoors Day, the Mason Neck Eagle Festival, and National Public Lands Day.
- Worked with 7 Eagle Scouts, Americorps, and local volunteers to construct a 3500 foot long hiking/equestrian trail, to replace a dangerous, badly eroding trails
- Constructed a 2000 foot long universally accessible trail, stabilized a stream channel to prevent erosion, rebuilt 2 miles of fencing, and constructed an equestrian trailhead parking lot.

### *Douglas Point, Maryland*

The 548-acre Douglas Point area in Charles County, Maryland, is part of the 1,270-acre Nanjemoy Natural Resource Management Area (NRMA) located along the Potomac River in southern Maryland. Managed cooperatively by BLM and the state of Maryland, the area offers a variety of public recreation opportunities such as hiking, boating, and hunting; as well as an opportunity to learn about the paleontology, archaeology, and history of this unique area. The many cultural and natural resources of this area include 58-million year old fossils from the Paleocene epoch, sunken World



*Theresa Jefferson engages WOW students in the wonders of the outdoors.*

War I era ships, and an early 17th century home site. The wide variety of abundant wildlife found in the forests and marshes includes bald eagles, ospreys, nesting waterfowl, deer, turkey, raccoons, muskrats, beavers and foxes.



*One of many scenic areas the public can visit at Douglass Point, MD.*

In 2008 we:

- Constructed a universal access trail to the 17th century Chiles Homesite at Douglas Point.
- Worked with local paleontological enthusiasts who developed a display of the wide variety of Paleocene fossils found along the Douglas Point shoreline. These fossils include sharks teeth, skate dental plates, portions of tortoise shells, and a variety of bone fragments.
- Provided public opportunities for hunting the abundant turkey, deer, and waterfowl in Nanjemoy NRMA in cooperation with the state of Maryland.

### *Lake Vermilion, Minnesota*

Lake Vermilion covers about 40,000 acres and is one of the largest lakes in northeastern Minnesota. The lake has hundreds of bays and inlets, with 1,200 miles of shoreline, and more than 365 islands. Of these, 86 islands are public where visitors can enjoy picnicking, bird watching, and fishing. The lake area is home to bald eagles, loons, ospreys, and a variety of other wildlife and fish; including deer, moose, mink, otter, wolves, wall-eye, bass, bluegill, and muskellunge.

This year we:

- Continued partnership efforts with the Bois Forte Band of Ojibwe and the 1854 Treaty Authority, an Inter-Tribal natural resource management agency. This formalized our commitment to collaborative management and protection of archaeological and tribal resources within the Lake Vermilion Recreation Area.
- Continued to work closely with Federal and state agencies and partners to develop long-term management plans and conduct on-the-ground site evaluations.

### *Lathrop Bayou, Florida*

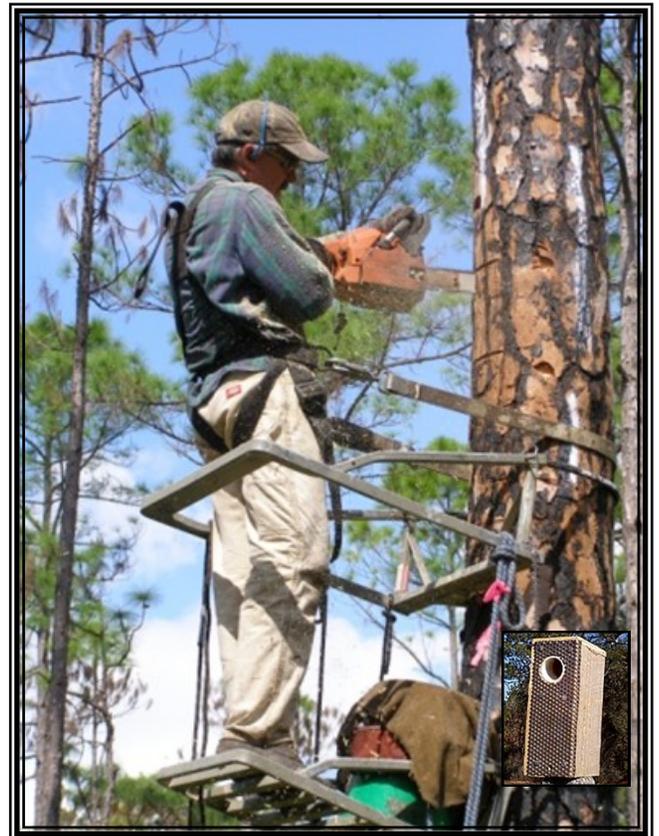
A five year extension of the Lathrop Bayou Land Stewardship Memorandum of Understanding was signed in February 2008 in Panama City, Florida. Signatories included the BLM, St. Joe Company, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the Genecov Group. New to the MOU for this term is the Audubon of Florida. Our accomplishments include two prescribed burns, red-cockaded woodpecker (RCW) relocations, and vegetation monitoring. Lathrop Bayou has the most intact longleaf pine forest remaining in bay and gulf counties on the panhandle of Florida.

In 2008:

- The BLM-ES and St. Joe Company entered into a partnership to prepare the site for its first transplant of endangered red-cockaded woodpeckers. With the loss of one of only two breeding females at Lathrop Bayou in 2007, the group successfully petitioned the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service sponsored consortium for a transplant. In December 2007, JFO and St. Joe biologists trapped and then transported two fledgling red-cockaded woodpeckers from a donor site in Georgia to the Lathrop Bayou tract. This event marked the first red-cockaded woodpecker relocation to Lathrop Bayou, which currently is home to two red-cockaded woodpecker clusters. The Lathrop Bayou relocation is the latest endeavor in a partnership to manage and restore the red-cockaded woodpecker population. The transplant was successful and in the spring of 2008, chicks were found.



*Moving a red-cockaded woodpecker from capture net to travel box.*



*Nineteen artificial cavity boxes were installed in 2008 to house cockaded Woodpeckers.*

## *Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area (JILONA), Florida*

On May 8, 2008, PL-110-229 established the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area (JILONA) on south Florida's Atlantic Coast. The designation created the first unit of the BLM's National Landscape Conservation System east of the Mississippi River. JILONA represents one of only three Outstanding Natural Areas within the Bureau.

JILONA has been managed collaboratively for over a decade through a dynamic partnership: the Jupiter Inlet Working Group --comprised of the BLM, the U.S. Coast Guard, Palm Beach County, the Town of Jupiter, the Village of Tequesta, the Jupiter High School Environmental Research and Field Studies Academy and the Loxahatchee River Historical Society. For its dedication to safeguarding JILONA's ecological integrity and cultural heritage, the Jupiter Inlet Working Group was granted the Secretary of Interior's Cooperative Conservation Award in April of 2008.

Project work in 2008 included:

- A picture perfect prescribed burn was successfully carried out for purposes of habitat

improvement and fuel hazard reduction in the wildland-urban interface in the northern portion of the outstanding natural area.

- A cost share project with the Loxahatchee River Historical Society provided a new outdoor exhibit of life in early Jupiter. New walkways, native plantings and gardens illustrating early horticultural business in Jupiter provided a historic backdrop for the Tyndall house, the oldest residence Jupiter, which was moved to JILONA in 2007.
- Almost 1,500 hours to remove exotic invasive plants, primarily invasive grasses and highly toxic rosary pea vine.
- The thirteenth annual National Public Lands Day at Jupiter Inlet was a huge success with over 100 volunteers contributing to clean-up, planting and weed removal projects across the site and river banks

## *Fort Morgan Peninsula, Alabama*

The Fort Morgan Peninsula, located in Baldwin County, Alabama is comprised of seven beach tracts totaling 28.7 acres, and is adjacent to the Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge. These tracts provide access, parking and recreation along the beaches of the Gulf Coast.



*A six-acre prescribed burn at Jupiter Inlet was successfully completed to renovate imperiled scrub habitats for Federally and state-listed species occurring on this urban tract.*

The coastal habitat communities provide riparian and aquatic habitat for fish and invertebrate species as well as critical habitat for the Alabama beach mouse and nesting habitat for the loggerhead turtle.

## Wild Horse & Burro Adoption and Compliance

The BLM-Eastern States' wild horse and burro program is responsible for placing more than thirty percent of all animals adopted in the nation each year. The traditional type of adoption – temporary site adoptions, have been supplemented with innovative new methods during the last year, including Volunteer Fostering, Trainer Incentive Program, and Mustang Makeovers. The number of animals adopted in Eastern States allows the BLM to maintain healthy rangelands for wild horses and burros that live in nearly 200 Herd Management Areas in the West.

In fiscal year 2008, we:

- Placed 1,145 horses and burros into private care, with the majority of those being adopted at 27 temporary site locations, and at the Eastern States holding facility in Ewing, Illinois.
- Hosted six Internet adoptions at the national Wild Horse and Burro Internet Adoption Web site: [www.adoptahorse.blm.gov](http://www.adoptahorse.blm.gov).
- Performed compliance inspections on 1,051 untitled animals, with assistance from volunteers and our partners from the U.S.D.A Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. These inspections in-



*Susan Meyer and her mustang won the Midwest Mustang Challenge held at Madison, WI.*

sure that animals pending title (ownership) within the first year of adoption are being fed and cared for in accordance with Federal regulation.

- Issued 979 Title Certificates for adopted wild horses and burros who had been in private care for at least one year and passed a veterinary inspection. Once titled, these animals are no longer under the jurisdiction of the Federal government.
- Worked closely with our partner, The Mustang Heritage Foundation, and approved trainers in the Trainer Incentive Program (TIP). This program puts wild horses into the care of private trainers, who must find adopters for them within 90 days. Twenty-three TIP trainers placed 128 horses in Eastern States this fiscal year.
- Provided assistance to The Mustang Heritage Foundation for the Midwest Mustang Challenge, held in conjunction with the Midwest Horse Fair in Madison, WI in April. Fifty trainers competed for cash prizes on 50 horses with only 100 days of training. All of the animals were adopted at the end of the competition.



*Robin Rivello, a WH&B volunteer, attends a horse adoption with her mustang.*

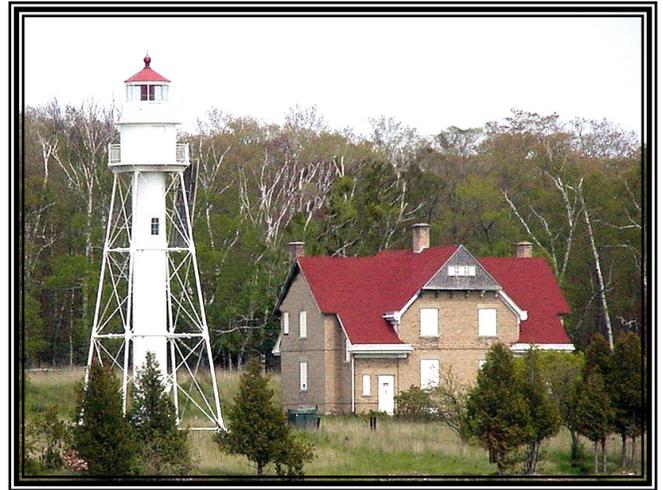
- Recruited 40 past adopters through the BLM-Eastern States' Volunteer Fostering Program to find homes for animals unclaimed at the end of at temporary site adoptions, and available at the holding facilities. These volunteers placed 117 animals into good homes in 16 states.
- Provided literature and handouts to numerous mustang clubs in our region to help promote the program, including the American Mustang and Burro Association, and other smaller local groups.

## Lands and Realty

Through our Lands and Realty program, we provide for public land identification, land tenure adjustment, and responses to public inquires on land title issues.

In 2008 we:

- Processed over 5,826 requests regarding land title, patent transfer, and land sales inquiries.
- Received a total revenue of \$12,114 from patent request orders.
- Processed the disposal of 759 acres of Federally owned mineral interest under the authority of Section 209 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.
- Processed the disposal of 1,471 acres of Public Domain Lands.
- Verified 50% of 16,474 acres of lands identified as unpatented in the state of Louisiana.

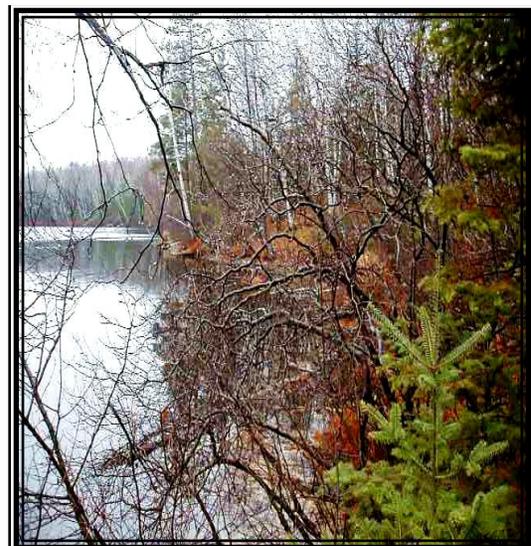


*The Milwaukee Field office co-sponsored the official ceremony to transfer Plum and Pilot Islands from the U.S. Coast Guard to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, on May 16, 2008, in Door County, Wisconsin .*

- Obtained and prepared documentation at the request of the Office of the Solicitor, Branch of Onshore Minerals, for the pending Devon Energy Production Co., L.P. v. Gail Norton et al., v. State of Louisiana, Civilian Action.
- Provided technical staff support for mineral adjudication, tract book validation, competitive lease sale preparation, and lease issuance.
- Collaborated with an interagency team formed to establish the Eastern Energy Corridors in accordance with Section 368(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005.



*Members of the Jupiter Inlet Working Group receiving the Cooperative Conservation Award from Secretary Kempthorne at a ceremony in Washington, DC.*



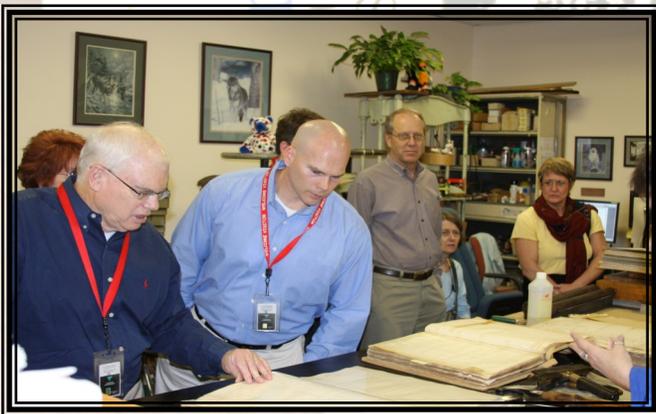
*The Milwaukee Field office sold a 1.18 acre property in Langlade County, Wisconsin, for \$93,000. The tract was transferred through a direct sale and a patent was issued March 31, 2008, conveying the surface and minerals.*



*The General Land Office celebrated the 10th anniversary of online access to historic Federal land records on May 1st, 2008.*

## General Land Office Records

BLM-ES is the custodian of more than nine million historic land title records from the Public Domain states dating back to 1787. There are records from the 20 Public Domain States: 13 states in the East—Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Mississippi, Ohio and Wisconsin; and 17 states in the West Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.



*Tour guests view historic records in the BLM-ES vaults during GLO's "10 Years Online" Celebration.*

In 2008 we:

- Automated over 178,000 military bounty land warrant patents and posted them to the General Land Office (GLO) Records website. This included a land warrant issued in 1860 to Abraham Lincoln for 120 acres in Crawford County, Iowa, in return for his military service as a captain in the Illinois state militia.
- Scanned more than 3.6 million patent records since the project began in 1989. Currently, there are over 4.5 million land patent and data records available on the GLO website.
- Exhibited the GLO Records website at the National Genealogical Society Conference in Kansas City, Missouri, the Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and a regional meeting of the Lewis and Clark Historical Society in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.
- Received more than 20,914,265 million page views during 1,744,471 million visits to the GLO Records Web site. The website provides public access 24 hours a day, free of charge, by visiting [www.glorerecords.blm.gov](http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov).

# Cadastral Survey

In fiscal year 2008 we continued to uphold the Secretary of the Interior's survey responsibilities for determining the boundaries of Federal public lands within our 31-state area of jurisdiction. We also fulfilled Secretarial responsibilities for the care and maintenance of duplicate copies of plats and field notes for the western states.

## *Program Management Accomplishments:*

A detailed business plan was designed to keep the organization on a clear path. The plan has been adapted to provide program direction throughout FY2009. This will be our road map for the future and enhance our ability to stay focused and meet our clients' needs.

Some of the issues addressed by the business plan include staffing requirements, recruitment and retention strategies, and a branch communication plan.

Spending was managed effectively, indicated by the fact that no budget subactivity was overspent and the carryover in each subactivity was no more than 2% of the total available at the end of the fiscal year.



*Corky Rodine and Jerry Wahl(ret.) demonstrate the use of a solar compass at the 2008 retracement seminar held in Alabama, at Talladega State Park.*



*This monument was one of the corners we found and utilized for "hands on" retracement of original survey evidence during the 2008 retracement seminar.*



*Retracing the US-Maine border for a Bureau of Indian Affairs project.*

## *Duplicate Plat Filing:*

We continued to support the entire BLM Cadastral Survey program by fulfilling the Secretary's duties of filing the duplicate copies of plats from the western states.

## *Fiduciary Trust Model:*

We continued to support the Fiduciary Trust Model by employing our Bureau of Indian Land Surveyors (BILS) located in each Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) regional office to assist the BIA realty staff with survey planning and technical questions.

Our BILS employees were recognized by their BIA regional representatives at a BIA National Realty meeting for providing great customer service. In addition to providing onsite technical advice, we continued to provide quality survey products to BIA in the form of BLM approved survey records.

## Wildland Fire

The Jackson Hotshot Crew (JHC) remains the centerpiece of the BLM-ES wildland fire program. The JHC was established in 1997 to provide an additional national fire suppression resource, as well as to help develop a more diverse workforce. The JHC is based in Jackson, Mississippi, which because of its proximity to Historically Black Colleges and Universities, helps the JHC recruit a diverse workforce interested in pursuing a career in fire management. Approximately 50 percent of the people hired each year for the JHC are minorities (African Americans, Native Americans, and Asian Americans), both male and female.

This year the JHC:

- “For their outstanding contributions to the Department’s Safety and Occupational Health Program”, the Jackson Hotshots received the Department’s Safety Award of Merit.
- Supported fire suppression efforts and battled wildland fires in the states of California, Oregon, Texas, Florida, and Washington.

- Provided support in the wake of Hurricane Ike.
- For more information about wildland fire, visit [www.nifc.gov](http://www.nifc.gov).

## Partnerships

The BLM-ES is committed to maintaining active partnerships with states, counties, communities, and groups interested in public land and resource management. In the East we play a critical role as “Guardians of the past– Stewards for the Future” in helping to make the BLM-ES a truly national public land management agency.

In 2008 we :

- Were awarded a prestigious National Honor Award in recognition of the successful partnership between the BLM-ES Cultural Program, the Bois Forte Band of Minnesota Chippewa and the 1854 Treaty Authority.
- Partnered with the Wisconsin Geologic Society at the 51st Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show, in Milwaukee, representing the America’s Outdoors Center Federal partnership.



*The Jackson Hotshot Crew*

- Were awarded the Secretary’s Cooperation Conservation Award as a member of Jupiter Inlet Working Group.
- Were part of the start up partnership with the Apalachicola Regional Stewardship Alliance whose purpose is to share personnel and equipment in prescribed burning in NW Florida.
- Continued partnership with Piney Woods School, a historically black boarding school, to provide environmental education to many summer students.
- Partnered with 4-H in Mississippi and hosted exhibits and conducted seminars at 4-H equine events held throughout Mississippi.

- Participated in the semi-annual coordination meetings with Barksdale Air Force Base and received the highest civilian medal, “Mors et Destructo”, from the Wing Commander.
- Actively participated in an Earth Day Celebration in Jackson that reached several local elementary schools

## Volunteers

During 2008, the BLM-ES continued to expand its volunteer recruitment efforts and opportunities through the use of our volunteer website at [www.volunteer.gov](http://www.volunteer.gov), *Vantage* newsletters, and continued outreach at local high schools in Virginia. Volunteers contributed 25,637 hours of work, valued at \$467,637.



*BLM-ES continued the partnership with the Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC) and actively supported conferences in both Washington, DC and Bethel, Maine.*



*We broke our record and had almost 60 volunteers plus BLM and Park employees at National Public Lands Day (NLPD) at Meadowood Recreation Area.*



*We partnered with Montana BLM to showcase the hazards of wildfire and the benefits to controlled fire at the Outdoor Writers Association of America (OWAA) annual conference, this year held at Bismarck, N.D.*



*Volunteers showcased their adopted mustangs at the WH&B adoption in Augusta, NJ*

# Environmental Education and Public Outreach

BLM-ES provides a variety of environmental education and outreach programs to help educate the American public and promote responsible environmental stewardship among youth. We work with partners for Federal, state, and public and private organizations to develop ways to enhance environmental education opportunities for the general public. Visitors can learn more about BLM's environmental education program by visiting the BLM-ES' website at: [www.blm.gov/education/](http://www.blm.gov/education/).

In 2008 we:

- Exhibited at the 68th Annual Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Sports Show reaching over 150,000 participants.
- Conducted a "Retracement Camp" in partnership with Troy State University and the Alabama Society of Professional Surveyors.
- Participated in the Pennsylvania chapter of Lewis and Clark Foundation's fall seminar.
- Facilitated two 75 minute sessions on Global Positioning System (GPS) and Geographic Information System (GIS) activities/projects, at the Tri-County Youth and Adult Conference held at the University of Wisconsin on the Sheboygan, Wisconsin campus.



*Kids Fishing Day is part of the Secretary's "Take It Outdoors" initiative to support kids learning about the environment. Approximately 300 fourth, fifth, and sixth graders from surrounding areas in Maryland and the District of Columbia attended this outdoor environmental learning experience.*

## Congressional and State Government Outreach

The BLM-ES contacted 64 congressional offices to ensure staff members and elected officials had the best possible information regarding Bureau activities in their states and districts.

### BLM-Eastern States' Area of Jurisdiction



*Students learned about BLM at many environmental education and outreach programs held throughout the eastern 31 states.*

# Financial Information



## Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Fiscal Year 2008

Each year, the Department of the Interior disburses payments in lieu of taxes to states in which there are Federal lands and resources. These payments are appropriated by Congress.

## BLM-Eastern States' Appropriated Funding

Level for Fiscal Year 2008  
(does not include one-time funding)  
(Figures in thousands of dollars)

Natural Resources.....	\$ 1,848
Wild Horse and Burro Adoption and Compliance.....	\$ 2,488
Energy and Minerals .....	\$ 5,633
Lands and Realty.....	\$3,173
Wildland Fire .....	\$709
Cadastral Survey.....	\$1,225
GLO Records Automation .....	\$1,487
Administration.....	\$1,648

Total Budget  
(BLM-appropriated funds) .....\$18,21\*

(\* MLR Appropriated)

State	FY 2008 payment	Entitlement Acres
Alabama	\$434,545	797,763
Arkansas	\$2,361,587	3,269,899
Connecticut	\$17,330	12,042
Delaware	\$10,550	7,403
District of Columbia	\$15,151	6,963
Florida	\$2,762,193	2,550,469
Georgia	\$1,438,778	1,275,440
Illinois	\$642,377	482,588
Indiana	\$388,114	312,960
Iowa	\$263,950	185,338
Kentucky	\$1,458,621	1,253,879
Louisiana	\$320,822	750,246
Maine	\$193,318	117,485
Maryland	\$65,140	41,791
Massachusetts	\$60,685	39,747
Michigan	\$2,589,429	2,163,659
Minnesota	\$1,628,073	2,900,255
Mississippi	\$892,929	1,638,475
Missouri	\$1,778,216	2,052,338
New Hampshire	\$1,024,755	761,349
New Jersey	\$67,719	40,309
New York	\$85,916	59,813
North Carolina	\$2,456,991	1,720,089
Ohio	\$415,851	358,760
Pennsylvania	\$325,067	653,028
Puerto Rico	\$13,505	30,233
South Carolina	\$234,560	775,696
Tennessee	\$1,448,696	1,244,658
Vermont	\$533,472	409,925
Virginia	\$2,341,721	2,050,856
Washington	\$6,677,098	11,831,308
West Virginia	\$1,560,496	1,242,581
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$34,507,655</b>	<b>41,037,345</b>



**As Guardians of the Past and Stewards for the Future,  
BLM-Eastern States is committed to sustain the health,  
diversity, and productivity of the public lands  
and resources spanning the 31 states east of and  
adjacent to the Mississippi River  
for present and future generations.**

**[www.es.blm.gov](http://www.es.blm.gov)**

**U.S Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Eastern States  
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Springfield, VA 22153**