

Preliminary BLM Montana/Dakotas Strategic Priorities FY 2012

Strategic Priority	Focus Area(s)	Action(s)	Outputs	Program Element(s)	
Contribute to New Energy Frontier	Renewable Energy	Identify opportunities for project development	Conduct competitive wind energy pilot. Identify lands outside of avoidance and exclusion areas in RMPs	PQ DQ	
		Advance renewable energy (wind) development by expediting the authorization process	Approve wind right-of-ways (ROWs)	FX	
		Monitor authorizations	Conduct compliance inspections	OD	
		Complete inventories and surveys to facilitate analysis of future wind proposals	Gather cultural resource inventory information. Gather golden eagle and other raptor data	PQ	
		Identify opportunities for project development	Increase opportunities for woody fuels biomass	JT, JU	
	Conventional Energy	Implement Approved Development Scenarios in EPCA Basins and high oil and gas demand areas	Approve Application Permit to Drills (APD) and Sundry Notices		EJ, FI, FJ
			Conduct inspections and enforcement		NB
			Approve Right-of-Ways (ROWs)		ER
			Provide mineral materials for energy production		EP
			Review temporarily abandoned wells		FJ
			Perform reservoir management activities		FF NC
			Review shut-in wells		FJ
			Develop and implement monitoring plans		MW DB
			Issue leases		DB, EI, FI
		Contribute to coal supply in high demand areas	Conduct inspections and production verification		NG
			Process lease applications and monitor lease terms		EL, EM
		Refine internal processes and working relationships with stakeholders	Set standards for industry APD submittals, i.e., effective use of data		
			Share resource data GIS layers with industry for project planning purposes		
			Promote industry use of field data when developing APDs		
			Complete timely inventories & surveys		
Utilize SWAT/detailers					
Reduce challenges with State of Montana over pipeline/infrastructure approvals					
Apply lessons learned from other high demand workload offices					
Address multi-jurisdictional differences					
Contract NEPA and clearances (cost recovery)					
Develop and implement industry outreach plan					

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Promote America's Great Outdoors	Improve Access	Improve access to BLM lands	Within priorities established by the Montana/Dakotas Access Board, continue to work aggressively on improving public land access for user groups & interests	BK, BL, BM, DA, EA, FH, FV
	Trail and Transportation Management	Implement a comprehensive approach to travel management planning	Acquire satellite/aerial imagery for baseline inventories	BA, BL, BM
			Implement road/trail designations in accordance with LUP decisions	MV
			Develop and complete Travel Management Plans and continue implementation of existing travel management plans	DA
			Improve signing, mapping, and on-line access to travel maps and information	MA, MV
			Improve visitor safety	MA, MV
			Monitor OHV use to determine and mitigate resource impacts	MA, MK, MV
			Reduce resource impacts	JD, MA, MK, MV, NX
			Conduct road and trail condition assessments.	ID, IE, GU
	Recreation and NLCS	Improve the quality and diversity of recreation experiences and visitor enjoyment on BLM lands	Provide quality recreation opportunities, visitor service and environmental education programs	BA, BY, GT, GY, IC, ID, AL
			Prioritize visitor and employee safety and law enforcement	NU, NX
			Protect open spaces	MA, MV, NX
			Implement and monitor plan objectives to ensure that benefits, experiences, recreation setting character, and land health standards are being maintained. Continue to work with communities to instill a sense of pride and caring for public lands	AL, IU, ID, IP, MA, MF
			Meet the heritage resource objectives of our NLCS units, including National Monuments, WSR, WLDS, WSAs and NSHT	Implement UMRBNM RMP. Implement new NSHT & WSR Policy Manuals. Support and maintain Monument Support Groups. Continue community outreach and involvement.

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Promote America's Great Outdoors <i>(Continued)</i>	Recreation and NLCS <i>(Continued)</i>	Evaluate and continually improve facilities/ infrastructure	Close facilities with low use	
			Improve/expand facilities with high use within funding and staffing capacity	
		Consider demographics		
		Increase law enforcement on-the-ground		
		Provide Fair Value and Fair Return Through Fees and Commercial Services	Conduct FY 12 statewide Special Recreation Permit Program Audit as mandated by GAO. Will use 1220 and 1232 funds where applicable. Continue to follow the Recreation Enhancement Act (REA) Guidelines for Expanded and Standard Amentity fees at applicable developed recreation sites. Many field offices must update their Fee Business Plan in FY 12.	EA, EB, FU, FV
		Promote events	Encourage commercial and private events	
		Increase cost recovery & cost effective measures	Evaluate potential for fees and/or use of concessions/contractors	
		Exchange site management	Explore swapping management with other agencies in closer proximity	
		Conduct visitor surveys	Complete the required Government Performance Reporting Act (GPRA) survey at 2 MT/DK sites.	EB, IA, IB, IM, IU, MA
		Customer Service	Explore on-line reservations and payments	

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Engage Youth	Future of Public Lands	Instill stewardship	Hire youth	PQ DQ
			Provide interpretation and environmental education programs	AL
			Work with other agencies to attract youth	
			Promote public lands as destination point for youth groups	
			Protect/add access to public lands (future landowners recognize value of public land access)	
			Educate at a younger age including using Leave No Trace, Hands on the Lands and Take It Outside activities/programs	AL
			Manage assistance agreements and grants to promote youth activities and projects	
		Leverage resources to accomplish program projects	Develop & implement youth projects to improve resource conditions, while achieving youth initiative goals & objectives	JA, JD, MF, JT, JU, MT
			Conduct visitor surveys utilizing youth	MA, PM
			Improve cost effectiveness of operations	
	Utilize youth corp & other related organizations			
	Implement NSHT youth internship with Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation			
	Utilize youth as BLM volunteers, peer patrols, etc.			
	Future Workforce	Recruit and hire youth	Develop assistance agreements to further promote youth partnerships for employment and project implementation.	AL, JA,JD,MF, PM
			Hire, assess and develop youth with the goal of developing future employees in all agency programs	PH, PM

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Managing Healthy Landscapes in the Context of Climate Change	Science	Develop science and knowledge based partnerships with Universities, Foundations, and other science Organizations	Encourage and enable scientific studies on all public lands, including NLCS units to enhance understanding of significant natural and cultural resources and facilitate better informed management strategies	BP, MR, MQ
			Proactively develop management relevant applied science and state of the art technology to be used in multidisciplinary adaptation and mitigation strategies	MJ, MN, MO, MR, MQ
		Coordinate Landscape Science and Restoration Needs Across Jurisdictions	Conduct eco-regional assessments and develop landscape level implementation plans in cooperation with partners	CD, DF, JP, KE
			Actively engage in Landscape Conservation Cooperatives, Joint Ventures, IGBC, and other landscape scale forums	
		Provide support for Specialists, Managerial, and Administrative Development	Currency maintained in staffs to produce leading and cutting edge natural resources projects	
			Continue to invest in science expertise within staff	
	Leverage science & technology			
	Mitigation	Reduce, Reuse, Recycle (EMS Aspect)	Reduce carbon footprint through conservation, efficiencies, and other mechanisms in operations and fleet	
			Be proactive and anticipate a flexible workforce (i.e. telework and virtual teams)	
			Green purchasing	
		Long term Carbon Sequestration	Evaluate and when feasible implement project alternatives that lead to long term net carbon and other greenhouse gas reductions	CC, MI
			Consider including carbon sequestration and other greenhouse gas reductions as mitigation in approved projects	CC, HL, JL, JN, MI

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Managing Healthy Landscapes in the Context of Climate Change <i>(Continued)</i>	Adaptation: Manage Rangelands and Forests for Resilience and Productivity of Watersheds	Improve the efficiency of land health assessments, evaluations, and NEPA process	Focus resources on integrated projects that meet multiple resource objectives.	BP, DF, IT
			Integrate all applicable programs into watershed/landscape level land health assessments	BP, DF
			Focus activity on high priority areas at risk of change	DF, HL, KE, JN, JP, JS, JT, JU, JW
			Increase public understanding of benefits of BLM management activities, including maintaining open working landscapes	AL
		Improve/maintain health and productivity	Sagebrush, Grassland, Forest, and Woodland and associated riparian biotic communities are healthy and resilient to climatic change	JA, JB, JC, JD, JE, JG
			Wildlife and fisheries habitats are improved or maintained	JA, JB, JC, JD, JE, JG, JP, KE
			Water quality is improved or maintained	BO, BQ, JA, JB, JD, JF, JG, JH, JI, JP, KE
			Provides commodities and energy materials to local and national community. Develop and implement strategies to harvest beetle-killed timber and reduce fire risk.	ED, EE, EF, HD, HE, EG, JE
			Reduction in risks to rural communities from wildfire	AM, HT, IT, JT, JU, JW, MT
			Long term stability to local and rural economies	ED, EE, EF, HD, HE, EG, JE
		Promote and Develop Broad Based Collaborative Partnerships	Bring local partner projects into the land health evaluation process	BP, MN, MO, MU
			Utilize partnerships and opportunities to leverage funding with other natural resource management entities during implementation	AL, IT
		Develop efficient and effective monitoring strategies	Standardized reports for common water quality/quantity, riparian vegetative, and terrestrial communities	MB, MI, MJ, MK, ML, MN, MO, MP, MQ, MU, MX
			Increased ability for analysis at watershed and landscape scales	BP, DF

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Communities	Planning	Complete planning efforts to facilitate timely and defensible decisions	Utilize Ecoregional Assessment data to implement land use plans.		
			Miles City RMP	DQ	
			SD RMP	DQ	
			Billings FO/Pompeys Pillar National Monument RMP	DQ	
			HiLine RMP	DQ	
	Relations	Increase/maintain community partnerships & projects			JM, JQ, JT, JR, JU, DF
			Establish/strengthen BLM/private entity partnerships/sponsorships	Improve/promote customer service	
			Strengthen relations with state & other federal agencies, tribes & industry		
			Develop trust		
			Build credibility		
			Adopt-a-Project		
	Workforce	Provide for employee satisfaction & well-being		Implement FEVS Recommendations	PQ DQ
				Value and engage employees	
				Continue proactive safety programs	
				Promote employee wellness	
	Fuels	Reduce Hazardous Fuels			JT, JW
	Improve Education & Outreach	Expand outreach activities			ER, FP, NH, AL
		Develop shared messages with partners			
		Emphasize intangibles & long-term benefits, which are: forest health, forest restoration, fuels management/public safety, preserving open space & quality of life			
		Improve marketing & products	Tell our story by updating and/or creating maps, brochures, online info, op-eds, project		
Engage volunteers		Get more hands on the land through "working vacations," stewardship projects, etc.			

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Communities <i>(Continued)</i>	Improve Education & Outreach <i>(Continued)</i>	Work with other agencies	Work with partners & industry to assess & identify areas that may be suitable for renewable energy development	
		Establish proponent monitoring		
		Sustainable Travel/Tourism Collaboration with Gateway Communities	Continue to work with communities to instill a sense of pride and caring for public lands.	
		Keep/use stewardship authority		
		Continue with project development		
		Evaluate jobs in RMPs		
		Promote WHB tourism & explore long-term care opportunities		
		Expand control of invasive plants in creative ways		
		Promote public lands as destination point	Highlight BLM programs and the NLCS units	
		Promote vendors for bait, showers, refreshments, etc.		
		Explore opportunities presented by vast landscapes		
		Engage experienced workers 55+		
		Expand commercial filming		
		Issue more SUPs	Explore applications for photography, birding, viewing wildlife, other new opportunities, etc.	
		Support large events	Encourage endurance races	
		Improve SUP processes		