

BLM Report to the Secretary: Highlights of the America’s Great Outdoors Initiative (April-2011)

GREAT URBAN PARKS				
(cross-references with AGO Rpt. Section #6: <i>Establish Great Urban Parks and Community Green Spaces</i>)				
Agency	Time-line	Initiative	AGO Action Item	Project or Program Description
BLM	On-going	Expand BLM’s “Bold Idea” of the Community-Based Recreation Initiative	2.2 5.3 6.1 6.2 6.3 6.4	<p>BLM’s Community-Based Recreation Initiative creates close-to-home green spaces in partnership with local and state communities through shared spaces in “America’s backyard”. The Initiative creates access and trail network to connect where people live to where people go to enjoy the great outdoors, including trails for hiking and biking and special and unique natural places in NLCS units.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate and encourage the establishment of Recreation Services Coalitions at the local or regional community levels which ensures alignment with local conservation and recreation land management planning objectives. Offer technical assistance, support regional planning, community assistance, GIS mapping, and other services allowing government and tribal entities to work more seamlessly with a range of service providers to improve visitor service quality and capacity on a regional scale. Example: The BLM has initiated and supported numerous urban parks partnerships, such as Boise Foothills mountain bike and trail system, Redding Sacramento trail, Grand Junction/Fuita, Colorado and Moab, Utah Kokopelli, and other community trails connections to public lands. Example: Redding Sacramento River Trail, Redding, California and Boise Foothills, Boise Idaho (See BLM Fact Sheet pgs. 31 & 7.)
BLM	2012	Create and Expand Urban and Community Parks and Green Spaces through the Recreation and Public Purposes Act	2.2 5.2 5.3 6.1 6.2 6.3 6.4	<p>BLM’s unique authority under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act (R&PP sales and leases) allows it to convey appropriate public lands to state and local entities for recreation, conservation or other public purposes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand BLM’s outreach to communities, states, and the non-profit sector identify opportunities to create green spaces, more efficiently and cooperatively or jointly manage recreation sites and facilities, and development and recreation infrastructure management for the benefit of nearby residents and visitors. Provide information and training to BLM realty specialists on identifying opportunities to support communities

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> using R&PP authorities. Example: Las Vegas, NV Urban Area (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 17.)
BLM	2012	Connect Regional Landscapes for Parks and Green Spaces through Federal Land Acquisition and Partnerships	2.2 5.1 5.2 5.3 6.1 6.2 6.3 6.4	<p>Entrusted with certain authorities to convey and acquire Federal lands, BLM has a unique role in prioritizing strategic land acquisition and consolidation through the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), the Federal Land Transaction and Facilitation Act (FLTFA), and other existing programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with communities and stakeholders to identify land parcels that are available for sale from willing owners or partners and that will enhance conservation, expand the recreation land base, and access or connect public land resources with urban communities (e.g., greenways and blueways). Target and prioritize acquisitions. Example: *Sandy River, Portland, Oregon. Upper Snake River, Idaho Falls, Idaho (See BLM Fact Sheet pgs. 11 & 6.)

*Candidate project to be visited/highlighted during Secretary's AGO Rollout.

RURAL LANDSCAPES

(cross-references with AGO Rpt. Sect. #7: Conserve Rural Working Farms, Ranches, and Forests Through Partnerships and Incentives; & Sect. #8: Conserve and Restore Our National Parks, Wildlife Refuges, Forests, and Other Federal Lands and Waters)

Agency	Time-line	Initiative	AGO Action Item	Project or Program Description
BLM	2011	Facilitate Landscape Conservation through Cooperative Strategies	7.1 7.2 7.4 7.6 8.1 8.2	<p>BLM’s checkerboard land ownership has resulted in a long history of working closely with local communities to conserve shared landscapes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage agencies, partner organizations, and communities to develop strategic approaches that will conserve, protect, and restore landscapes and corridors for recreation, cultural, scenic, and conservation purposes at the regional and local levels. Example: *Carlsbad, NM Conservation Agreements and Note vista, CO Blanca Wetlands (See BLM Fact Sheet pgs. 8 & 13.)
BLM	On-Going	Promote Public/Private Partnerships for Species Conservation	7.1 7.2 7.4 7.6 8.1 8.2 8.3	<p>BLM has a long history of working closely with states, landowners, local communities, and other interests on a watershed and landscape scale to protect wildlife and conserve species found on both public and private lands.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote species conservation and recovery with regional strategies and conservation agreements. Expand partnerships with interested private land owners and other Federal, state, and local governments to implement recovery plan actions that will lead to recovery within 3 years. Develop a “Discover and Recover” partnership component to focus on recovery projects that provide an opportunity for youth and the community to learn (“discover”) about local species and habitat (particularly T&E species) and then participate in project implementation and monitoring (“recover”). This partnership will integrate and enhance existing initiatives such as Seeds of Success, Take it Outside and Youth Corps programs to increase opportunities to engage youth in species conservation and recovery. Expand use of Candidate Conservation Agreements with Assurances (CCAA) and Candidate Conservation Agreements (CCA) among FWS, NOAA, non-federal landowners and other stakeholders for candidate species which are critical to maintaining our nation’s biodiversity. BLM has cooperated with NRCS and ranchers to enhance the conservation of habitat on private and public lands for candidate species (sage-grouse and others) using Environmental Quality Incentives Program funds.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement a new interagency agreement with FWS, NRCS, and USFS for the Greater and Gunnison’s sage grouse that are dependent on habitat found on both private and Federal lands. Federal partners will cooperate with state fish and wildlife agencies and other stakeholders to ensure sustainable management of grazing and other agricultural practices and to enhance sage-grouse habitat. Example: *Restore New Mexico and Lesser Prairie Chicken CCA/CCAA for working ranches in Roswell, New Mexico. (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 14.)
BLM	2012	Conserve and Protect Wild Horses and Burros and the Landscapes where They Live	7.5 7.6	<p>BLM is responsible for conserving and protecting wild horses and burros as well as the landscapes where they live.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate partnerships with private landowners and other appropriate entities to provide long-term care for wild horses and burros that are removed from the public lands. Expand partnerships to promote adoptions of wild horses and burros. Example: Wild horse adoption program. (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 3.)
BLM	On-going	Promote “Seeds of Success” Partnerships for Native Plants and Restoration	7.2 7.4 8.1 8.2	<p>BLM is the federal entity responsible for maintaining our nation’s native seed program which is critical to restoring healthy landscapes and ensuring biodiversity. BLM’s Seeds of Success partnership is a national native seed collection network of 39 organizations that has created more than 9,000 collections, representing more than 3,000 species of native seeds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand partnerships to collect and conserve native plant materials for stabilizing, rehabilitating, and restoring public and private lands. Support research efforts, particularly for threatened and endangered plant species. Enhance federal capability to restore landscapes by encouraging agreements with private growers to produce needed native seeds for purchase. Example: *Seeds of Success: National Partnership with the Royal Botanical Gardens. (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 26.)
BLM	2012	Integrating Science through Rapid Ecological Assessments of Resources across	8.1 8.2 8.3 8.6 8.7 9.3	<p>BLM is undertaking a historic and comprehensive scientific initiative in cooperation with state, Federal, and non-governmental organizations to conduct 7 Rapid Eco-regional Assessments (REA) nationwide. The REAs will assess condition and risk over 400 million acres of public and non-public land.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prioritize landscape-level conservation actions using data resulting from the REAs. Expand inter-agency collaborative conservation strategies to support development of collaborative regional plans

		Landscapes		<p>and conservation efforts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate REAs with LCC science to identify areas where land acquisition or collaborative conservation measures would have the greatest benefit for wildlife conservation, recreation, scenic, and cultural resources. • Pool resources across ownerships and jurisdictions to fund on-the-ground conservation and restoration projects, including proposed land tenure adjustments.
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* Candidate project to be visited/highlighted during Secretary's AGO Rollout.

CONSERVING AND RESTORING AMERICA’S RIVERS & OTHER WATERS

(cross-references with AGO Rpt. Section #5: Strengthen the Land and Water Conservation Fund;
 & Section #8: Conserve and Restore Our Nat’l Parks, Refuges, Forests, and Other Fed. Lands and Waters;
 & Section #9: Protect and Renew Rivers and Other Waters)

Agency	Time-line	Initiative	AGO Action Item	Project or Program Description
BLM	On-going 2011	Creating Conservation Partnerships for Rivers and Watersheds	5.2 7.1 7.2 8.1 8.2 9.1 9.2 9.3	<p>BLM’s extensive experience with rivers and watersheds that include lands with multiple land ownership and jurisdictions has resulted in a long history of working collaboratively with a wide array of public, private, and non-profit landowners in jointly conserving river corridors and watersheds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and prioritize opportunities to conserve, protect, and restore landscapes and corridors for recreation, cultural, and conservation purposes at the regional and local level. • Develop and nurture partnerships with state, local, tribal governments, and local friends’ groups to collaboratively manage and restore a shared interest in river ecosystems, including working cooperatively with private landowners to enhance and restore river resources and values. • For example, the BLM is planning to work with American Rivers and other non-profit partners to create a river stewardship alliance and network of volunteer-based organizations to provide stewardship, monitoring, and restoration efforts. • Example: *Sandy Wild and Scenic River, Portland, Oregon. (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 11.) • Example: *Upper Snake River, Idaho Falls, Idaho. (See BLM Fact Sheet pgs. 4 & 6.)
BLM	On-going 2011	Promoting Blueways, River Trails and Recreational Access	5.2 7.5 9.1 9.2	<p>BLM has conserved thousands of miles of America’s most scenic rivers and has provided families with outstanding recreational opportunities. To achieve conservation and recreation goals, BLM has worked with many partners and communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with other Federal, state and local agencies to establish transparent, locally-driven processes to designate and promote conservation of rivers and waterways as National Blueways through the development of a National Trails Protection Strategy that includes national water trails. • Enhance and promote recreation by facilitating public access to rivers and the nation’s waterways through web-based information such as BLM’s partnership with River Management Society that highlights rivers for boating. • Example: North Platte River, Casper, WY (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 12.)

BLM	On-going	Conserve Rivers and Watersheds through the National Riparian Service Team and the “Creeks and Communities” Program	7.4 7.6 8.1 9.3	<p>BLM’s National Riparian Service Team's “Creeks and Communities” program provides assistance in collaborative community-based riparian stewardship on both public and private lands to restore and conserve riparian areas, rivers, and watersheds. BLM will continue to develop national and regional partnerships to promote community-based watershed and river stewardship, restoration and monitoring activities with a wide array of public, private, and non-profit landowners in jointly conserving river corridors and watersheds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with the USFS and other partners to promote collaborative community-based riparian stewardship, restoration, and monitoring. Address issues associated with river and watershed management programs and resources. • Example: *National Riparian Service Team and the Upper Missouri River Project, Fort Benton, MT. (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 18.)
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* Candidate project to be visited/highlighted during Secretary’s AGO Rollout.

ENGAGING & EMPLOYING AMERICA’S YOUTH

(cross-ref’s with AGO Rpt. Section #1: Provide Quality Jobs, Career Pathways, and Service Opportunities;
& Section #4: Engage Young People in Conservation and the Great Outdoors)

Agency	Time-line	Initiative	AGO Action Item	Project or Program Description
BLM	2011	Provide Innovative Opportunities to Explore Careers in Public Service through Americorps, Veterans Green Corps, and other Partnerships and Programs	1.1 1.2 1.3 4.1	<p>BLM has served as a model of innovation for government-wide efforts to engage and encourage youth to pursue careers in public service through its promotion of the SCEP/STEP programs. BLM has a unique role and opportunity to engage youth in natural resource and other careers due to its multiple-use mission and the need to recruit from one of the widest array of professional and technical disciplines of any Federal land management agency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create internship, career, and job informational packets and websites to promote the BLM’s multiple-use mission and conservation efforts and opportunities for careers, employment and federal internship programs. • Work with youth corps groups, the Student Conservation Association, Americorps, and other youth-serving partners to facilitate youth working on BLM projects and lands. • Improve diversity through student, intern, and other job mentoring program and target development of outreach and training for youth. • Recruit qualified potential participants through partnerships and outreach to universities and schools, veterans groups, youth corps, Tribes, communities, friends groups, business/industry or recreation activity/interest organizations, and others. • Expand training and information resources for managers and supervisors, youth coordinators and staff, and student employment coordinators about the flexible hiring authorities available for eligible youth hires, including promoting authorities for veterans and persons with disabilities. • Create a hiring toolkit and electronic fact sheet on the BLM’s intranet site, online and Webex training. • Example: *The SCEP/STEP program information. (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 33.) • Example: *Oregon Youth Conservation Corps, Portland, OR. (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 1.) • Example: *Veterans Green Corps, Denver and Durango, CO. (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 27.) • Example: *Bootstraps Project, Battle Mountain, NV. (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 2.) • Example: Chicago Botanical Garden Internship Program,

				Dorado Hills, CA and other locations (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 9.)
BLM	2011 2012	“Get with It” - Engage Youth in Public Lands Conservation through the Web and Social Networking	1.1 1.2 1.3 4.1	BLM has initiated efforts to integrate the use of social network and media to engage youth. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop materials and programs that effectively reach youth, their peers and younger children through a wide variety of communication tools, including Youth Program websites, DOI’s YouthGo.gov, Facebook, Twitter, and other forms of social media. • Involve young people in demonstrating the wide variety of ways youth from all backgrounds can be engaged in the multiple-use mission of the BLM. • Example: In FY 2012, BLM plans to introduce a Facebook page in connection with Youth and Careers websites.
BLM	On-going 2011	Connect Youth and Families with the Great Outdoors through Public Service and Education	1.1 1.2 1.3 4.1	BLM’s diverse landscapes, special areas, cultural resources, and multiple-use mission provide unique opportunities to attract and engage youth on a broader scope of interests, recreation activities, and careers related to America’s Great Outdoors. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host or co-sponsor a wide variety of education, interpretation, volunteer, and recreation events or programs at BLM offices, recreation sites, visitor centers, and special areas. • Engage visitors as well as neighboring communities and support goals for each field office to host at least two youth or family engagement events per year. • Expand youth group partnerships with youth groups to include conservation activities and projects outdoors on public lands. • Work with national and local-level BLM partners, including recreation and other industry partners, to engage, educate, and employ youth. • Engage youth in volunteer stewardship activities, such as site stewardship of cultural resources and trail stewardship opportunities. • Expand and enhance programs to engage youth in scientific research through outdoor classroom activities, such as water quality monitoring and other citizen science projects. • Plan events for National Public Lands Day (Sat., Sept. 24) and American Hiking Society’s Volunteer Vacations. • Example: *National Public Lands Day, Platte River Revival, Casper, WY (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 10.) • Example: *Outdoor Nation events with the Outdoor Foundation, Denver, CO and other locations (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 24.)
BLM	On-going	Promote Healthy	4.1	The BLM’s “Take It Outside” program engages over 30,000 youth each year, and the BLM is continually working to expand and

	(many events during the year)	Outdoor Activities through BLM’s “Take It Outside” Initiative and Youth Programs		<p>enhance the program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate the four pillars of the First Lady’s Let’s Move Outside (LMO) – health, family, fun, and stewardship into all components of the “Take It Outside” and other Youth programs. • Support and work with partners to directly engage kids in outdoor activities as they learn about the health benefits of healthy lifestyles. • Host 50 LMO sites in 2011, co-brand and TIO programs/events as LMO, and promote LMO through other BLM youth programs. • Example: *BLM’s “Take It Outside” Program. (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 16.) • Example: *Annual Ice Fishing Derby, Salmon, Idaho. (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 5.)
BLM	On-going	Promoting Public Service and Volunteerism for America’s Great Outdoors	1.1 1.2 1.3 4.1	<p>BLM provides a unique opportunity to engage rural, suburban, and urban populations in promoting volunteerism on neighboring and shared landscapes. BLM volunteers contribute more than one million hours of their time each year (the equivalent of 700 full-time employees).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote interagency and partnered collaborative training and enhance efforts to recruit and engage volunteers for natural and cultural resource projects. • Support, improve, and expand interagency efforts to house, develop, and deliver quality training in natural and cultural resource stewardship—similar to the National Trails Training partnership among agencies, partners, communities, and volunteers. • Increase the number of volunteers through the expanded use of the web portal, www.volunteer.gov/gov, to enable volunteers of all ages to easily find opportunities to contribute to public land and water restoration projects. • Example: * Volunteer Program: Friends of Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon NCA, NV (See BLM Fact Sheet pgs. 19 & 22.)

* Candidate project to be visited/highlighted during Secretary’s AGO Rollout.

ENHANCE RECREATIONAL ACCESS & OPPORTUNITIES

(cross-references with AGO Rpt. Section #2: *Enhance Recreational Access and Opportunities*)

Agency	Time-line	Initiative	AGO Action Item	Project or Program Description
BLM	On-going 2011	Expanding Recreational Access to Public Lands	2.1 2.2 5.2 5.3 6.3 6.4 7.5	<p>BLM’s land ownership pattern and ability to work with partners outside of public land boundaries provides a unique opportunity to promote and engage willing land owners in efforts to expand recreational access to public lands. BLM has actively sought to expand recreational opportunities, especially for hunting and fishing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and prioritize proposals that acquire legal public access to under-utilized areas or areas not currently accessible by the public. Develop criteria that elevates consideration of recreational access when prioritizing projects under existing land acquisition programs, such as the LWCF, Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA), Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA), as well as other land exchange and donation authorities. Example: *North Platte River, Casper, WY. (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 12.)
BLM	2012	Launching a New Recreation Campaign, “Wild, Weird, and Wonderful” Public Lands, through the Use of Technology	1.3 2.2 3.1 3.3 4.1 6.3 6.4	<p>BLM is exploring the use of technology to better connect with the public and to improve the accessibility of recreational information on our nation’s public lands. This “App” will promote some of the BLM’s special resources using technology sought by our nation’s youth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilot use of electronic application for the “Wild, Weird, and Wonderful” campaign while developing other ideas for using technology to engage the visiting public as well as improve collaboration with other public and private entities to provide recreation services. Example: National Recreation Reservation Service (NRRS) enhancements. (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 29.)
BLM	On-going 2011	Improving Access for Motorized and Non-Motorized Recreational Opportunities	2.2 4.1 5.3 6.2 6.3 6.4	<p>BLM’s vast lands, remote canyons and extensive trail systems provide a unique opportunity and responsibility to manage and engage in cooperative efforts to expand recreational access to public lands and promote responsible use and stewardship.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with partners and stakeholders to develop travel and transportation plans through a public process and responsible use education efforts that help provide appropriate access, provide opportunities for both the motorized and non-motorized recreating public, and protect natural and cultural resources. Develop cooperative responsible use education stewardship programs, programs to engage youth and

				<p>promote recreation opportunities and access with other public, non-profit, and business or recreation interest organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand use of law enforcement agreements with state and local agencies to enforce regulations and other cooperative management or maintenance agreements. • Promote public/private partnerships in the development of trail systems, riding areas for mountain bikes, play areas for off-highway vehicles, rock climbing areas, equestrian riding trails and other recreation sites and facilities to improve access and opportunities such as International Mountain Biking Association Ride Centers, United Desert Gateway /American Sand Association Imperial Dunes Partnership, Slickrock Biking Trail and Paiute OHV Trail in Utah, Access Fund Climbing Joint Management Areas, and other, Recreation Partnerships • Example: Hurricane Cliffs, St. George, UT. (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 30.)
BLM	2011	Developing Innovative Partnerships To Promote Access through Efforts such as Wounded Warrior Initiative and Disabled Sports USA Partnership	2.2 4.1 5.3 6.2 6.3 6.4	<p>BLM’s Wounded Warrior program and Disabled Sports USA Partnership are innovative and active efforts to engage and attract people of all abilities to BLM public lands.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage youth, families, Tribes, veterans, and other underserved populations by providing better information about recreational and volunteer opportunities. • Develop and expand partnerships on a national, regional, or local scale that facilitate access and serve youth, using the Wounded Warrior Initiative as a model. • Reach out to programs that engage persons representing underserved populations and develop strategies and partnerships on BLM lands in an effort to introduce them to the outdoors. • Encourage partnerships with adaptive sports organizations, outfitters/guides, and through statewide agreements with non-profit organizations. • Example: *Disabled Sports USA and outfitter-guide partnerships to enhance accessibility, Grand Junction, CO and Moab, UT. (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 20.)

* Candidate project to be visited/highlighted during Secretary’s AGO Rollout.

ENHANCING OUR PUBLIC LANDS and PROTECTING AND CONSERVING OUR HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE (TELLING AMERICA’S STORY)

(cross-references with AGO Rpt. Section #8: Conserve and Restore Our National Parks, Wildlife Refuges, Forests, and Other Federal Lands and Waters)

Agency	Time-line	Initiative	AGO Action Item	Project or Program Description
BLM	On-going 2012	Discovering Opportunities for the Discovery and Exploration of our Cultural Heritage	3.2 3.3 8.6 8.7 9.1 9.3	<p>BLM lands include a large number of sites that preserve archeological and cultural history – pueblos, rock art, paleontological finds, and other important pieces of our past. BLM also hosts programs that provide opportunities for the public to learn about our historical and cultural heritage such as Project Archeology (29 states/regions), Hands on the Land (HOL) public education programs, and other educational and interpretive programs and partnerships.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand opportunities for public engagement in science through a variety of experiential or hands-on programs, such as assisting scientists as volunteer researchers, service learning, and learning vacations. • Expand programs offered to local schools and youth groups to raise their awareness of cultural and natural resources. Incorporate scientific discoveries made on public lands into education programs such as Hands on the Land, service learning, and youth group informal educational opportunities, and resource specific educational products. • Expand Project Archaeology education programs in all 50 states. • Example: Archaeological Day Camp, Cedar City, UT (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 32.)
BLM	2012	Launching “Arts in the Open” to Encourage the use of Art to Promote the Values and Legacy of BLM Public Lands	3.1 3.2 8.6 8.7 9.1	<p>BLM plans to launch a pilot initiative, “Arts in the Open”, to encourage the use of art, literature, photography, poetry, film, and other activities to promote the values and legacy of public lands, conservation, and recreation and raise awareness of AGO.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use social media to launch the Arts in the Open Initiative and engage in outreach efforts to encourage broad participation by diverse populations. • Partner with communities to host an Arts in the Open Initiative that captures that community’s special relationships with BLM lands. • Establish an “Artist in Residence” and other partnership programs in NLCS and BLM field units. • Example: “Art Along The Rogue” Community Partnership/Concept and partnership with Center of the American West.

BLM	On-going	Promoting Geo-tourism/ Eco-tourism to Enhance Visitor Experiences and Encourage Mutually Beneficial Partnerships with Local Communities	2.2 3.1 3.3 6.2 6.3 6.4 7.2 7.5	<p>BLM’s checkerboard ownership pattern and multiple-use mandate links our lands to surrounding communities ecologically and economically. BLM’s efforts to promote Geo-Tourism not only enhance the visitor experience, but build important relationships and promote shared goals with local communities. BLM’s partnership with National Geographic and other regional geo-tourism projects are examples of direct collaboration with communities to achieve more diverse and sustainable economies that preserve community identity and sense of place and achieved shared goals for the region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand efforts to cooperatively develop sustainable resource-based businesses and recreation and visitor information (e.g., Geo-tourism). • Promote uses and visitation that sustains or enhances the geographical character of a place—its environment, culture, aesthetics, heritage, and the well-being of its residents. • Example: Geo-tourism MOU projects completed in 4 regions: Sonoran, Crown of the Continent Northern Rockies, Yellowstone, and California Coast. (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 28.)
BLM	On-going	Promoting Collaborative Efforts to Establish Wildlife Corridors Across the Landscape	5.2 7.2 7.4 7.6 8.1 8.2 8.3 8.6 8.7 9.1 9.3	<p>As the nation’s largest Federal land manager, BLM plays a significant role in promoting the establishment of wildlife corridors across jurisdictions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide information from the eco-regional assessments and LCC science to identify core habitat conservation areas and corridors, and areas where land acquisition would have the greatest benefit to increase and protect wildlife corridors and landscape connectivity for fish and wildlife species. • Identify strategic land acquisitions under existing land acquisition authorities under LWCF, FLTFA, SNPLMA, and other land donation and exchange authorities to allow for consideration of wildlife corridors. Where possible, these areas will be based on existing protected areas including Fish and Wildlife Refuges, National Park System units and the units of the BLM’s NLCS. • Example: *Blanca Wetlands Project, Monte Vista, CO. (Pending LWCF acquisition in the San Luis Valley Core Conservation Area.) (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 13.)
BLM	On-going 2012	Protecting Cultural Heritage Resources through Enforcement, Engagement,	8.6 8.7	<p>BLM will continue to protect cultural heritage resources on public lands through enforcement, engagement, and education. In an unprecedented coordinated effort with other federal, state, and local law enforcement, BLM is recovering a large volume of artifacts stolen from public lands in the Four Corners region. This highly publicized enforcement effort is coupled with BLM’s continued efforts to promote public stewardship,</p>

		and Education		<p>research, and enjoyment of America’s cultural and paleontological resources through outreach programs, facilitating volunteer and youth opportunities, and sponsoring of scientific research.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage and engage partners and volunteers in historic site stabilization, patrol and monitoring, exhibit development, curation, and interpretation. • Enhance and continue law enforcement efforts to address criminal acts prohibited by ARPA, NAGPRA, and PRPA. • Utilize collections resulting from research permitted on the public lands since 1906 to provide opportunities for personal and academic discovery, inspiration and enjoyment, and public education, and interpretation. • Example: *Friends of Black Rock/High Rock, Winnemucca, NV (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 22.)
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* Candidate project to be visited/highlighted during Secretary’s AGO Rollout.

MAKING GOVERNMENT MORE EFFECTIVE

(cross-references with AGO Rpt. Section #10: Make the Federal Government a More Effective Conservation Partner)

Agency	Time-line	Initiative	AGO Action Item	Project or Program Description
BLM	2011	Establish the Federal Interagency Council on Outdoor Recreation (FICOR) to Improve Coordination and Provide for Better Visitor Services	2.1 9.4 10.1 10.2	<p>Nearly 58 million people in the United States live less than an hour drive from BLM lands - "America's Backyard". BLM is uniquely positioned to help lead the FICOR and work with agencies to improve coordination, provide for more seamless visitor services, and become better partners in expanding outdoor recreation opportunities for all Americans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish FICOR, draft and sign charter, and convene first meeting. • Enhance communication and consistency between agencies and improve business practices and coordinate policies. • Streamline the delivery of visitor information to the public and coordinate with recreation-related national FACA-chartered advisory groups. • Improve partnerships with state, local, industry and non-profit recreation providers and foster collaboration to improve outdoor recreation opportunities for Americans. • Example: BLM and other agencies will continue to build on successful interagency coordination efforts for outdoor recreation, such as the Federal Interagency Council on Trails, Interagency Wild and Scenic Rivers Coordinating Council, and Wilderness Policy Council.
BLM	On-going 2012	Enhance Place-based Partnerships with Communities	2.2 9.4 10.1 10.2	<p>BLM has had great success working with local communities to accomplish shared goals and leverage resources through place-based partnerships.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand on-the-ground collaborative partnerships through training, technical assistance and formulation, and support of local partnerships. • Identify and address gaps in training for key management skills and core partnership/collaboration competencies associated with developing and sustaining partnerships. • Grow place-based partnerships with friends' organizations, primarily throughout BLM's NLCS. • Leverage and replicate model partnership, business models and collaborative programs across the NLCS to advance shared stewardship and community engagement goals and opportunities. • Example: BLM has numerous examples of community and state recreation partnerships including Moab, UT,

				Grand Junction, CO, and many others.
BLM	On-going 2012	Enhancing Resource Protection, Promoting Citizen Stewardship and Growing Partnerships Through Challenge-Cost Share	2.2 8.6 8.7 9.3 9.4 10.1 10.2	<p>BLM has utilized the Challenge Cost Share program (CCS) to facilitate collaboration, incubate programs and support successful projects among agencies, cooperating partners, and organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use CCS funding to leverage 5 times in-kind services and external funding support from partners for thousands of projects to enhance wildlife habitat, restore cultural sites and improve recreation areas. • Continue to support dozens of Challenge Cost-Share projects annually including wildlife, cultural and recreation focused partnerships.

* Candidate project to be visited/highlighted during Secretary's AGO Rollout.

EDUCATING AMERICANS ON THE GREAT OUTDOORS

(cross-ref. w/ AGO Rpt. Sect.#3: Raise Awareness of the Value and Benefits of America's Great Outdoors)

Agency	Time-line	Initiative	AGO Action Item	Project or Program Description
BLM	On-going	Promoting America's Great Outdoors through the NLCS Outreach Action Plan and other Place-based Stewardship Programs	3.1 3.2 3.3 5.2	<p>The BLM is completing an action plan to raise public awareness about the National Landscape Conservation System and its special places.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate AGO messages and information into the NLCS outreach plan. • Install consistent signage at NLCS sites, optimize use of social media and improve websites, and use photographs, narratives, public events and the work of artists to tell and share stories. • Enlist partners to help with outreach and seek opportunities with local media. • Grow place-based education programs for children and families and underserved youth. • Expand use of Junior Explorer, Junior Ranger, and other programs that engage children and families in fun learning activities designed to introduce them to special places and stewardship concepts. • Continue to support publication of Junior Explorer/Ranger booklets, expansion of these programs at additional locations, and development of a national Junior Explorer website. • Examples: BLM has numerous Friends Groups and conservation Partners including those with most NLCS units.
BLM	2012	Promote Stewardship for the Next Generation	8.4 8.5	<p>Some of the Nation's most unique and special places are designated units in the BLM's National Landscape Conservation System. BLM will respond to information requests from states and local communities and work with Congress on possible legislative designations of new NLCS units.</p>
BLM	On-going 2012	Promoting America's Largest Classroom through the Hands on the Land and Other Educational Programs	3.2 3.3 8.6 8.7 9.1 9.3	<p>BLM's checkerboard ownership pattern that interlinks with many thousands of communities and its complex multiple-use mandate provides unique hands-on educational opportunities that are close to home and that can engage young people to be scientists for a day and stewards for life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reach out to more students by expanding successful "Hands on the Land" (HOL) Outdoor that develops curricula and directly engages students in science-based education programs on the public lands through educational partnerships. • Improve quality of HOL programming at existing sites by better assessing site needs, developing orientation materials for new field classrooms, encouraging interactivity among sites through distance learning programs and special events,

				<p>identifying tools and best practices for training, professional development, and mentoring, identify measures of success.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage innovation by providing recognition awards. • Leverage resources through volunteers, partners, and grant opportunities. • Example: *Fish Slough “Hands on the Land” Education Program, Bishop, CA. (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 21.) • Example: *America’s Largest Classroom: Hands on the Land Project, Campbell Tract, Anchorage, AK (See BLM Fact Sheet pg. 15.)
BLM	On-going	Encourage Landscape Scale and National Partnerships for Fish, Wildlife, and Recreation	3.1 7.2 7.6 8.1 8.2	<p>BLM’s checkerboard land ownership has resulted in a long history of working closely with local communities to conserve shared landscapes. The BLM has Memorandums of Understanding in place on a wide array of wildlife.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance existing relationships to build Partnerships on a Landscape Scale. • Participate in dozens of national partnerships, initiatives, and strategies to increase public awareness of aquatic and wildlife species and habitat, increase wildlife viewing opportunities, implement on-the-ground collaborate landscape-scale habitat conservation projects to increase the distribution, diversity, and abundance of wildlife and critical habitat, and monitor habitat conditions across both public and private lands.

*Candidate project to be visited/highlighted during Secretary’s AGO Rollout.

Appendix – BLM Fact Sheets (33)