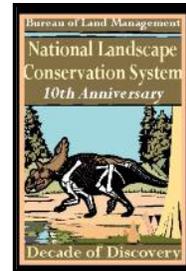


April 5, 2010

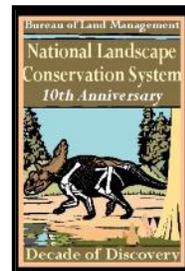
BLM'S 2010 "MAKING A DIFFERENCE" NATIONAL VOLUNTEER AWARD WINNERS

VOLUNTEER WINNERS (ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY STATE)

JOHN SCHEURING, IRONWOOD FOREST NATIONAL MONUMENT, AZ: A high-priority goal within the BLM's Ironwood Forest National Monument is the removal and suppression of buffelgrass, an invasive plant that has had devastating effects on the Sonoran Desert ecosystem. While John Scheuring was serving on the board of the Friends of Ironwood Forest, he initiated the "Save the Watermans" project, for which he organized volunteers for intensive buffelgrass removals—or "pulls"—to rescue the unique and fragile native flora of the Waterman Mountains. To date, 14 such pulls have been completed, incorporating at least one Eagle Scout project and resulting in unprecedented progress in buffelgrass eradication: the Waterman area is expected to be clear of the insidious plant by the end of 2010. John's broad outreach efforts also have raised public awareness throughout the Tucson region of the threats posed by buffelgrass even outside the National Monument. So what's next for John? "Save the Silver Bells," naturally, a campaign to target buffelgrass within Ironwood's Silver Bell Mountains.



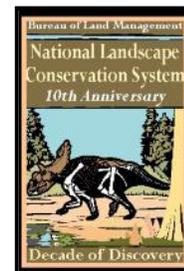
PIEDRAS BLANCAS LIGHT STATION OUTSTANDING NATURAL AREA'S VOLUNTEERS, CA: Piedras Blancas's dedicated volunteers come from neighboring communities to assist BLM in protecting the 135-year-old light station's natural, historic, and prehistoric resources, as well as to support onsite scientific research and education. The group's volunteers have performed tasks as varied as guiding tours, removing non-native ice plant, and remodeling the historic "Fuel Storage Shed" into a visitor center and gift shop. With only two employees at the site—an interpretive ranger and a park ranger—BLM could not possibly accomplish the work that these volunteers complete each year. And they "grow their own," too: between Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 and FY 2009, for example, Piedras Blancas volunteer hours increased by an impressive 68 percent. Even more startling is the fact that the value of those contributions equates to a figure that is *\$100,000 more* than the BLM funds allocated for management of the light station.



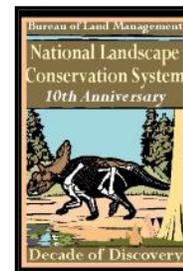
MATT DILLON, PRYOR MOUNTAIN WILD HORSE RANGE, MT: Matt Dillon tracks, documents, and maintains a database of every wild horse within the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range, which is located along the Montana-Wyoming border. This valuable information enables the BLM Billings Field Office to better understand herd dynamics and band locations, and to identify missing animals. During a September 2009 Pryor Mountain wild horse "gather," Matt's information on the target population assisted the BLM in making sound decisions for this herd with respect to removals, retentions, and fertility control treatment. During the same gather, Matt was available for horse observation, identification, and documentation, and routinely worked 16-hour days, often in adverse weather conditions and in a hostile political climate. He endured verbal abuse and heckling from opponents of

the gather, remaining completely professional and focused on the needs of the wild horses. Through Matt's work at the Pryor Mountain Wild Mustang Center in Wyoming and his interactions with the public, he raises awareness about the importance of conserving and protecting the public lands and their unique resources.

RED ROCK CANYON CULTURAL RESOURCE TEAM, RED ROCK CANYON NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA, NV: The Red Rock Canyon Cultural Resource Team has completed full documentation of 11 prehistoric rock art sites within the National Conservation Area and has also documented several other sites, including some within the petroglyph-rich Brownstone Canyon Archaeological District. The Team completed documentation books that have been digitized both for backup purposes and for posting online. A set will be donated to the University of Nevada's Harry Reid Center for Environmental Studies, where it will be accessible by any authorized local, State, or Federal agency representative. An additional 100-binder archive turned over to the Team is being indexed, digitized, and entered into a searchable database specially created by Team members. The archive comprises thousands of photos, field maps, site descriptions, detailed drawings, and specification sheets for each rock art panel included. The resulting database and library will be an invaluable research asset for generations to come.



PAT AND CHUCK WILLIAMS, RED ROCK CANYON NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA, NV: Pat and Chuck Williams have each served terms as president of Friends of Red Rock Canyon (FORRC), the BLM's oldest "friends" organization. And since Pat keeps getting re-elected, she's still president today. Thanks to the Williamses' leadership and participation on several specialized FORRC committees, the group has been continually active in supporting the National Conservation Area through fundraising, stewardship projects, training, trail work, special event coordination, and outreach. Pat and Chuck have made it their personal goal to help people understand, value, conserve, and protect the world-class resources of Red Rock Canyon. They tirelessly coordinate "Make a Difference Day at Red Rock," National Public Lands Day, Red Rock Day, and many other volunteer work projects and special events supporting Red Rock Canyon. Recently, Pat has been assisting BLM managers in efforts to market and broadcast the mission and purpose of the BLM's National Landscape Conservation System and the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area to wider audiences.



KHRYSTYL BEST, FISHERMAN'S BEND RECREATION SITE, OR: As a volunteer for the BLM's Cascade Resource Area, Khrystyl Best performs office manager/volunteer coordinator duties at the Fishermen's Bend Campground. She coordinates check-ins for campers, ensures that campsites are clean and ready for use, collects site fees and interagency passes, coordinates firewood sales, tracks visitor use data, and performs data entry. In 2009, Khrystyl initiated and supervised the in-house manufacturing of vehicle vouchers (hang tags) for all overnight camping facilities, saving the BLM approximately \$2,000 in printing costs. In addition to her office duties, Khrystyl assists in supervising a large number of volunteers and campground hosts at the various developed recreation sites within the Cascade Recreation Zone. She tracks and reports volunteer hours, assists with recruiting

volunteers/camp hosts, conducts reference checks, schedules and participates in the volunteer interview process, and trains volunteers/camp hosts in office and park duties. Khrystyl is also the recreation site's Environmental Education Program Lead, offering visitors classes in areas ranging from basic outdoor survival to tree and plant identification.

CHUCK FRAZIER, DEAN CREEK ELK VIEWING AREA, OR: Chuck Frazier is a long-term volunteer at Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area, a site that receives an average of 500,000 visitors each year. In coordination with BLM partner organizations, Chuck has helped to implement and oversee maintenance, outreach, and environmental education program efforts at the site. In 2009 alone, he assisted youth corps and inmate crews with noxious weed removal and assisted with fee collections. He also regularly mowed an eight-acre lawn, cleaned restrooms, picked up trash, made repairs, built fences, removed graffiti, and hauled literally tons of garbage to the local dump. Chuck regularly participates in community activities such as National Public Lands Day volunteer projects and local beach cleanups, and has assisted the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation at its Dean Creek annual meeting.

WINNING BLM EMPLOYEE

NOEL STEPHENS, CALIFORNIA DESERT DISTRICT, CA: In her capacity as the BLM Volunteer Coordinator for the California Desert District, Noel Stephens coordinates and oversees District volunteer activities and projects, including organizing and leading BLM's participation at the annual Los Angeles County Fair and coordinating the Wonderful Outdoor World campout for inner-city youth in El Mirage. Noel's support of the BLM Volunteer Program at the national level is also significant. As chair of the BLM's Volunteer Program Adjunct Team, she coordinates the Team's conference calls, compiles and distributes call minutes, tracks assignments, and coordinates responses to numerous program-related inquiries from BLM field staff. Noel also serves as an instructor for the BLM's Basic Volunteer Administration training course, which equips participants with knowledge of current Federal regulations, program policies, and agency procedures, and acquaints them with online resources and other tools to assist them in working with volunteers. As a trainer, Noel is required to have a mastery of the subject matter and an ability to respond to participant questions on a broad range of Volunteer Program technical issues. Preparation of course materials, travel to field offices, course delivery, and follow-up work are all undertaken in addition to Noel's regular duties as a BLM Contact Representative. Noel approaches every task with good cheer, professionalism, and generosity, and she has helped to make other BLM Volunteer Coordinators "the best that they can be."