

BLM'S 2001 VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

In Fiscal Year 2001, thousands of volunteers collectively donated more than 1 million hours to the BLM. The equivalent of over 620 work years of time, talent, and energy were contributed to the care of natural, cultural, and recreational resources on the public lands. The monetary value of these volunteer contributions is estimated at nearly \$18 million.

A small agency with a big and complex job, BLM is responsible for 262 million acres of public lands. Some 9,000 employees are charged with managing public land resources

for the present and the future while considering both local and national concerns. Volunteers help to make this possible. From energy and minerals to plants and wildlife, from recreation to cultural and historical resources, volunteers serve across the spectrum of BLM programs. They donate their time as individuals, couples, and groups. Some participate in day-long events, while others provide years of service. No matter where or for how long they serve, volunteers also serve as examples for all citizens—not only taking pride in our nation's public lands, but taking action as their stewards.



National Public Lands Day 2001 was a busy day in Oregon. At the Gerber Recreation Area near Klamath Falls, volunteers were involved in many projects, including buck-and-pole fence construction.

NATIONAL TOTALS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

Program	Volunteer Hours	Hosted Worker Hours	Total Hours*
Recreation	468,270	65,862	534,132
Biological Resources	129,415	16,467	145,882
Wild Horse and Burro	28,273	69,200	97,473
Cadastral Survey	1,918	0	1,918
Wilderness	14,086	930	15,016
Riparian/Watershed	23,031	2,872	25,903
Cultural/Historical	99,311	3,841	103,152
Minerals	4,325	3,026	7,351
Support Services	36,508	24,237	60,745
Environmental	54,037	14,424	68,461
Education/Interpretation			
Other	54,387	4,618	59,005
Total	913,561	205,477	1,119,038
Funds Expended	\$697,563	\$35,971	\$733,534
Value of Work	\$14,662,654	\$3,297,906	\$17,960,560

* The term volunteer, as used in the text of this report, includes "hosted workers." Volunteers work for BLM without being paid. They donate their time and, in some instances, equipment and money to assist BLM with a variety of jobs. Hosted workers, on the other hand, are paid by another organization but work for BLM at no charge. Hosted workers made up about 18 percent of the total volunteer time in 2001. Their contributions are included in the State and National Totals tables.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY FOR FISCAL YEARS 1996–2001

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000 ^a	2001
Total Hours	1,097,115	1,149,294	1,355,130	962,293	755,576	1,119,038
Value to BLM (\$)	12,369,325	14,428,428	19,378,359	14,270,805	11,628,315	17,960,560 ^b
Work-Years	609	638	753	535	420	622
Value of One Work Hour (\$)	11.27	12.55	14.30	14.83	15.39	16.05 ^c
Value of One Work Year (\$)	18,413	22,615	25,735	26,694	27,702	28,890

^a Incomplete data for the year 2000. Not all Field Offices reported.

^b The 2001 volunteer program was accomplished at a cost of \$733,534, a return of about \$24.50 for every \$1.00 expended.

^c The value of volunteer contributions was calculated at the rate of \$16.05 per hour, a figure calculated by the Independent Sector (<http://www.indepsec.org>), a national leadership forum committed to volunteerism and citizen action. The amount was based on the latest data available on the average hourly wage for nonagricultural workers as published in the *Economic Report of the President* (2002 Edition).