

APPENDIX A

U.S. Department of the Interior

Environmental Justice

Implementation Progress Report

2014

**20th Anniversary Year
Of Executive Order 12898**



Goal #3, Performance Measure #1

“Number of Partnerships with others, including educational institutions and tribes, to share and benefit from specialized expertise in furthering EJ goals.”

[Note: This appendix is not all inclusive of the Department’s partnerships with others]

**OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND COMPLIANCE
WASHINGTON D.C. 20240**

[HTTP://WWW.DOI.GOV/PMB/OEPC/ENVIRONMENTAL-JUSTICE.CFM](http://www.doi.gov/pmb/oepec/environmental-justice.cfm)

DOI Partnerships:

<http://www.doi.gov/partnerships/index.cfm>

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BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT (BOEM)

<http://www.boem.gov>

The BOEM joined the National Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU): North & West Alaska CESU, Pacific Northwest CESU, Gulf Coast CESU, North Atlantic Coast, CESU, Piedmont - South Atlantic CESU, Californian CESU, and Hawaii-Pacific Island CESU. These eight partnerships facilitate access to a wide range of expertise to address federal agency needs and advance the scientific understanding of coastal and marine ecosystems.

The BOEM Coastal Marine Institute with Louisiana State University and the University of Alaska at Fairbanks are designed to respond to BOEM, state, local information needs, and interests with local expertise in the Outer Continental Shelf relevant disciplines.

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS (BIA)

<http://www.bia.gov>

The BIA mission is to enhance the quality of life, to promote economic opportunity, and to carry out the responsibility to protect and improve the trust assets of American Indians, Indian tribes and Alaska Natives.

The BIA carries out its core mission to serve 566 federally-recognized tribes through four offices. The Office of Indian Services operates the BIA's general assistance, disaster relief, Indian child welfare, tribal government, Indian Self-Determination, and reservation roads programs. The Office of Justice Services directly operates or funds law enforcement, tribal courts, and detention facilities on federal Indian lands. The Office of Trust Services works with tribes and individual American Indians and Alaska Natives in the management of their trust lands, assets, and resources. Finally, the Office of Field Operations oversees 12 regional offices and 83 agencies which carry out the mission of the BIA at the tribal level.

The BIA partners with tribes to help them achieve their goals for self-determination while also maintaining its responsibilities to comply with relevant federal laws and to honor the Federal-tribal trust and government-to-government relationships. The federal EJ responsibilities of the BIA are therefore guided by the federal legal requirements and the principles of Federal self-determination, trust responsibility and government to government relationships. Overall coordination of EJ lies in the Division of Environmental and Cultural Resources Management, which is within the BIA Office of Trust Services in Washington, DC.

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT (OSMRE)

<http://www.osm.gov>

Engaging the Next Generation through AmeriCorps VISTA

On March 20, 2014, the Department issued a Secretarial Order for Engaging the Next Generation that codified the Secretary's goals to connect young people and the outdoors through "Play, Learn, Serve, and Work." Through a Cooperative Agreement with Conservation Legacy, OSMRE took the lead in pioneering the Department's first national AmeriCorps Volunteers in Service to America program, the DOI/VISTA Team.

Modeled after OSMRE's successful OSMRE/VISTA program, the DOI/VISTA Team places AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteers in some of the poorest communities in which the Department has a presence to address the root causes of poverty and protect America's natural resources, heritage, and tribal cultures. VISTAs bring critical support to their host communities through economic development, environmental stewardship, and healthy futures. By November 2014, sixty-six VISTA Volunteers will work to build capacity throughout thirty-three states and two U.S. territories. Participating bureaus include the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, and Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Example: DOI/VISTA Angela Allison Develops STEM Programming

DOI/VISTA Angela Allison, serving with New River Gorge National River in Glen Jean, West Virginia, is assisting in the creation of new science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) programming for New River Gorge's Camp Brookside to launch Summer 2014. She had the opportunity to work with the National Park Service's "Rangers in Training" Program. Ms. Allison worked with NPS Education Specialists to develop an "Orienteering Challenge" for high school students that included tree and fossil identification, leave-no-trace ethics, fishing, map reading, and compass navigation skills. "Creating a program and implementing it has been a very rewarding process for me and I have learned a tremendous amount including how to develop an interpretive service plan. This will be an integral skill as I work towards developing programming for Camp Brookside", said Allison.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE (NPS)

<http://www.nps.gov>

The NPS in collaboration with Wilson Biodiversity Foundation, Encyclopedia of Life, National Park Foundation, National Park Trust, and Rocky Mountain Science and Sustainability Network Academy, focused on advancing biodiversity education and engaging schools more deeply in the issue.

The NPS Call to Action Plan, Item 18 "Ticket To Ride", continues to expand chances for students to directly experience national parks, where national and historic settings allow for great

natural, environmental, cultural and historical learning opportunities. Many NPS sites currently partner with local organizations and school districts to provide transportation services. In addition, many parks obtain grants from friends groups or other sources to subsidize field trip costs. The NPS has the authority to use federal funds to provide student transportation to national parks. However, the cumulative need is far greater than these available resources. In partnership with the National Park Foundation \$474,140.00 was awarded in 2014 to 65 national parks which are expected to impact over 70,000 kids.

The 2014 Ticket to Ride grantees included the Blue Ridge Parkway: North Carolina Students participated in one of several in-park educational programs for their first time, strengthening their understanding of and appreciation for Blue Ridge Parkway and helping them connect to the entire National Park System. Depending on their grade level, students experienced first-hand Appalachian culture through traditional tools, bartering, music, and dance; explored geology and ecosystems and discovered the story of plate tectonics and the creation of Blue Ridge Mountains, and learned the role the park plays in preserving ecosystems as they explore a meadow, forest, and stream.

Brown V. Board of Education National Historic Site, Kansas

Students rediscovered Freedom's Pathway in Topeka, Kansas by experiencing the Underground Railroad at the historic Ritchie House, learning about Bleeding Kansas and the legislative process at the Kansas State Capitol, and exploring how segregation in America was demolished at Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site. From territorial conflicts over slavery to the beginning of the civil rights movement with Brown v. Board of Education, students experienced the rich history of Kansas.

Colorado National Monument, Colorado

Although Colorado National Monument is located only a few miles from the cities of Fruita and Grand Junction, many students in the local communities have never visited the park. Nearly 2,000 students from Title I schools (at risk and low income students), visited the park to engage in meaningful, hands-on educational opportunities to study the park's geologic wonders and ecological processes.

Devils Postpile National Monument, California

Staff from this national park and their partners traveled with 20-30 Paiute youth from their high desert home to Channel Islands National Park, an uninhabited island in the Pacific Ocean. The youth learned about native plants, and specifically how those plants were/are used by the Native American Chumash tribe. This project also integrated multigenerational learning by engaging tribal elders, parents, grandparents, and other family members.

Eisenhower National Historic Site

Through a grant, 5th and 8th grade students, many below the poverty level (88%), were exposed to the park and outdoors while engaging in both character education and agricultural science programs. Students commented on how green the site was with all the grass, crops and field. Most of the students had never left the city of York (PA) prior to their agricultural science exposure.

NPS Academy Programs

For the fourth year, the NPS held Academy programs. The NPS Academy is a program in partnership with the Student Conservation Association, which aims to orient college students, ages 18-25 from diverse backgrounds from across the country to potential career tracks within the NPS. Since being launched in Grand Teton National Park in 2011, student participation rates have increased, as has site participation rates throughout the FWS. As a result of the program's success, four out of seven NPS Regions have adopted and hosted an NPS Academy. In three years, nearly 200 students from 113 colleges/universities have served in life-changing, hands-on internships in 46 different national park sites, while gaining exposure to an array of career opportunities as well as to the parks' vast natural and cultural legacies. Following their park experiences, these same young people served as NPS ambassadors on their campuses and in their communities. The Student Conservation Association has been particularly effective in reaching our underserved and underexposed youth in very diverse communities the NPS seeks to engage in its workforce development. One-third of responding Academy members are African-American, nearly one-in-five are Hispanic, nine percent are Native American, eight percent are Asian-American, and sixty-three percent of participants are women.

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area

For the fourth consecutive year, the Native Conservation Corps program has played an integral role in connecting the next generation to their public lands. During July, seven Native American youth (Navajo, Zuni, and San Carlos Apache) were exposed to a diverse set of career opportunities at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Rainbow Bridge National Monument, and the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. Participants gained hands on training and experience in habitat restoration, vegetation monitoring, and aquatic invasive species education, and were introduced to careers in management, interpretation, geology, paleontology, and rangering. Participants developed outdoor living and recreation skills through camping and cooking in the great outdoors and by hiking and paddling the local gems. This program continues to connect Native American communities to their lands, and develop diverse young stewards who are eager to preserve and protect park resources and their native heritage. In 2015, project coordinators are planning to expand this program to include additional National Park Service and other federal land management units.

Participating parks work with local "Clean Cities", coalitions to improve sustainable operations and implement Green House Gas (GHG) and fuel reduction projects, including adopting alternative fuel vehicles and lawnmowers, installing plug-in electric vehicle chargers, implementing sustainable driving practices, and sharing the benefits of these actions with communities, partners and visitors.

Acadia National Park (Maine) – Working with Maine Clean Communities, the park replaced 10 existing vehicles with eight new alternative and fuel-efficient vehicles (two hybrid electric vehicles, two propane vans, and four low-speed electric vehicles). The park will also install two electric vehicle charging stations (EVSE) for public and park vehicle use.

Catoctin Mountain Park (Maryland) – Working with the State of Maryland Clean Cities, the park replaced two conventional vehicles with plug-in hybrid electric vehicles and install three electric vehicle charging stations for park fleet and public use. The park also replaced gasoline lawnmowers with four propane mowers and shares their use with a nearby military base.

Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument (Colorado) – Collaborating with Southern Colorado Clean Cities, the park replaced two gasoline vehicles with two all-electric low-speed vehicles, install an electric vehicle charging station, and deploy an all-electric utility vehicle.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Tennessee) – Working with the East Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition and the Land of Sky Clean Vehicles Coalition, the park replaced three gasoline pickup trucks with three all-electric work trucks, converted five gasoline mowers to operate on propane, installed a propane fueling station for park use, and install four public electric vehicle charging stations (EVSE). The park plans to install two DC fast-charging EVSE that charge an all-electric vehicle in approximately 30 minutes and two Level 2 EVSE that charge an all-electric vehicle in four to six hours.

Nicodemus National Historic Site (Kansas) – Working with Kansas City Regional Clean Cities, the park replaced a gasoline mower with a propane mower.

Pea Ridge National Military Park (Arkansas) – Working with Arkansas Clean Cities, the park replaced a gasoline pickup truck with a propane truck. The park is also developing a Green Team to educate staff, visitors, and students on sustainability and conservation.

Petroglyph National Monument (New Mexico) – Working with the Land of Enchantment Clean Cities Coalition, the park replaced three gasoline vehicles with an all-electric, plug-in hybrid electric, and hybrid electric vehicle. The park also installed two electric vehicle-charging stations, with one available for public use.

Scotts Bluff National Monument (Nebraska) – The park incorporated an all-electric, multi-passenger low-speed vehicle for more sustainable, cleaner transport to the overlook at the top of Scotts Bluff.

Zion National Park (Utah) – Collaborating with Utah Clean Cities, the park replaced three gasoline-powered vehicles with all-electric and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles and installed 10 electric vehicle charging stations, five of which will be available for public use. In addition to improving the parks' fleets, the projects showcase alternative fuels, advanced technology vehicles, and inform visitors and neighbors about the benefits of idle reduction, fuel economy, and efficient driving habits.

America's Great Outdoors

The Mosaics in Science (MIS) Internship Program was developed in fiscal year 2013 by the NPS Geologic Resources Division (GRD) to provide youth ages 18-25 years old that are typically under-represented in science career fields with on-the-ground, science-based, work experience in the National Park System. The Mosaics in Science Program was established in 2013 to engage youth that are historically under-represented in careers in science, technology, engineering, and

math (STEM) fields with on-the-ground work and career development opportunities with the NPS. The long-term goal of the program is to develop the participant's technical and leadership skills with the intent of hiring the best and brightest young scientists for NPS careers. By having an internship program focused on training and hiring diverse youth in the STEM fields, the demographics of the NPS workforce is expected to change over time to reflect the diversity of the U.S. population.

The program provides opportunities for youth to gain practical experience working on, and completing projects in air resources, biological resources, climate change science, geologic resources, natural sounds, night skies, scenic resources, social science, and water resources science fields. Internships include research, inventory and monitoring, GIS and other technologies, and/or science interpretation and education projects. In addition to practical on-the-ground work experience, the interns receive one-on-one mentoring to help them grow personally and professionally, and to gain leadership and presentation skills.

This multidisciplinary program provides work opportunities in inventory and monitoring, research, GIS, and interpretation and education projects that focus on the STEM. After the internships, a career workshop is held in Washington DC, where the interns present the results of their work, are exposed to different science career paths, and develop skills to apply for, and obtain a federal job. During its first year there were 12 interns, and in FY14, 21 interns worked on a variety of natural resource science projects in parks across the Service. The program is run in close collaboration with the NPS Youth Programs Division, The Geological Society of America, all Natural Resource Stewardship and Science offices and DOI parks seeking a MIS intern.

The Mosaics in Science mission of increasing diversity in STEM fields in our national parks, relates to the goals in the STEM Education and Employment Pathways Strategic Plan Fiscal Years 2013-2018. The five-year goal is “that our youth and the American public become scientifically literate stewards of our natural and cultural heritage and that today's youth, especially those underrepresented in STEM fields of study, become inspired to choose career paths at DOI or related agencies and partners”.

The MIS goals also relate to the DOI Youth in the Great Outdoor Initiative by trying to connect youth, especially minorities, with the outdoors by inspiring them to play, learn, serve, and work on our public lands. One of the biggest trends seen today is that youth, especially minorities, are spending less time outdoors. By inspiring young people to enjoy nature and work and play outdoors, we will build future stewards of our natural and cultural resources. There were 110 elementary students from Las Vegas that participated in a three-day, two-night experience at Zion National Park called “Concrete to Canyons”. The program is designed to introduce urban youth to the wilderness and recreation opportunities in public lands. For most participants, these trips were their first time hiking and camping. Prior to coming out to the park, park rangers visited their classes several times, met with their parents and taught them a diversity of things—from the animals that call Zion home to how to set up a tent. Eight teachers from Rainbow Dreams Academy and Andre Agassi College Preparatory Academy, located just blocks from each other on West Lake Mead Boulevard in Las Vegas, also participated in the first ‘Concrete

to Canyons' Teacher Institute. The group learned more about the park's natural and cultural resources while also participating in some of the same activities and camping situations that their students experienced. The 2014 'Concrete to Canyons' program was made possible by funding from the National Park Foundation, the Zion National Park Foundation, and the Andre Agassi Foundation. Zion was one of 39 national parks selected to receive a 2014 'America's Best Idea' grant from the National Park Foundation.

The NPS Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program helps all Americans get outdoors. Every year, the National Park Service makes technical assistance grants to community groups, nonprofits, tribes, and state and local governments. Local leaders collaborate with NPS staff and other partners to plan trails and parks, conserve and improve access to rivers and natural areas, and create other outdoor recreation opportunities. This year RTCA assisted 350 communities with conservation and outdoor recreation projects.

The NPS partners and participates in several activities to assist low income and environmental justice communities in healthy food opportunities. Several parks partner to create urban community gardening programs where communities grow organic vegetables participated in farmer's markets or donated produce from park gardens to local food banks. These gardens offered physical and mental health benefits, by providing opportunities for the community to eat healthy fresh fruits and vegetables; engage in physical activity, skill building, and creating green space; revive and beautify public parks and improve social well-being while strengthening social connections with NPS sites.

Lowell National Historical Park partnered with the Lowell Community Health Center, Lowell General Hospital, The Greater Lowell's Boys and Girls Club, Lowell Parks and Conservation Trust, and Parks and Recreation to sponsor the LoWellness Festival. The park worked with 12 community partners to plan and facilitate a Healthy Parks Healthy People event that featured health screening, outdoor activities, healthy foods, and garden demonstrations in the diverse communities surrounding the park.

In tribute to the NPS Call to Action item "Eat Well and Prosper", rangers at Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park collaborated on the design and installation of a series of raised flower beds adjacent to the main visitor center. The project fulfilled two goals for the benefit of the community including providing a space to garden. The garden included a variety of native flowers and organic vegetables. Throughout the summer and early fall, rangers tended the garden plots and were able to successfully harvest carrots, kale and broccoli which was donated to a local food bank.

Educational staff at Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site recently partnered with Harvesters, the local community food network, to provide "Kids in the Kitchen", program to area students. The program teaches low income and minority populations the importance of eating healthy foods and involving them in the fight against childhood obesity. This partnership is part of a long-term relationship between the park and students at Williams Science and Fine Arts Magnet School. Williams Magnet School opened in 1996 as a result of the decision in Brown III. In 2011 Brown v. Board of Education NHS began collaboration with Williams Magnet

School, providing weekly after school programs to aid in student enrichment. In addition, - Families Empowered by Additional Teaching of Students (FEATS) is an after school program to aid in student enrichment. As part of the program, students were taught about purchasing local fruits and vegetables in season in order to maximize nutrition. Then, following a recipe and measuring ingredients the students were able to create their own healthy snacks.

The NPS presented its annual Environmental Achievement (EA) Awards for 2014 to teams (NPS units, groups of NPS employees, or a combination of NPS and non-NPS personnel), and partners (concessioners, contractors, and cooperating associations), who demonstrated exceptional accomplishments toward the overall goal of preservation and protection of the resources under our stewardship. Specifically, the award recognized outstanding achievements in the implementation of Executive Order (EO) 13423, Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management and EO 13514, Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance. The NPS Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) Response Team was awarded a 2014 NPS Environmental Achievement Award for its work along the Appalachian National Scenic Trail – Palmerton Zinc Pile Superfund Site.

The Palmerton Zinc Pile Superfund Site is a large Superfund complex in and around the town of Palmerton, PA, the legacy of more than 80 years of Zinc smelting at two plants. Due to deposits of smelter emissions containing high concentrations of zinc, cadmium, and lead, several thousand acres of forest along the Appalachian national Scenic Trail was severely impacted. The NPS CERCLA Team became involved in the site a decade ago to ensure clean up decisions would address risks to human health and the environment cause by the release of hazardous substances on the site, and would not impeded the mission of the NPS in that area.

The NPS team also undertook a CERCLA response action at Lehigh Gap to fulfill NPS's obligation to eliminate unacceptable site risk and to manage the Appalachian Trail in a manner that leaves it unimpaired for future generations which required close intra-government cooperation with EPA and the US Department of Justice. In making funding decisions for the Land Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) decisions are based on Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans (SCORP), that use census and polling data to determine areas of underserved and economically disadvantaged populations. In addition, SCORPs incorporate health data to determine what health issues are prominent (e.g. obesity, diabetes, etc.) and in what geographic locations the greatest need exists. SCORP data provide states information to develop strategies to meet the needs of those underserved areas. Those strategies are expressed in terms of grant application scoring criteria used in the Open Project Selection Process. All grant applications must meet needs identified in the SCORP.

Grand Canyon National Park's Diversity Council and the NPS Albright Training Center partnered with Earthwise Productions INC., to welcome the Diverse Environmental Leaders National Speakers Bureau to the park. This partnership encourages being inclusive of all people and reaching beyond the traditional boundaries to connect and engage communities of color, underserved and underexposed to build broad community support for healthy environment and people through relevancy, diversity, and inclusion.

In 2014, the NPS launched two Environmental Pilot Programs at local Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA), based in Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Badlands National Park. The NPS, in collaboration with selected BGCA Clubs, identified opportunities to apply and adapt environmental justice approaches into existing BGCA programming that empowered youth by providing them opportunity to take an active role in community stewardship through service and education.

The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore pilot consisted of 16 members of the Lake Station Boys & Girls Club who took part in a 10-week camp focusing on environmental topics that impacted their region. Junior Environmentalists worked alongside researchers, park program managers, and other volunteers to tackle serious issues such as water quality and the impact of invasive species.

The Badlands National Park pilot was conducted in partnership with Minuteman Missile National Historic Site, Boys & Girls Club at Ellsworth Air Force Base, and Pine Ridge Indian Reservation participated in a three overnight camping excursions that emphasized the positive aspects of community involvement. The participants explored land designation, access, and ownership issues and volunteered during scheduled community environmental stewardship events.

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (FWS)

<http://www.fws.gov>

Region One

The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) entered into Government-to-Government consultation with the Burns Paiute Tribal Council as part of the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 Process for the planning and construction of a new building at NWR Headquarters on National Register of Historic Places Site 35HA403. NWR staff attended a Council meeting to answer questions and describe aspects of the proposed project. The Council concerned with the NWR's determination of No Adverse Effect for the construction of the building.

The Malheur NWR Fisheries Program has established a partnership with the Wildlife and Fisheries Program at the Burns Paiute Tribe. This partnership includes training of Tribal Staff and Tribal members in the use of telemetry equipment, electroshocking safety and techniques, fish marking, submerged aquatic vegetation sampling methods, and water quality sampling techniques. The NWR and the Tribe share equipment as needed for scientific investigations and assist each other with field work on an as-needed basis.

Burns Paiute Tribal Staff are participants in the Malheur Lake Work Group. The Work Group was established as part of the NWR's CCP and is developing techniques and strategies to reduce invasive common carp on the refuge, and eventually elsewhere in the Harney Basin.

Burns Paiute Tribal Staff are participants in the Harney Basin Wetlands Initiative- a basin-wide scientific partnership of Federal, State, Tribal, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working to improve habitat for migratory birds in the Harney Basin, where the NWR is located, and portions of the Pacific Flyway.

Staff from the Mid-Columbia NWR Complex consulted and provided opportunities and received input in FY 2014 from the Yakama Indian Nation on the CCP at Conboy Lake NWR.

Mid-Columbia NWR Complex staff held monthly Hanford Tribal Working group meetings with the Umatilla, Nez Perce and Yakama and Wanapum tribes on management activities at the Hanford Reach National Monument throughout FY 2014.

Staff from the Mid-Columbia NWR Complex worked with the Umatilla, Yakama, and Wanapum tribes in FY 2014 to provide access to NWR lands for sacred site ceremonies and for tribal plant collection at both McNary and Toppenish NWRs. In Native American tradition, Tules and other medicinal plants are considered sacred cultural resources. The gathering of Tules is an example of how Native spirituality is fundamental to their way of life, in the celebration of human life, and the return to the earth in death.

The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs of Oregon (CTWSRO) co-signed an Operational Plan and Implementation Plan (five year plan) with the Service, a cooperative agreement indicating the roles of the parties for management of the Warm Springs National Fish Hatchery (NFH). Part of the current mission of the Warm Springs NFH integrated stock program is to provide 2650 fish to the mouth of the Deschutes River by releasing 750,000 smolts (+/- 10%) yearly to provide fishing opportunities at Sherar 's Falls. When the pre-season run prediction appears to be in line with this mission, Tribal fishing permits are issued to the public. This provides both a means of subsistence and a source of revenue to the CTWSRO. An additional facet of this mission is the maintenance and improvement of the wild run of Spring Chinook salmon in the Warm Springs River. By decreasing the fishing pressure on the natural run, the five year plan long term goal includes an escapement of 1000 wild adult salmon upriver, with a target population return of 2800 fish. This dual stock management approach is outlined in detail in the five year plan.

The CTWSRO has experienced unemployment rates as high as 80% in recent years. There are many tribal members in need of routine subsistence during these times. To that end, in 2010 operational protocols were modified in order to maximize the number of hatchery fish available for subsistence on a daily basis. Hatchery fish are transported on a daily basis from Warm Springs NFH to the Tribal freezer. The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC) began a Summer Chinook feasibility study for the Warm Springs NFH that same year, in an effort to provide fishing and subsistence opportunities to the tribe. Decisions regarding this study are still forthcoming.

The tribal Aspirations program (formerly Workforce Education and Development) provides limited summer job opportunities for young adults at the WSNFH. The CTWSRO provides

funding for these jobs, in the hope that the knowledge, skills and abilities learned while in a federal workplace will engender both an interest in science and future employment.

The CTWSRO also place a high value on Pacific Lamprey for subsistence. Service consultations began in 2012, as the number of Lamprey migrating through Sherar's Falls has declined in recent years. Further dialog is necessary to explore how this facet of Tribal subsistence can be facilitated and improved with science.

Climate change has caused severe impacts on the aquatic natural resources of the CTWSRO Reservation. The volume, temperature, and seasonality of water inputs on the Reservation have changed dramatically over the last three drought years. Although the Warm Springs NFH has had ample water for mission, frequent fires, sub-zero ambient temperatures, and high water temperatures have led to severe emergencies at the facility. In 2014, the complexity of pathogens in the Deschutes Basin system caused the Spring Chinook adult mortality rates to soar past 60%. At a recent Basin-wide meeting, cooperators agreed that it will take a unified effort to remediate and manage climate change for the 2015 Spring Chinook season.

The North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative (NPLCC) has been successfully collaborating with Tribes and First Nations since its inception. A series of projects were funded to assist Tribes and First Nations with utilizing Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) to understand how climate change is affecting cultural and natural resources. TEKs are the primary indigenous way of understanding relationships among species, ecosystems, and ecological processes and can play a vital role in climate change assessment and adaptation efforts that bridge human and environmental systems. These projects spanned from California to Alaska partnering with the Tolowa people, the Heiltsuk Nation, Organized Village of Kasaan, Qumiz Valley Indian Reservation and the Karuk, Yurok, Tulalip, and Swinomish Tribes. Collaboration with the Northwest Climate Science Center provided a total of \$345,650 in funds to eight projects. One of these projects is the Quileute Tribal School Paddle at Lake Ozette, Washington, in conjunction with NOAA.



Students ji-om Quileute Tribal School paddle on Lake Ozelle, WA

Tribes and First Nations in the NPLCC range are already feeling the effects of climate change. Cultural and natural resources have seen declines, proving the need for new adaptation efforts. In 2013 and 2014, the NPLCC funded four tribal subsistence projects addressing vulnerability and adaptation strategies for Pacific lamprey, Eulachon, and salmon. Results of these projects

will aid in climate change adaptation and prioritization for important tribal resources by developing risk models and analyzing climate change projections. Through joint funding from Alaska Climate Science Center (CSC), Northwest CSC and Bureau of Indian Affairs, these projects partnered closely with the Chugachmiut, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, Nooksack Indian Tribe, Takshanuk Watershed Council, and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium.



Photo: Resource managers and kupuna developing a seasonal calendar

With support from the Pacific Islands Climate Change Cooperative, scientists at the University of Hawaii at Manoa have undertaken research that is documenting TEK for the native Hawaiian community of Ka'upulehu, in the north Kona region on Hawaii Island. They are focusing on biological and cultural resources most valued by the community, and helping the community develop mechanisms to cope with challenges posed by climate change and other threats to traditional livelihoods and ways of life. Investigators are partnering with local community members, local resource managers and scientists to develop a variety of tools that will document and share the area's TEK. These include a seasonal calendar of observed natural cycles and events; maps showing the cultural landscape and potential effects of rainfall change, ocean acidification, and sea level rise; and a timeline of adaptation that records a chronology of significant change events, and integrates existing cultural, historical and natural history data with information provided by the community. Knowledge will be shared within and between Hawaiian communities through a knowledge base, observation network, and website. The community is also developing a protocol for community monitoring to pass on TEK, support adaptive management of community resources, and detect change.

Molokai is a small, rural, culturally Hawaiian island with much of its human infrastructure (including culturally critical ancient fishponds) located on the coast. Yet, predicted ecosystem response to climate change is not a major topic of discussion. The primary objective of this project is to bring together Hawaii's climate change scientists, Molokai's traditional fishpond managers, and other natural resource managers to share scientific and cultural knowledge and work together as a team to identify adaptive management strategies for two of Molokai's ancient fishponds. This will be accomplished through a short series of workshops that include field trips, presentations, brainstorming sessions, and cultural protocol. A secondary objective is to form new and strengthen existing partnerships between and among workshop participants to pool resources and better respond to climate change as an island. The community's strategic plan for

the ponds and upland areas will incorporate workshop results. The project lead NGO, Ka Honua Momona, will revise the local K-6 educational curriculum, film and circulate a climate change video featuring Molokai kupuna (elders), create a "community engagement protocol" to help scientists work with other small communities throughout Hawaii (and the Pacific), and share the community's experience with others in the natural resource and cultural management communities.



Community volunteers removing invasive mangrove trees to restore a Fishpond

The Regional Office Division of Fishery Resources continued and expanded collaboration, joint outreach, and strategic communications planning with tribal partners to support Pacific lamprey conservation efforts. Fishery Resources staff worked with the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC) to promote "The Lost Fish", a 24-minute video framing the cultural significance of Pacific lamprey to Columbia Basin Tribes. We worked with CRITFC to identify Service and area venues to show the video and staffed post-viewing interview panels to answer audience questions. We also worked with CRITFC and area tribes to include tribal cultural details and conservation activities in the first-ever Pacific lamprey multi-media. The Service also initiated Phase I of its Pacific lamprey geocaching travel bug project, which included the placement of four 'travel bugs' in the shape of Pacific lamprey into area communities. Two of the bugs were placed in caches on Yakama Indian Nation and Nez Perce Tribe lands, respectively, and included planning, outreach and logistical support from tribal staff and youth. The Pacific lamprey travel bug project is designed to raise people's awareness of Pacific lamprey, their importance in Pacific Northwest waterways, and the cultural significance of the fish to Columbia Basin and other area tribes.

Malheur NWR staff works closely with the Burns Paiute Tribe's Youth Program to provide field based scientific and cultural education opportunities for Tribal youth. Field trips to the refuge provide opportunities for Tribal youth to learn about refuge resources, meet with refuge scientists to learn about their programs, and access to culturally important plants for traditional weaving educational projects.

Eagle Creek NFH staff participated in the "Soul River" urban fly fishing outreach program at Peninsula Park, and collaborated with Trout Unlimited on an urban fly fishing camp to teach fly -tying and fishing to campers. NFH staff were also involved in a collaborative event with

General Electric, the U.S. Forest Service, and Trout Unlimited in hosting a kids free fishing day at Promontory Park near Estacada, Oregon.

Staff from the Columbia River Gorge NFH Complex provided staff support for the "Salmon in the Classroom" program that was provided to students of low income and minority populations at the following schools:

- 1) Mill A School, Cook, WA (<10% Native American)
- 2) Wishram School, Wishram, WA (50% Native American)
- 3) Dallesport Elementary, Dallespmi, WA (<10% Native American)
- 4) May Street Elementary, Hood River, OR (25% Hispanic)
- 5) Westside Elementary, Hood River, OR (20% Hispanic)
- 6) White Salmon Elementary, White Salmon, WA (30% Hispanic)
- 7) Col. Wright Elementary, The Dalles, OR (30% Hispanic)
- 8) Dry Hollow Elementary, The Dalles, OR (20% Hispanic)

The "Salmon in the Classroom" program involves bringing students to a hatchery for a tour, classroom tank rearing of salmon, classroom visits (salmon dissection, adaptation lesson, watershed model lesson), and a fish release field trip. Each of these classes also participate in a multi-agency outdoor, two-day event called "Water Jam" where the theme is water and the students move through a series of eight hands-on learning stations.

Region One Fishery Resources collaborated with the Diversity and Civil Rights (DCR) and External Affairs to expand the "Salmon in the Classroom" program into North Portland's Chief Joseph/Ockley Green School. This increased program delivery from three classes and 100 students at Boise-Eliot/Humbolt School to a total of 230 fourth grade students in both schools. Hundreds of additional students at Boise-Eliot/Humbolt and Chief Joseph/Ockely Green benefitted via the placement of live salmon in their schools' libraries and outreach conducted by the schools' principals, participating teachers and students to other K-8 students, school teachers, and parents.

Several programs were accomplished under the "Skyline Program", when the Service partnered with Vancouver Watershed Alliance (tour leaders), New Seasons Market (lunches), and the Skyline Crest and Vancouver Housing Authority (coordination, rides, oversight). The Service provided a classroom day and a hatchery tour. The programs included:

"Take Time to Connect to Nature" Project. This added a nature component to an inner city low income housing facility by providing hands-on, in the field nature experiences. Using a nearby neighborhood green space and field trips to other Pacific Northwest destinations, Service mentors and other volunteers led youth groups in activities such as Service field station and hatchery visits, guided nature walks with aquatic insect viewing, invasive species awareness, and a fishing day. The target audience was primarily elementary school students. Mentors interacted one-on-one with youth participants. The opportunity to experience nature in their own community and on local field trips led to an understanding and appreciation of the natural world which will hopefully inspire children with a sense of stewardship.

Fish Education Day at Trout Lake. In June 2014, Skyline Crest youth attended a fish education day at Trout Lake, Washington where they had opportunities to fish for rainbow trout, hear Native American salmon stories, and participate in a casting contest and games, as well as receive fish tattoos.

Nature Day with Columbia River Fisheries Program Office. In July 2014, twenty Skyline Crest youth ages 7 to 15 came to a Nature Day at the Service's Columbia River Fisheries Program Office. Ten Service staff members worked with twenty youth. Service staff helped lead the youth through a variety of activities to give them hands-on experience with nature, native species, and scientific methods including: Salmon Life Cycle; Native Fish; Radio Telemetry; Owl Biology and Pellet Dissection; and Salmon Dissection.

Local Watershed Field Trip: Burnt Bridge Creek. Given the proximity of the Skyline Crest housing facility to the Burnt Bridge Creek trail, it was a priority to provide a hands-on and in the field nature experience in the locally accessible Burnt Bridge watershed. Working with Vancouver Watershed Alliance, 20 youth participated in a field trip to the Creek in July 2014. The focus was on aquatic insect identification as a means for interactive learning. Through this program, youth have a chance to actively learn about their watershed and natural ecosystem functions to increase their understanding, appreciation, and stewardship of natural systems.

Little White Salmon NFH Tour. In August 2014, Skyline Crest youth made a field trip to a Service NFH to view hatchery returning salmon in the creek and in the hatchery runs as well as see juvenile hatchery fish and a hatchery overview. NFH staff biologist Cheri Anderson led the tour and two other Service staff assisted.

Region Eight

The Division of Fishery Resources modified the existing Service/Makah Tribe Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance Agreement to hire two additional tribal members who will work collaboratively with the Service. These members will gather creel data and interact with tribal anglers to share information about hatchery and tribal trust programs and species and will provide support for local community aquatic education and outreach. Community engagement, facilitating information exchange, and outreach to support mutual fisheries management objectives are critical project components. The Makah Indian Nation will benefit by enhancing its scientific expertise and capacity to manage local field research, data collection, interactions with tribal anglers, and conduct program outreach. These efforts are critical to moving ahead with long-term planning efforts, and would fulfill Nation priorities that have been hampered by a lack of funding.

A workshop targeted for aquatic biologists and managers of water bodies interested in learning about aquatic invasive species (AIS) and how to inspect watercraft to prevent the movement of AIS was held in August 2014 at the Pyramid Lake Museum and Visitors Center in Nixon, Nevada. The eight hour workshop was attended by 28 people including members of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe (PLPT) Fisheries Department, Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)

Complex staff, and the general public. The workshop was hosted by the Pyramid Lake Museum and Visitors Center, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe (PLPT) Fisheries Department, the Service's Region Eight AIS Program, and the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission. Participants received training and certification for Level One Watercraft Inspection. The training program gave a thorough overview of the species and problems they caused, and included information on outreach and education programs, basic mussel biology, distribution, transport vectors, mussel impacts and focuses on how to inspect for and decontaminate trailered watercraft suspected of having Zebra or Quagga mussels on-board.

Desert NWR Complex staff and the Regional Historic Preservation Officer hosted an annual consultation meeting with seven Southern Paiute Tribes (also known as Nuwuvi) in September 2014. Also, in September 2014, the same Service group, in partnership with the same Southern Paiute Groups (and other partners), hosted the annual Nuwuvi "Gathering for Our Mountains".

Las Vegas Ecological Services staff assisted the Moapa Band of Paiutes Tribe (Paiutes Tribe) with preparation of a Desert Tortoise Management Plan (Reservation-wide with appendix for the mitigation lands) in response to the development of two new solar energy projects on the Reservation.

Las Vegas Ecological Services staff assisted the Paiutes Tribe with pre-project planning for Endangered Species Act (ESA)-related issues and potential concerns for solar energy projects and project implementation for development of the Moapa Solar energy project (formerly KRoad Moapa), primarily relating to desert tortoise pre-construction surveys, clearances and technical assistance. Staff also informally consulted with the Paiutes Tribe and Tribal Council members on a potential high-speed off-highway racing event.

Reno Ecological Services staff has worked to ensure that tribal sovereignty, tribal rights and the Federal trust responsibility to Indian people receive full and fair recognition in the implementation of the ESA. Both the Federal team and the tribal acknowledged that species conservation could be best achieved through government-to-government collaboration and communication rather than through litigation.

Tribal representatives and the Reno Ecological Services staff have both acknowledged that species conservation is best achieved through government-to-government collaboration and communication rather than through litigation. Staff has also worked to identify areas where both federal and tribal conservation efforts can most effectively conserve fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats on the reservation. Staff member Will Cowan combines his knowledge of wildlife biology, conservation, as well as Indian law and policy, to develop the best possible conservation plans benefiting both the Tribe and the Service. Mr. Cowan attends forums for the exchange of information of complex issues among the Summit Lake Paiute Tribe and other area Tribes. On joint conservation projects, Mr. Cowan collects information, analyzes data, and disseminates findings in order to assist local Tribal Councils in developing plans and guidelines that will serve to facilitate future conservation projects. Mr. Cowan also provides technical assistance, education, and training to Tribal members. He has established and maintained mutual assistance networks among Tribes and fosters strategic alliances between them and organizations that work

with them. Mr. Cowan's work is key to an effective public relations and education program to Indian communities on behalf of the Service.

In November 2013, the Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office (CFWO) hosted the Service's Tribal Coordination Meeting with Southern California Indian tribes and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Southern California and Palm Springs Agencies with thirty tribes in attendance. In August 2014, the CFWO invited 33 tribes to attend the Service's upcoming Tribal Coordination Meeting with the same aforementioned agencies.

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT (BLM)

<http://www.blm.gov>

BLM Alaska

BLM's National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska Subsistence Advisory Panel

Established in 1998, the NPR-A Subsistence Advisory Panel (SAP) is an important advisory body to the BLM and helps insure the least amount of impact from oil and gas activities to subsistence hunting, fishing, and lifestyles of the indigenous Iñupiaq Eskimos. Representatives of tribal governments in NPR-A communities meet three times per year to consult with lessees/permittees on the timing, siting, and methods of proposed operations. SAP members review industry's proposed actions, help develop monitoring plans, and share perspectives from their communities. In 2010, the SAP expanded its purview to include reviewing and disseminating information on scientific research projects in the NPR-A.

SAP meetings are public and provide residents of remote NPR-A communities with opportunities to get informed on activities in their areas, to publicly discuss disproportionate impacts, and to identify and suggest methods to mitigate adverse effects on their minority, low-income, tribal population. Benefits for BLM include constant engagement with tribal representatives from whom BLM managers learn about local subsistence and socioeconomic conditions and concerns. BLM employees also become familiar with actual individual residents and learn how to present land management plans and permitted projects in terms that the public can understand. The SAP meetings are also a significant benefit to researchers who attend and present, where they are often able to make contacts for local logistical help for their projects, gather traditional and local knowledge about their research subjects, and gain experience presenting often highly scientific projects to the general public. The benefits of the meetings extend beyond those present because summaries of the meetings are widely shared through a large SAP General Interest email list that includes many North Slope residents, researchers, industry, and NGOs.

Regular Government-to-Government Consultation with Native Village of Nuiqsut to Discuss Environmental Justice Impacts of Nearby Oil Development

The BLM Arctic Field Office and Native Village of Nuiqsut have developed a solid working relationship during the past year as the BLM has been working on a Supplemental

Environmental Impact Statement for oil development (GMT1) near the community. The Council is a cooperating agency for the SEIS and has had the opportunity to discuss issues with BLM and all other cooperating agencies on weekly teleconferences. In addition, the Council and BLM Arctic Field Office conduct weekly government-to-government consultation by teleconference to discuss GMT1 and a broad range of concerns related to nearby oil development. The Environmental Justice analysis in the SEIS, which identified potentially high and disproportionate effects, was based on a thorough understanding of the potential impacts to subsistence and sociocultural systems gained through this close cooperation with the tribal council.

This ongoing and long-term consultation process has allowed the Council to gain a better understanding of the NEPA process, the specifics of this SEIS, and how best to negotiate from their position. Many potential new mitigation measures were developed in close cooperation with the tribal council and the Environmental Consequences sociocultural, subsistence, and environmental justice analyses depended heavily on and cited the consultation. The comments on the environmental justice sections in the Draft SEIS led the Arctic Field Office manager and anthropologist to work with the solicitor, clarify their understanding of the CEQ's guidance on analyzing environmental justice in NEPA, and produce a more defensible section for the Final SEIS. The process has allowed the Arctic Field Office Anthropologist to contribute with more relevant experience to the BLM Socioeconomic Environmental Justice working group that is producing BLM guidance on analyzing environmental justice issues for BLM projects.

BLM Arizona

Tribal Consultation Memorandum of Understanding

The BLM Arizona Strip District has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Kaibab-Paiute Tribe. The MOU defines how government-to-government and project specific consultation will take place between the Tribe and the BLM on a wide range of projects. The MOU provides the basis for early and comprehensive involvement of the Tribe in review of proposed BLM actions in the Arizona Strip District, and provide both the Tribe and the District with mutually understood and clearly stated processes designed to gain Tribal viewpoints and address Tribal concerns in BLM planning and implementation efforts.

BLM California

The Bureau of Land Management in California (BLM-CA) is faced with unique challenges in carrying out its Environmental Justice mandates including management of lands that cover great distances and are located in, or near, widely divergent and numerous ethnic and socioeconomic population areas. California also contains varying climates and ecosystems along with differing population concentrations. Added to these long standing challenges, is a national priority on renewable energy development which features prominently on BLM lands in southern California. Despite these challenges, BLM-CA not only strives to insure its programs, policies and activities do not disproportionately or negatively affect the health or environment of minority, low-income, or tribal communities, it is proactive in providing opportunities to

underserved populations through a variety of projects, programs, agreements, partnerships and contracts.

PROJECTS:

Renewable Energy Tribal Outreach

Through numerous outreach efforts, including the Tribal-Federal Leadership Conference, BLM Field Office Open Houses, specific renewable energy consultations and technical meetings, 40 federally recognized Desert Area Tribes were provided with forums to engage with Federal executives (DOI, BLM, OIS, SOL, FW, BIA) to identify issues, concerns, interests and to share information regarding any and all natural and cultural resources in the California Desert Area pertinent to renewable energy and land use planning in the California Desert Conservation Area Plan (CDCAP), currently being amended, and the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP), currently in draft and available for comment. These outreach efforts also provided Tribes with technical support, maps, presentations, information, data, contacts, answers to tribal questions, and clarifications of tribal issues.

Tribes were made aware of important issues and statewide processes which they may not have awareness. BLM received a deeper understanding of tribal concerns and valuable input as to those areas that are highly significant to tribes that will help the BLM plan and manage in a more informed and fair manner.

Cultural Resources Protocol Agreement

The State Protocol Agreement, between BLM-California and the California and Nevada State Historic Preservation Officers, regarding the manner in which the BLM will meet its responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act and the National Programmatic Agreement, was revised this year. BLM-California mounted a special outreach effort to California Tribes and the public, providing them with the draft document and soliciting their comments and suggestions

Tribes were given opportunities to provide input into a statewide cultural resources process. BLM received more insight into tribal concerns and valuable input in which the government might otherwise not have received.

Youth Summit – Multicultural Experiences in the Outdoors

BLM- hosted the 3rd Annual Outdoor Summit for Youth. The Summit was sponsored to strengthen and expand partnerships with youth organizations and other partners that educate, engage, and employ underserved youth from diverse communities and backgrounds. Partner organizations included the US Forest Service (FS), Bureau of Reclamation, Generation Green, National Parks Service, Outdoor Latino, Sacramento City Unified School District, CCC, Student Conservation Association (SCA), Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA), AmeriCorps, Outward Bound, CA State University, Sacramento (CSUS), CSUS College Assistance Migrant Program, CSU, Chico and the CA State Parks. The one-day summit expanded the horizons of California's youth to include the outdoors and the field of natural resources. The summit brought together 500 participants and more than 50 organizations that support young people in California.

Participants, included youth from the Generation Green Program, a natural resources program that targets underserved youth in California, and six high schools from Hispanic Serving School Districts.

The Summit provided a framework for creating positive action and change in California to increase outdoor experiences for youth through partnerships. Youth organizations and young people were given an opportunity to learn of employment and educational opportunities.

City Summer Science Camp

Archaeologists from the BLM Bishop Field Office teamed with the Student Conservation Association and the Bishop Paiute Tribe to introduce primarily rural elementary school students to the amazing science of archaeology in the Bishop City Summer Science Camp. After an introduction to local history, forty students participated in guided activities, such as traditional Paiute games, native seed milling, artifact identification, and atlatl throwing, which were designed to expand their new cultural knowledge. The presentation was one of several projects the Bishop Field Office is working with the Bishop Paiute Tribe to share information about native culture and the value of preserving our shared past.

A future generation is engaged in local history which involves the BLM's role in the area and local tribal culture. BLM garners a closer relationship with the Tribe and local youth is introduced to preservation and the value of archaeology. It was also an opportunity for the Student Conservation Association's WildCorps to build their work experience toward future careers.

Bishop - Tribal Site Monitoring Training

Archaeological site monitoring training by BLM's Bishop Field Office was provided to members of the Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone, Big Pine Paiute, Fort Independence Paiute and Timbisha Shoshone Tribes. Though the training reflected the California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program, it was custom tailored for tribal members. Classroom activities, field exercises, an introduction to the Archaeological Resources Protection Act and guidance on working with law enforcement was included in the training.

Tribal members are provided training which helps empower them in the area of cultural resources protection.

GEO Environmental Science and Design Academy

The BLM participated in the Grant High School's GEO Environmental Science and Design Academy. Grant is an urban high school in an economically challenged area of Sacramento with a diverse student body, 50% of who are English as a second language students. The GEO Environmental Science and Design Academy teaches students how to create healthy and sustainable communities through a variety of programs. This year, a speakers' bureau from BLM, Fish and Wildlife Service and Bureau of Reclamation was created to provide a series of career presentations to 25 classes at Grant High. Additionally, the 3 agencies provided summer internships with students integrated into various program areas, events and field trips.

Students acquired real-life experiences, exposure to environmental stewardship on the public lands and earned stipends via internships. BLM's mission of education and outreach is accomplished with future visitors to public lands which will be educated as to the concepts of conservation and preservation.

California Archaeological Site Steward Program (CASSP) Training Workshop

The CASSP is a program of the Society for California Archaeology funded primarily by one or a combination of federal agencies that receive grants from the Off-Highway Motor Vehicular Recreation (OHMVR) Division of California State Parks. Volunteers are trained through the program to steward archaeological sites in California. The BLM Needles Field Office hosted a training workshop for 21 students, 15 of whom were from the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe.

Cultural resources are preserved for current and future generations. The Tribe is empowered to preserve resources that have direct associations to the Tribe. The BLM's cultural resources program is assisted by maximizing the number of sites monitored per year.

Native American Cultural Resource Field School

The Needles Field Office cultural resources staff facilitated the training of a group of 19 individuals from seven tribes by providing logistics and field support, planning, site records, maps and teaching data. The partners in the six-day field school included Nextera, San Manuel Band of Missions Indians, Forest Service and BLM. The Tribes represented included the Chemehuevi, Cocopah, Colorado River Indian, Torres-Martinez, Pueblo of Laguna, Pala and Yaqui Tribes. The field school incorporated survey, recordation and field methods, general archaeological methods and presented data regarding the cultural resource management infrastructure in California. Training took place in a classroom setting as well as on-the-ground.

Tribes are provided a deeper understanding of archaeology so they may better assess the adequacy of archaeological work and proposed projects. Archaeologists and tribal members can work side-by-side and gain a better understanding of each other's point of view. The field school provides additional trained field personnel who will cumulatively cover more survey area and assist the BLM to fill in the archaeological record.

Native American Appreciation Day

Redding Field Office assisted the Bend Elementary School, located in rural northern California, celebrate annual Native American appreciation day at the school. Students were immersed in traditional Native American activities with BLM staff; presenting authentic artifacts, providing activities such as re-enacting traditional methods of flint napping obsidian and seed grinding with mortar and pestle. Children learned the proper handling of artifacts and the archaeology methods and procedures. Children were introduced to traditional Native American activities and ways to respect and protect the cultural resources that surround them.

Cache Creek Natural Area (CCNA) Outreach

Tuleyome, an environmental organization, and BLM partnered to bring disadvantaged children from the Sacramento area to CCNA to learn about the outdoors and archaeology. Artifacts, graphics and maps were used to discuss local archaeology in relation to world events. After

discussing the importance of heritage preservation, a site was visited and mapped. Additionally, the children learned about the surrounding oak woodlands and native versus exotic plants.

Children acquired an understanding of the significance of protecting heritage and natural resources.

Family Science Workshops

The BLM Palm Springs Field Office and the Palm Springs Unified School District cooperated to provide Family Science Workshops which were presented free of charge to underserved communities. These programs introduce students to BLM scientists who offered incentive and ideas for conducting quality science projects which were well received by students, parents, and teachers.

Workshops prepared children to investigate the natural world using scientific methods. Curiosity was stimulated using the habitat they were already familiar with. Additionally, families were directed to local natural areas for family outings. Children had the opportunity to interact with BLM scientists with hands-on investigations in an informal, friendly atmosphere.

Off Highway Vehicle Education and Interpretation The BLM Healthy Initiative for Kids in the Environment (HIKE) Youth Crew presented an assortment of Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) interactive educational activities, including interpretive displays and plays to over 1,000 people, mostly children. Funding from the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division was provided. Safety gear to try on, props for skits, a Prize Wheel for quizzing Tread Lightly! ethics, safety brochures, local maps and button maker to make custom safety messages was all available for participants. A better understanding of where to ride OHVs, trail courtesy, safety practices, essential gear and good habits to promote environmental stewardship were all part of the events. The pre and post activity quiz of participants revealed an amazing jump in their understanding of the OHV safety messages. Events included Citizen Science Week at Riverside Metropolitan Museum, Coachella Valley Wildflower Festival at the Visitor Center of Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, City of Palm Desert Safety Fair, Boys and Girls Clubs of Mecca and Desert Hot Springs, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts troops and the Earth Day Celebration at Riverside County Parks' Gilman Historic Ranch.

Low income communities were provided with a hands-on program. Community youth learned about safety in the outdoors, responsible land use, recreation opportunities not far from home, improved safe OHV riding habits and inspiration to get outdoors. BLM will benefit from increased visitors that are better informed.

Connect 2 Summer Camp with Creative Afterschool Program for Success (CAPS)

Through a partnership between BLM Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, California State Parks and the San Bernardino City Unified School District's Creative Afterschool Program for Success (CAPS), an outdoor adventure at Mount San Jacinto State Park created summertime memories for over 300 urban youth. Known as CAPS' Connect-2-Summer Camp, urban youth ages 9-14 learned about nature first-hand. Young adults in the

BLM's Youth Initiative Incentive Program (Youth Crew) pitched-in to present environmental education games and activities. For five days BLM's Youth Crew worked with Mount San Jacinto State Park staff and volunteers to provide a wide range of experiences including; Leave No Trace (LNT) ethics, mammal and tree identification, geology labs and bird behaviors studies. The older campers played roles as Junior Cabin Leaders to gain experience in leadership. Though the group was large -- over 80 campers per day - for many it was their first visit to a forest. For all, it was memorable.

Urban youth were engaged and educated in a forest setting. BLM representatives from similar cultural backgrounds made for a special and personal connection. BLM benefits from an educated next generation of public land users.

Tribal Monitor Training:

BLM-California Barstow Field Office, in partnership with the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians and Southern California Edison, provided training to Native American individuals interested in obtaining Tribal Monitor and Archaeological Technician positions. Applicable environmental and cultural resource laws, how to identify sites, fee schedules, ethics and potential conflict of interest issues were presented.

Opens new avenues of potential earning power for Native American individuals and produces more knowledgeable stewards of the tribal cultural heritage. BLM benefits by building better working relationships with Tribes.

BLM-CA Outreach to Schools, Career Fairs, County Fairs, Local Community Groups

Presentations to local disadvantaged schools and youth groups, booths at Career and County Fairs and presentations to local community groups by Field Office Staff. Staff in all program areas regularly presented resource information, available training or volunteer opportunities and potential careers in federal land management agencies.

Youth and underserved populations have access to information about natural and cultural resources, career opportunities and great outdoors opportunities. BLM builds goodwill in the local communities and a respect and understanding of the natural and cultural resources treasures on the public lands.

PARTNERSHIPS:

Public Lands Education Project (PLEP)

BLM-California strengthened its efforts to ensure diversity in its workforce to better reflect the diversity of the Nation it serves through PLEP. The BLM, National Park Service, and US Forest Service work together with community-based organizations, such as Raices Cultura, Esperanza Center, Friends of the Desert Mountains and local Tribes, to leverage resources and combine programs to accomplish mutual goals benefitting youth. The PLEP is a collaborative effort to educate, engage, and employ underserved youth from inner city and rural communities that are diverse in race, gender, and ethnicity. Youth work together to tackle conservation issues, learn from Native communities, build trails, enhance recreational opportunities and restore cultural

and historic landmarks. The PLEP has a unique opportunity to reach out to underserved populations and to ensure that all Americans enjoy our natural and cultural resources. The PLEP follows an established curriculum, including: cultural and environmental literacy, physical challenge, team building and leadership, stewardship, and exposure to outdoor careers. This project also introduces and educates youth and their families how to access recreational opportunities and career options with three federal land management agencies.

The partnership provides outreach to populations that are under-represented on public lands and provides training and learning opportunities for youth and families. BLM is provided with potential future employees and a public educated on the values of the public lands.

Inmate Crews

Through agreements, BLM works with the State of California to provide hazardous fuels reduction, trail maintenance and construction, ecosystem maintenance and forest and rangeland restoration projects as well as fire suppression activities throughout the State. Using cooperative agreements, BLM is able to utilize minimum security prison inmate crews who perform this work on BLM land. During the projects, inmates learn about the animals, plants and the environment.

Inmates tend to be from underserved or disadvantaged groups. In addition, inmate crews perform meaningful work, obtain job experience, receive a small stipend, education on the natural environment, and view firsthand the effects of wildland fires. BLM receives cost savings labor to improve public lands and eventually a more knowledgeable individual who will appreciate the great outdoors.

California Conservation Corps

Through an assistance agreement with California Conservation Corps, a state agency, BLM-California provides disadvantage and minority youth, 18-25, work and a conservation experience. The work involves cross-country hiking over rough terrain and camping with Field Office employees, to accomplish habitat and riparian restoration work. Other state or federal agencies may participate, augmenting BLM staff. Participants may be provided information on natural history, geology and ecology as well as the challenges land and wildlife management face. For some of the Corps participants, it is their first time living, working and observing the great outdoors firsthand.

Participants receive a stipend, environmental education and training in natural resource work which may be the first step to a career. BLM receives restored habitat, water quality and more knowledgeable individuals who will appreciate nature and natural resources.

Los Angeles Conservation Corps

Through an assistance agreement with Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC), BLM-California provides at-risk youth, 18-24, with opportunities for job skills training, education and work experience. Corps members work on fire fuel reduction, trail building and maintenance, habitat restoration and erosion control. For many participants, it is the first time they are in a

non-urban environment and working with individuals from different backgrounds. Most LACC youth teams are assigned to conservation projects in the California Desert District.

Participants receive a stipend, develop self-esteem and gain skills that may lead to self-sufficiency and a newfound love of nature. BLM receives cost savings, proves itself to be a good neighbor, achieve additional environmental restoration and a more knowledgeable citizen who can appreciate the BLM's mission and the value of natural and cultural resources.

Student Conservation Association

Through an assistance agreement with the Student Conservation Association, who actively recruits from environmental justice populations, BLM provides opportunities for the SCA volunteers to be involved in a variety of projects. Self-sufficient crews camp on-site and move seasonally between higher and lower elevations to accomplish work. The BLM-California Desert District field offices have worked with the SCA's Desert Restoration Corps (DRC) to conduct desert restoration in Wilderness areas of Southern California which has facilitated the restoration of thousands of acres of desert habitat.

This innovative partnership reconnected America's youth with the outdoors while benefitting public lands of the National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS). BLM provides training to increase crew members' resource skills and their ability to compete for future natural resource jobs. BLM efficiently uses federal funds to manage NLCS lands and trains potential future land managers.

American Conservation Experience

Through an assistance agreement with the American Conservation Experience (ACE), who actively recruits from environmental justice populations, BLM provides opportunities for ACE volunteers to be involved in projects in wilderness areas on BLM-CA managed lands. Through this partnership, volunteers obtain skills, knowledge of conservation careers and work in culturally diverse areas.

Participants receive a solid grounding in conservation methods and skills gaining a more complete understanding of natural resource management while exploring possible career paths. Participants develop skills, self-confidence and a work ethic that can provide a base for future jobs. BLM receives cost savings, accomplishes greater conservation goals and more knowledgeable individuals who will understand and support federal land managers' efforts and the value of public spaces.

Farmworker Institute of Education and Leadership Development Conservation Corps (FIELD)

BLM entered into a partnership with FIELD to provide trail and conservation work on public land. Founded by Cesar Chavez in 1978, FIELD's mission is to "promote economic and social prosperity in rural communities for Latinos, working people and their families," and is committed to effect positive change in rural communities. The BLM partnership was initiated with conservation work in the BLM's Ridgecrest Field Office area.

Participants receive funding, develop self-esteem and gain skills that may lead to careers and further education and training. BLM receives cost savings, proves itself to be a good neighbor, achieves additional environmental restoration, and a more knowledgeable citizens who can understand the value of natural and cultural resources.

Strategic Partnership Coalition

In the BLM Arcata Field Office area, the Strategic Partnership Coalition meets quarterly which includes federally recognized tribes, BLM and other federal and state governmental agencies in the region (i.e., Forest Service, National Parks Service, State Parks and CalTrans). Meetings are held at different venues and are co-hosted by a Tribe and a state or federal agency. Topics of interest to all participants are presented followed by discussions and participant updates of current individual projects or issues.

Tribes are more fully informed about federal projects, policies or new regulations that may affect them. BLM and other agencies avoid duplication of efforts and become more informed of tribal and other agency issues and concerns.

Wild Horse Training Partnership

The BLM and the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department initiated a new program in which Rio Cosumnes Correctional Center inmates gentle wild horses gathered from BLM-managed public lands. They will train the animals for riding, making the animals more desirable for adopters. Inmates will be responsible for the care and feeding of the horses as well. The inmates, many of whom are from minority or economically disadvantaged groups, will be instructed and supervised by a horse trainer who has experience gentling and training wild horses. The program is able to house up to 200 wild horses and will also provide holding space for wild horses awaiting public adoption.

Jail inmates learn new vocational and life skills experiences through therapeutic benefits as a result of training and caring for wild horses. BLM is better able to complete its mission of managing wild horse populations as more excess wild horses can be adopted.

Human Health Impacts from Abandoned Mines & Mining Sites

Abandoned mine facilities release a number of unhealthy hazardous substances which can migrate to other properties, creeks and rivers. The BLM, along with other federal and state agencies and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's), mitigate these hazards in a variety of ways including; hazard education and arsenic and mercury clean-up.

Subsistence families from various ethnic minorities have fishing traditions. Lack of subsistence resources and these traditions may have fishermen/families eating fish out of creeks near mines. As a result Vietnamese, Laotian, Hmong, Russian, Hispanic and Native American families in California may consume fish that are contaminated with heavy metals, principally Mercury which have extensive health hazards. BLM has an extensive effort to educate fishermen of such waters of the dangers through signage in multiple languages and pamphlets. Partnerships with NGOs have been established to talk with the fishermen.

Backyard Arsenic Cleanup – BLM enters individual property under a time critical removal action to eliminate contaminated materials from yards adjacent to the Kelly Mine as arsenic levels may pose health risks from contamination from the mine.

BLM works with state and other federal agencies to identify areas in need of clean-up along with working with responsible parties to ensure they are continuing the necessary work. Pollution in mines is mitigated to prevent mercury from migrating off site into other properties, creeks and rivers. Health is improved. BLM reduces risk of litigation, increase service to community and improves public perception of the agency's relevance to the ethnic communities.

Illegal Dump Remediation and Prevention Partnerships

Illegal Dumping on Public lands occurs most often in rural low income areas where residents may be required to travel distances and pay a transfer station to dispose of trash. Illegal dumping threatens human health and safety, the environment and economic development. BLM provides remediation of the sites and education to prevent the practice. Local communities are made aware of plans and actions and comments, concerns or questions residents may have are addressed in meetings or other outreach activities. The Bureau also works with state and local agencies and NGO to host clean up days, free days at transfer stations, increased signage, installation of cameras, distribution of brochures and carried out enforcement actions. For a second year BLM, in partnership with Nevada County and Waste Management, sponsored a Tire Amnesty Day to encourage proper disposal of old tires.

Aesthetics are improved, habitat for plants and wildlife is restored, residents and visitors are protected from health and safety hazards. BLM is able to further its mission, be a good neighbor and garner public support.

Healthy Initiative for Kids in the Environment (HIKE) Youth Crew

HIKE Youth Crew is a highly successful initiative formed by the Santa Rosa San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Staff (Monument), that has created a team of minority and low income community members, 15-25 years old, selected based on their interest in helping others learn about the environment. The team performs environmental education, trail work, stewardship projects and outreach in schools and at community events for the Monument (co-managed by BLM and US Forest Service) in the Coachella Valley. The Project's aim is to create a team of young educators that reflect the faces in the community, therefore having role models that resemble the target audience. Many materials provided at community and school events are bilingual. The program is funded by the BLM's Youth Incentive Initiative with supplemental support from Hands on the Lands, Anderson Foundation and Friends of the Desert Mountains. Partners have included the USFS, Natural Science Collaborative, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, Friends of the Desert Mountains, Chino Cienega Foundation, Coachella Valley/Desert Sands/Palm Springs Unified School Districts

Underserved and minority youth and young adults are provided with a stipend, trained and inspired to consider careers in natural resource management. Bilingual minority communities are better served with hands-on experiences and information and more easily identifiable role

models. The Monument serves the community by presenting free natural science education programs and is seen in a more informed and positive light by the local community.

Volcanic Tableland Cooperative Management

Through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), the BLM Bishop Field Office and the Bishop Paiute Tribe (Tribe) continue their cooperative management of the BLM Volcanic Tablelands. A panel of BLM and tribal representatives meets quarterly to discuss ideas and concerns outside of the formal consultation process. The Tribe has prehistoric and historic connections with these lands and a direct interest in ensuring the land be protected from degradation and cultural properties be preserved. The area includes over 80 thousand acres of undeveloped BLM lands. The MOA facilitates cooperation and has been used to protect cultural resources from vandalism. This year saw a joint public archaeology outreach by BLM and the Tribe. Several joint projects designed for resource protection were also completed this year.

Tribes are more fully informed about federal projects which helped manage areas that are important to the Tribe. BLM garners a closer relationship with the Tribe, trains possible future land managers and obtains a cost savings in managing projects.

Desert Hot Springs Schools Volunteer Corps

A BLM Palm Springs Field Office youth initiative to involve Coachella Valley students in outdoor activities through volunteerism has been highly successful especially in the city of Desert Hot Springs schools. For many of the low income and/or minority high school and middle school students, the program offers outdoor activities, locales, information and experiences the children might otherwise not be exposed to and which they can share with their families. Students and their dedicated teachers assist BLM a variety of projects including clean up days, trail work and events such as National Public Lands Day.

Volunteering with BLM exposes the children to the value of public lands and strengthens their stewardship ethic which is then passed on to their families. BLM benefits from informed visitors and, as budgets shrink, can accomplish “more with less” for the local community.

Fitzhugh Creek Partnership

BLM Alturas Field Office’s Fitzhugh Creek (Creek) Project is a long standing undertaking to keep the Creek healthy and functioning and to revive its lost ability to support wild trout. Crews from the American Conservation Experience and Cal Trout worked to improve livestock control fences and erosion control structures that are keys to creek restoration. At-risk and minority youths were engaged in a tangible, meaningful conservation project. Participants were involved in important maintenance activities such as maintaining fences, constructing and maintaining stream crossing structures, erosion control, juniper removal, survey and monitoring.

Underserved youth were provided employment, occupation skills, educational and career mentorship. BLM managers and staff were energized by tangible results and BLM overall benefits from the work accomplished and the education of future natural resource stewards.

Hat Creek Youth Initiative

California Trout's Hat Creek Youth Initiative (HCYI) continued during the summer of 2014. Support was from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, BLM Alturas Field Office and other community and educational entities. Hundreds of hours of natural resource mentorship guidance were provided by the USFS, BLM, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Pit River Tribe and other important partners. Conservation job-readiness internships for at-risk and minority youths from disadvantaged rural and Native American backgrounds was also provided. This initiative engaged participants in hands-on conservation projects for the restoration of the Hat Creek Wild Trout Area in Northeast California. Participants focused on; pulling invasive weeds, learning about watershed restoration and completing snorkel surveys. The HCYI connected youth with government officials, researchers, tribal members and NGOs. Participants garnered an increased knowledge of natural resource management, career opportunities and job skills.

Underserved youth were given employment, increased knowledge of natural resource management, job skills, educational and career mentorship and connected to government officials, researchers, tribal members and NGO's. Stewardship and community engagement was fostered. BLM benefits by assisting in the creation of the next generation of watershed stewards.

Old Woman Mountains Wilderness & Preserve Partnership

The Native American Land Conservancy (NALC) and the Needles Field Office partnership manages, protects and preserves the endangered historic and biological resources in the area of Old Woman Wilderness that are of cultural importance to the Tribes of the area, as well as, providing access for tribal members to enjoy the area and its resources in traditional ways. The partnership was founded on common management objectives. Work continues towards the finalization of a Memorandum of Understanding, minimizing impacts to the land from cattle and Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) use. Projects are executed jointly and generally involve both public and Preserve lands. The NALC, with BLM assistance, harnesses grants to cover project costs, while BLM provides materials, studies to comply with NEPA and Section 106 and equipment.

The public receives the benefit of being granted access to the Preserve under Preserve staff oversight. The BLM is able to conduct rehabilitation and reduce unauthorized entry into wilderness OHV incursion areas, while building upon relations of the BLM, NALC and Chemehuevi Tribes. Tribes have an area to visit where they can enjoy various natural and cultural resources that are considered important.

Hands On The Land - Fish Slough

Hands on the Land is a program of field classrooms created by federal, public and private partners using natural, historical and archaeological sites to educate and connect students, teachers, families, and volunteers to public lands nationwide. Fish Slough, a BLM Area of Critical Environmental Concern, is a unique desert wetland with rare plants and fish, surrounded by geological features and archaeological sites. The area has been vulnerable to off-roading, artifact theft, vandalism and habitat destruction. Together with the Eastern Sierra Institute for Collaborative Education, the Bishop Field Office established a school-based field and classroom

program that provides all 2nd and 4th grade students in Inyo County the opportunity to participate in field trips to Fish Slough. The county has a 36% minority population and portions of the county are economically challenged. Most students visited Fish Slough for the first time through the program. This year all 6 public elementary schools in the Owens Valley participated with 400-450 students from 15-20 classrooms.

Students are educated and more connected to the land. BLM educates residents of the county on the benefits of protecting the environment and cultural resources which in turn can reduce future damage to the area.

BLM Montana

Crow Tribe Facilitation of Regional Intertribal Workshops An agreement was created with the Crow Tribe for the purpose of facilitating regional Intertribal Workshops and meetings for Montana and North/South Dakota. The intent of the partnership is to establish a process to formally facilitate the logistical challenges of holding these regional intertribal workshops. The BLM and Crow Tribe of Indians agree that the scope of the project is for the Crow Tribe of Indians to serve as the “host” for regional intertribal workshop meetings. One series of workshops was held with up to 13 American Indian Tribes from South Dakota and eastern Montana.

These efforts support the following goals: Goal 1- Ensure responsible officials are aware of the provisions of EO 12898 and are able to identify and amend programs, policies, and activities under their purview that may have disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority, low-income, or tribal populations. Goal 2-Ensure minority, low-income, and tribal populations are provided with the opportunity to engage in meaningful involvement in the Department’s decision making processes. Goal 3- identify and address environmental impacts that may results in disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority, low-income, or tribal populations.

Salish-Kootenai College Student Internship Program (Ongoing Partnership)

The purpose of this agreement is to develop and implement a formal, collaborative tribal college student internship program between SKC and the BLM Missoula Field Office. The internship would advance the education and training/experience of Native American students pursuing degrees in disciplines (forestry, hydrology, cultural, wildlife biology, etc.) associated with natural resource management. The internship would be for 12 weeks (mid-June through mid-September) during the summer field season. As part of their degrees, SKC requires students to take part in an internship program and write an undergraduate thesis based on their internship experience. This existing agreement was continued and supported with an additional \$40,000 in MT/DKS BLM FY14 end of year funding.

These efforts support the following goals: Goal 4- Use existing grant programs, training, and educational opportunities, as available, to aid and empower minority, low-income, and tribal populations in their efforts to build and sustain environmentally and economically sound communities.

The Bridging the Divide Natural and Cultural Resources Field Camp for Tribal High School Youth (Ongoing Partnership)

This program is jointly sponsored by the MT/DAKs BLM and the Beaverhead-Deer Lodge NF. The goal of the program is to develop a formal educational curriculum in partnership with American Indian tribes that places equal emphasis on outdoor experience and scientific exploration, expanding cultural heritage awareness, and teaming students with tribal elders. This agreement was continued and supported with additional \$15,000 in funding provided in FY14 by the DOI-BLM Youth Corps Projects.

These efforts support the following goals: Goal 4- Use existing grant programs, training, and educational opportunities, as available, to aid and empower minority, low-income, and tribal populations in their efforts to build and sustain environmentally and economically sound communities.

Chief Dull Knife College and the Northern Cheyenne Tribe-Ecoregional Ethnographic Assessment)

The intent of the program is to form a partnership with Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (THPOs), tribal colleges and universities, respective State Historic Preservation Offices, and/or other interested Federal agencies or departments. The intent of the partnership will be to produce Ecoregional Ethnographic Assessments that can be integrated into developing ecoregional direction for the future management of public lands in the MT/DAKs. The initial pilot effort is intended to build upon existing information and prepare an ecoregional ethnographic analysis of the Northern Cheyenne Tribes aboriginal occupation and use of the Northwestern Plains and Middle Rocky Mountain Ecoregions.

The goals of the study are to:

- 1) initiate a process to identify, document, evaluate, and map places of traditional religious or cultural significance to the tribe;
- 2) identify culturally important plant and animal species, and their associated ecosystems, that are critical for the maintenance of Northern Cheyenne culture and traditions;
- 3) delineate appropriate conservation elements; and
- 4) assess the potential effects of identified change agents upon identified conservation elements.

This agreement was continued and supported with an additional \$45,000 in Renewable Energy funding provided in FY14. These efforts support the following goals: Goal 3- identify and address environmental impacts that may result in disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority, low-income, or tribal populations. Goal 4- Use existing grant programs, training, and educational opportunities, as available, to aid and empower minority, low-income, and tribal populations in their efforts to build and sustain environmentally and economically sound communities.

Little Big Horn College Native Plant Conservation Program Development

For the past several months the MT/DKs State Office and the NRCS have been in discussions with Little Big Horn College about the possibility of developing a Conservation Education

Curriculum at the tribal college. The Conservation Education Curriculum proposed would include: developing the capability to sustain a native seed/plant material collection center at the college; creating curriculum elements that emphasize ethnobotany and invasive species management, and the development of conservation outreach programs for local youth and surrounding communities. In addition to the development of the conservation education curriculum the long term goal will be to create a native seed/plant material collection center at the college that is similar to the program at Special K ranch. Such a program would be able serve as a source of local native plant material in support of BLM reclamation, landscape rehabilitation, and sage grouse conservation efforts and would have the potential to be a significant economic benefit to the Crow Tribe. Partnership efforts have resulted in the successful receipt of an NFWF conservation education grant of \$100,000 from Phillips 66 to initiate program development.

Developing a native plant conservation partnership will provide the college and tribal students with new research, educational and job opportunities. These efforts support the following goals: Goal 3 - Identify and address environmental impacts that may results in disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority, low-income, or tribal populations. Goal 4 - Use existing grant programs, training, and educational opportunities, as available, to aid and empower minority, low-income, and tribal populations in their efforts to build and sustain environmentally and economically sound communities.

Apsáalooke Cultural Enrichment Committee Outreach

For the past several years the MT/Daks has reached out to Crow Tribal elders that constitute the Apsáalooke Cultural Enrichment Committee by organizing and providing field trips to areas of historical significance to the Crow Tribe. This year's efforts involved arranging field trips to the historic Crow Agency at Absarokee, Montana in support of local efforts to acquire the property for historical interpretation, and to important areas located south of Big Timber, MT.

These efforts support the following goals: Goal 4 - Use existing grant programs, training, and educational opportunities, as available, to aid and empower minority, low-income, and tribal populations in their efforts to build and sustain environmentally and economically sound communities.

Regional Tribal Consultation Meetings

Staff from the MT/DAKs participated in a Northern Plains Tribal Summit sponsored by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and organized and facilitated other Regional Intertribal Consultation meetings for proposed oil and gas pipelines in North Dakota associated with the Baaken oil fields (Bear Den II Pipeline, Hess-Hawkeye Pipeline, Bakken Link Pipeline).

These efforts support the following goals: Goal 1 - Ensure responsible officials are aware of the provisions of EO 12898 and are able to identify and amend programs, policies, and activities under their purview that may have disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority, low-income, or tribal populations. Goal 2 - Ensure minority,

low-income, and tribal populations are provided with the opportunity to engage in meaningful involvement in the Department's decision making processes. Goal 3 - identify and address environmental impacts that may result in disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority, low-income, or tribal populations.

EPA Environmental Justice Workshop

In cooperation with the Environmental Protection Agency and other federal agencies the North Dakota Field Office and Montana/Dakotas State Office provided input and helped facilitate the development of a workshop and follow up meeting for concerned tribal membership and allottee associations entitled: "Three Affiliated Tribes and Indigenous Stakeholders Collaborative Approaches, Dispute Resolution and Environmental Laws Workshop".

These efforts support the following goals: Goal 1 - Ensure responsible officials are aware of the provisions of EO 12898 and are able to identify and amend programs, policies, and activities under their purview that may have disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority, low-income, or tribal populations. Goal 2 - Ensure minority, low-income, and tribal populations are provided with the opportunity to engage in meaningful involvement in the Department's decision making processes. Goal 3- identify and address environmental impacts that may result in disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority, low-income, or tribal populations.

BLM Nevada

Battle Mountain Bootstraps Program

Since 2005, the BLM Battle Mountain District has partnered with the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension to administer the program, designed to put out-of-school ("at-risk") young adults to work, teaching them useful life and employment skills, while accomplishing wildlife habitat enhancement projects, especially for Greater Sage-Grouse in central Nevada. From June through October each year, the crew uses chainsaws to remove encroaching pinyon and juniper trees from carefully selected wildlife habitat. In addition to reducing pinyon and juniper invasion of sage-grouse habitat, Bootstraps crews have installed or repaired numerous fences to protect wetlands. Although the program began very modestly, Bootstraps crews have grown steadily over the years, where crews now comprise 12 to 18 young adults. Bootstraps was one of only 20 programs nationwide to receive the 2013 Partners in Conservation Award from the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Participants first undergo a 2-week classroom session that covers field safety and job-search skills, including resume writing and job interviewing. Youth participants who do not have a High School diploma also are given time to study for their general equivalency degree (GED). Since its inception in 2005, more than 130 at-risk young adults have participated in the program. About two-thirds of the participants have been American Indians. Bootstraps crews camp at the job site, greatly reducing expenses and travel time to remote project locations. Initially funded primarily by the BLM, the Bootstraps program has also been generously supported by grants from the Nevada Department of Wildlife, Nevada Bighorns Unlimited, the Mule Deer Foundation, Lander and Eureka Counties as well as by Barrick and Newmont Mining Companies. During the past

three seasons, considerable funding has been provided through the Natural Resource Conservation Service's Sage Grouse Initiative in cooperation with C-Ranches and Grass Valley Ranch.

Northern Nevada Saddle Horse and Burro Training Program

Held at Stewart Conservation Camp in Carson City NV, this Wild Horse and Burro training and subsequent adoption program is a cooperative partnership among BLM, Nevada Department of Corrections, and Nevada Department of Agriculture. The program gentles and trains wild horses and burros for adoption by the public. Training is conducted by low-risk inmates who are learning social and job skills at the facility. About 70 wild horses and burros are trained and adopted each year. Originally the program trained only estrays, but through an agreement with the State, inmates now also train BLM wild horses. Approximately 900 wild and stray horses, and burros, have been saddle trained at Stewart Conservation Camp since 2000. Program limitations are due to the size of the facility and the expense involved in training a wild horse.

The number of interested adopters has continually grown since the program began in 2000. Each event generally features around 30 qualified adopters and 200 people in the audience. Horse trainers learn social and job skills as part of their own rehabilitation and recovery efforts, including completion of their general equivalency degree (GED). The trainers creatively name the animals for BLM, effectively boosting public interest in horse and burro adoptions.

BLM New Mexico

Tribal Outreach for the Farmington Mancos-Gallup Resource Management Plan Amendment

The BLM New Mexico Farmington Field Office conducted extensive tribal outreach as part of external scoping for the Mancos-Gallup Resource Management Plan Amendment. Outreach meetings were held for the Navajo Nation at the Counselor, Huerfano, and Nageezi Chapter Houses. These Chapter Houses are widely dispersed across the central part of the Navajo Nation, and are roughly equivalent to townships or counties. BLM managers and specialists were available at all meetings to answer questions about the amendment and listen to ideas and concerns. Navajo language Interpreters were available at all meetings and a PowerPoint presentation with Navajo narration was running continuously to provide attendees with information in their preferred language. Outreach meetings were publicized in the Navajo language through the Navajo radio station broadcasting from Window Rock AZ. Additional meetings were held with Navajo Nation Tribal staff in Window Rock, NM, and Hopi Tribal staff in Second Mesa, AZ.

This effort provided local and accessible opportunities for potentially affected tribal communities to become aware of and provide opinion and feedback to the BLM for the Farmington Mancos-Gallup Resource Management Plan Amendment.

BLM Utah

Southern Utah Paiute Youth Camp

This camp is a partnership collaboration among the Southern Paiute Nation, NPS, BLM, USFS, and Southern Utah University (SUU). It is aimed at engaging tribal youth, 7th through 9th grade, in learning cultural traditions, valuing the natural and cultural resources important to their heritage, and connecting them to public lands within their traditional homeland in southern Utah and northern Arizona.

The camp provides meaningful experiences that encourage youth interest in advanced education and land management careers. Learning modules provide lesson in botany, biology, forestry, fire/fuels, wildlife, archaeology, and geology, complemented with traditional knowledge. It does so with tribal elders and agency staff providing interactive field activities that include traditional knowledge and practices along with current land management practices. The partnership provides tribal communities with exposure to natural resources for their youth, but long term, it is exposing youth to a wide variety of career possibilities important to all involved.

Grand Staircase-Escalante Partners (GSEP) & the Escalante River Watershed Partnership

The leadership of GSENM and its authorized Friends Group, the Grand Staircase Escalante Partners (GSEP), recognized that in these underserved communities poverty was above the national average and the ethnic minorities (Hispanic and American Indian) needed to be involved in providing input into management actions and providing the necessary labor to accomplish management goals. The Monument was the homeland of the adjacent affiliated Tribes and they needed to remain connected to the Monument. Restoration of native plant communities became a major management goal with the realization the underserved communities and ethnic groups could provide significant amount of the labor. GSEP was asked to manage the removal of woody invasives on public lands in what has become the largest restoration project on the Monument -- the restoration of the Escalante River Watershed.

A majority of the workforce is youth at risk and ethnic minorities. Initially the Monument Friends group, Grand Staircase-Escalante Partners, along with assistance from BLM-GSENM contracted with 3 Conservation Corps (CC) to hire over 60 Corps members from 18 to 25 years of age each year. The CC program was used because Corps members could earn AmeriCorps educational credits besides a salary. To increase the percentage of ethnic hires one contract included the Canyon Country Youth Corps that is located in Monticello, UT (pop. 2028). Monticello is adjacent to the Navajo Nation Reservation. Another Corps hired was Arizona Conservation Corps (AZCC) from Flagstaff, AZ. AZCC is a subset of the larger Southwest Conservation Corps (SWCC) that works with various southwest Tribal Nations. In 2013, to further increase the likelihood of meeting the targeted workforce goal, GSEP hired a crew from the Native Conservation Corps (NCC) out of northern Arizona. NCC provides a high school age crew that can get basic work experience to better qualify for CC programs or private sector work. In 2014, GSEP expanded their American Indian hiring program by hiring a chainsaw crew from the Ancestral Lands program of SWCC.

GSEP has also been able to get grants for other restoration projects on GSENM. One example is the rehabilitation of Old Corral Spring using youth from the nearby Kaibab Paiute Reservation and other Paiute Bands. This is unique because Tribal Elders are involved in youth education by

explaining the cultural values of using native plants from traditional springs for ceremonial and domestic purposes. Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM) arranged so that once the native plants got established at this spring, Tribal elders and youth could collect and use native plants. These youth are gaining work experience and are being mentored by Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program American Indian youth that are enrolled at regional universities.

The above programs are providing well-paying jobs for high school and college-age youth at risk and providing work experiences for future employees in federal/state agencies or the private sector. The youth at risk are also earning AmeriCorps Education credits for universities.

Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Advisory Committee (MAC)

The MAC is comprised of 15 members, seven of which are scientists representing the areas of archaeology, paleontology, geology, botany, wildlife biology, social science and systems ecology. In addition to the scientists, there are eight other Committee members: one local elected official from both Kane and Garfield Counties, one from State government, one from Tribal government, one from the environmental community, one educator, one from the outfitter and guide community operating within the Monument, and one from the ranching community operating within the Monument. The seven scientists are "Special Government Employees" because of their specialized knowledge with their respective disciplines. The other eight Committee members are Representatives of their constituent groups.

The MAC is chartered to gather and analyze information, conduct studies and field examinations, seek public input or ascertain facts to develop recommendations concerning the use and management of the Monument; review programmatic documents, including annual Monument Manager's Reports, Quarterly Division Reports, and Monument Science Plans; compile monitoring data and assess and advise the designated federal officer of the extent to which the Plan objectives are being met; make recommendations on protocols and projects to achieve overall objectives; review appropriate research proposals and make recommendations on project necessity and validity; make recommendations regarding allocation of research funds through review of research and project proposals as well as needs identified through the evaluation process; consult and make recommendations on issues such as protocols for specific projects, e.g., vegetation restoration methods or standards for excavation and curation of artifacts and objects; and/or prepare an annual report summarizing the Committee's activities and accomplishments of the past year, and make recommendations for future needs and activities.

Biological soil crusts:

Is a key topic from scoping comments received during outreach for the Livestock Grazing Monument Management Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement. Many comments stressed the importance of maintaining and restoring biological soil crusts. Working with Cooperating Agencies (i.e, Garfield County, Kane County, the State of Utah, and the National Park Service-Glen Canyon NRA), as well as interested stakeholders, GSENM developed a Science Forum with a panel of experts, scientists, actively working with biological soil crusts and crust-related issues to bring the science surrounding biological soil crust into the public arena.

The forum was professionally facilitated and panel members answered questions from both the live and remote audience. The forum achieved its' purpose which was to share scientific information about biological soil crust on the Monument; to address specific questions about soil crust and about managing ecosystems in which soil crusts play a critical part; and to gain information that will support management alternatives in the Livestock Grazing Plan Amendment/EIS process. The forum was extremely well received by the public.

BLM Wyoming

Cultural Resources Protocol Agreement for BLM-Wyoming

Project: The State Protocol Agreement, between BLM-Wyoming and the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officer, regarding the manner in which the BLM will meet its responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act and the National Programmatic Agreement, was revised this year. BLM-Wyoming mounted a special outreach effort to all Indian Tribes with ancestral ties to Wyoming, providing them with the document and soliciting their comments and suggestions.

Conservation Outdoor Recreation Education (CORE)

Project: Established 15 years ago, the Conservation Outdoor Recreation Education (CORE) BLM partnership is with the Self Help Center in Casper, Wyoming. This summer youth program provides outdoor recreation and educational opportunities to underserved and disabled youth ranging in age from 8 to 18 that would otherwise be unavailable. The summer program consists of three to four trips located on public lands within Wyoming. All trips include elements of environmental education, recreation, volunteerism and teamwork. Projects include annual maintenance of recreation sites, reclamation projects, and trail building. It connects participants to the natural and cultural resources through enhanced interpretation, hands on activities and volunteerism. Participants also participate in programs with the National Park Service and US Forest Service.

This program helps to provide accessible programs and recreational opportunities on public lands while instilling the values of land stewardship, environmental education, and separate participants from domestic violence.

Native American Youth Resource Crew

In conjunction with Executive Order 13270 White House Initiative on Tribal colleges and University (TCU) Program, in 2011 the Lander and Casper Field Offices created a partnership with the Wind River Indian Reservation to hire a four person crew and crew leader with students from the reservation located in central Wyoming. The overall objective of this project was to establish a small-scale initiative to employ youth from the Wind River Indian Reservation.

The resource crew would not only complete important work for the BLM, but would also be exposed to roles and responsibilities of a federal natural resource agency. Very few Native

American students know what the BLM does and the opportunities available to them. From their work in the field, they have gained first-hand knowledge and experience in forestry, recreation, wildlife management, local history and stewardship of public lands.

BLM / Central Wyoming College (CWC) Native American Field School

The Casper Field Office received youth and fuels funding support of the Native American Youth Field School. This funding supported the continuation of the five-year cooperative agreement with the Anthropology Department of CWC and its archaeological field school. The fuels funding purchased GPS units, software, and a GIS workshop. The CWC field school students surveyed within the area of a multiple-year fuels reduction project and inventoried an estimated 800 block acres.

The BLM/CWC Field School focusing on recruitment of underserved and economically challenged youth populations such as Native American, African-American, Asian American, and Hispanic. Utilizing such populations will not only assist the BLM in achieving a diverse future work force but will present a unique opportunity for these youth populations. High priority internal projects for the Casper Field Office have been backlogged for several years. One of the limiting factors has been the completion of the cultural resource fieldwork. This funding accomplishes the cultural resource surveys and investigation necessary to support individual projects and allow them to move forward. The work will educate these youth populations to the mission work of the BLM, potential careers in the federal work force, and the science foundations involved in cultural resource management. This program gives students a competitive edge in experience, emerging technologies, and open up career opportunities they otherwise would not have been exposed to.

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APPENDIX A

U.S. Department of the Interior Environmental Justice Implementation Progress Report

2014



Bureau of Indian Education



OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND COMPLIANCE
WASHINGTON D.C. 20240

[HTTP://WWW.DOI.GOV/PMB/OEPC/ENVIRONMENTAL-JUSTICE.CFM](http://www.doi.gov/pmb/oepc/environmental-justice.cfm)