



# THE PUBLIC LANDS Monitor

P.O. Box 7226, Arlington, VA 22207  
703-935-0916

www.publicland.org  
info@publicland.org

VOLUME XXXV No. 3

FALL QUARTER 2022

## 2022 PLF ANNUAL MEETING GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO SEPTEMBER 20-23, 2022

The 2022 PLF Annual Meeting was held in Grand Junction, CO on September 20-23, 2022. The theme for this year's Annual Meeting was **Managing E-bike Use on Non-motorized Trails**. The Board of Directors met on September 20<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, and General sessions were held on September 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> to provide an opportunity for BLM representatives and other guest speakers to provide updates on current public land issues and discuss implementation of policies related to the use of E-bikes on the public lands. The meeting was productive, but would not have been possible without the pre-planning by Bob Moore, Tom Allen, Maggie Wyatt, and Eric Janes, with help from Beau McClure, and the support of local BLM managers and staff. The PLF would also like to thank Tom Allen and Maggie Wyatt for hosting a reception for PLF members and the BLM Executive Leadership Team at their home on the evening of September 20<sup>th</sup>.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

**Opening Remarks** – Mary Jo Rugwell, President, opened the Board meeting on the morning of September 20, 2022 for the PLF Annual Meeting. Board members present included Tom Allen, Barron Bail, Dean Bibles, Jim Caswell, Jim Curri van, Dwight Hempel, Richard Hopkins, John Kwiatkowski, Bill LeBarron, Courtney Lyons-Garcia, Van Manning, Dave Mari, Beau McClure, Bob Moore, Mary Jo Rugwell, Don Simpson, George Stone, Maggie Wyatt. Ray Brady and Kim Harb participated by phone on Development Committee and finance / budget discussions.



PLF Annual Meeting 2022

#### Editors

Ray Brady  
Margaret Lliteras

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Executive Director Courtney Lyons-Garcia  
Vice Pres. Don Simpson  
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#### State Representatives

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CO Bob Moore  
ID Jenna Whitlock  
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WY Bill LeBarron  
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Jeff Holdren

The Public Lands Foundation advocates and works for the retention of America's Public Lands in public hands professionally and sustainably managed for responsible common use and enjoyment.

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## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

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I hope that everyone is enjoying the fall wherever you are. This is my favorite time of the year for a myriad of reasons (cooler air, beautiful colors, apple picking, football, etc.).



Mary Jo Rugwell

While I know it means that winter is just around the corner, I refuse to think about that aspect!

I want to focus this column on our in-person Annual Meeting which was held in Grand Junction, Colorado, on September 20-23. While it was clear during our stay that our hotel

was short-staffed, they did an excellent job for us, which definitely added to the enjoyment of the week. We had 71 people registered for the meeting (including spouses and speakers). Twenty-seven PLF members attended the General Meeting and the Board Meetings had eighteen in attendance. I want to acknowledge the organizing committee consisting of Bob Moore, Tom Allen, Maggie Wyatt and Eric Janes, with help from Beau McClure, for all they did to ensure a successful in-person meeting. We also appreciated Jim Caswell stepping in to provide the Student Congress updates in Mike Ferguson's absence. Mike was involved in a motorcycle accident just before the annual meeting and we hope he is well on his way to a complete recovery.

Tuesday, Wednesday afternoon, and early Friday morning were spent meeting with the Board. We discussed the Student Congress, the PLF Archives/BLM History project, budget, the work of the Development Committee, Board responsibilities/structure, the PLF awards program, PLF goals for 2023, and scheduling future meetings. The major

follow-up items from the Board's conversations are summarized in the meeting minutes that are included in the Board of Directors Meeting section of this edition of the *Monitor*.

Late Tuesday afternoon, the Executive Committee was able to meet with the BLM's Executive Leadership Team. The only request we got at that meeting was to set up an informal coaching/mentoring program. Stay tuned for more details on that. Some members of the ELT were able to join us for the gathering at Tom and Maggie's that evening.

The Wednesday field trip had to be cancelled due to inclement weather. The local BLM employees pivoted beautifully and provided a great presentation Wednesday morning on trails and e-bike use in the Grand Junction area. The General Meeting on Thursday included presentations from a cross-section of local officials, a talk by Tracy Stone-Manning, BLM Director, and a panel on e-bike planning and use.

Social events at the meeting included a lovely gathering at the beautiful home of Tom Allen and Maggie Wyatt on Tuesday evening, a barbeque and Grand Valley history presentation on Wednesday evening, and the banquet, complete with a raffle, silent auction, and awards presentation, on Thursday evening. A special thanks to Maggie Wyatt, Theresa and Jim Currivan, and all who donated and/or bought items/raffle tickets at the banquet. \$1,525 was raised at the banquet for the George Lea Founder's Scholarship Program.

As previously mentioned, we plan to schedule the dates and locations for the next two in-person meetings soon. We believe it is important to do this and send out "save the date" notifications so that it is easier for members to avoid scheduling conflicts and join us at the meetings. It was such a pleasure to engage in person, and I want to see more of you in 2023!

Mary Jo stressed the importance of our advocacy work as we move forward and that it will require a strong commitment from all members of the Board. She also thanked the Development Committee for its work in laying out a framework for our advocacy fundraising efforts. Mary Jo expressed some concern over BLM's recent SES hires from external sources and the impact those decisions may have on the development of future BLM leaders from the professional career managers and staff.

**Student Congress Update**—James Caswell provided an overview of the Student Congress history to date, including partnership developments with the National Association of Forest Service Retirees (NAFSR) and now the Andrus Center at Boise State University (BSU). To date, 115 students from 56 universities have participated in the program. The PLF is seeking to establish an endowment at BSU to secure the future of the Student Congress. Part of the Student Congress this year will include a career component (navigating USAJobs) and representatives from the BLM, Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Park Service will speak to the attendees about career opportunities and answer questions.

**Archives Update**—Beau McClure updated the Board on the paper archives record situation at the National Training Center and the continued access problems to the facility. Due to the recent NTC renovation work, our archive materials are no longer organized. The BLM and PLF will be meeting to coordinate the BLM history and PLF archives projects in conjunction with America's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday commemoration. The meeting is planned for November in either D.C. or the FWS Training Center in Shepherdstown, WV. The PLF participants will be Connie Stone, George Stone, and Courtney Lyons-Garcia. Expectations are that some BLM funding and FTE assistance may be available that could help the PLF in digitizing archival materials to make them searchable and available online. The BLM will prioritize history topics. Jim Caswell mentioned the National Museum of Forest Service History in Missoula, MT as a possible source of additional materials. The museum is maintained by Forest Service retirees.

**NAFSR Update** – James Caswell provided an update on NAFSR activities. Steve Ellis is the current NAFSR Board Chair, with Jamie Connell serving as Vice-Chair for six months. "Old Growth" forest comments were recently provided to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, in response to a

request for public comment. The Fire Committee will be meeting in October in Jackson Hole, WY. Interior representatives will also be participating from the Office of Wildland Fire and PMB. The NAFSR has revamped its advocacy approach to be more strategic on what the organization takes on. Focus on things that NAFSR can accomplish, including greater committee focus. The Climate Committee is developing a position statement on climate change impacts. The Fire Committee is to look beyond the current CA focus. Other NAFSR Committees include Restoration and Recreation. The NAFSR reunions are coordinated by regional Forest Service retiree organizations every three years. The most recent reunion was in Lake Tahoe with 500 attendees, including the Forest Service Chief. The NAFSR is also developing a paper on capacity structure of the Forest Service. The NAFSR is also concerned that managers are not coming up through the ranks.

**Development Committee Update** – Ray Brady, on behalf of Henri Bisson and the other members of the Development Committee, recapped the mission of the Development Committee with a focus on funding needs and establishment of an endowment fund based on the Johnson Family Trust donation. The PLF Endowment Fund was established in June 2022, after the Board's approval and Mary Jo Rugwell's signature of an Endowment Fund Resolution. A Fundraising Strategy has been prepared and shared with the Board, which includes both cost savings and new revenues. The 2023 goal is to raise \$150K for operations and an additional \$50K for the Endowment Fund. Committee accomplishments thus far have included:

- Endowment Fund has been established.
- Membership category and dues changes will take effect in January 2023, with \$50, \$100, \$200, and \$500 membership levels. The Life membership level will be discontinued, but current Life members will be grandfathered.
- Pledge form was developed for Board members to support our fundraising effort for 2023. So far, 16 pledges have been received for a total of over \$12,000. It was emphasized that pledges are not required, but they are a voluntary effort to support the PLF.
- Legacy Brochure has been updated and posted on the PLF website.

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**2022 PLF ANNUAL MEETING – BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING** *(continued)*

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- Advocacy outreach to potential donors will focus on several priority public land issues:
  - \* Public Lands Access
  - \* Wild Horse and Burro Management
  - \* Improving Management of Special Areas
  - \* Livestock Management Improvement
  - \* BLM Organization Building, need for increased appropriations, staffing, and training.
- *Monitor* to go digital in 2023. The Fall 2022 and Winter 2022 editions of the *Monitor* will be printed and mailed. The PLF Annual Report will be printed and mailed to all members. Mary Jo Rugwell will be meeting with Barbara Eggers, BLM AD-Business Management and Administration, in November to discuss electronic distribution of the *Monitor* within BLM.
- Seeking ways for BLM to share costs of \$10,000 per year for the PLF Archives.

Mary Jo Rugwell indicated we need to seek ways to address an inaccurate image problem that the PLF is an organization mostly for retired State Directors/SES employees. She will also check with a new BLM retiree to ascertain whether BLM is distributing PLF's membership brochure as part of new retiree information packets.

Based on the preliminary proposed PLF 2023 budget provided to the Board for review, it appears there is a projected revenue shortfall of some \$75,000. We must find ways to fund our Executive Director's salary and benefits. Portions of program funding can also be applied to PLF administration costs, including the Executive Director position. Part of the Executive Director's responsibilities includes raising funds to help cover the position's costs. This is a normal nonprofit organization practice.

In addition to donations and dues, Board members also need to be credited for PLF related volunteer expenditures. Beginning in 2023, the PLF will track volunteer hours for committee and virtual meetings as well as on-site board meetings to document hours of volunteer time that supports our work and projects. It is beneficial to demonstrate the Board members commitment to donors and provide support to our organization's financial audit. Other in-kind donations need to be accounted for in PLF's records.

The Foundation for America's Public Lands was mentioned as a possible fund raising opportunity for the PLF. It was also recommended that a fund raising tool kit be developed and provided to Board members who may not have experience in fund raising.

**Budget** – Kim Harb and Courtney Lyons-Garcia provided a brief overview and update on the status of the PLF budget. Financial statements and a preliminary proposed 2023 budget were circulated via email to all Board members prior to the meeting. However, the Finance Committee needs additional time to develop and forward a final proposed 2023 budget for Board approval. The Annual financial audit is a work in progress and an audit report is expected to be completed in October. The PLF will also publish an Annual Report every other year, beginning in 2023 for 2022.

**Board of Directors Structure** – Beau McClure led a discussion on the size and structure of the PLF Board of Directors. The Board currently includes 38 positions as provided in the Bylaws. This includes five vacant positions; three At-Large positions, and two State Representatives (Alaska and Nevada). There was a discussion about the size of the Board and the history of Board positions. One suggestion was to identify only two State Representative positions versus the current At-Large/State Representative structure. A decision was made to task a small group to study the Board and Committee structure, compare how other organizations are structured, and report out recommendations. The work group would also look at and recommend best practices. George Stone will lead the group with Barron Bail, Don Simpson, and Courtney Lyons-Garcia included.

**Executive Director Report** – Courtney Lyons-Garcia provided an update on major work and activities. The PLF raised \$30,000 to support the BLM 75th Anniversary activities. The final event was held in Casper, WY in May 2022 at the Outdoor Writer's Association conference and included some 200 attendees. The PLF hosted a reception in D.C. in March 2022 for the first appointed Board members of the new Foundation for America's Public Lands. George Lea and Mary Jo Rugwell attended the event. An Interim Director has been hired to get the organization up and running. It is expected to take 12-18 months for the new organization to get set up.

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**2022 PLF ANNUAL MEETING – BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING** *(continued)*

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The Executive Director has assumed some social media and administrative duties previously done by other PLF volunteers. Courtney also reiterated that the PLF may be able to obtain partnership funding from BLM as part of its America 250 event to support build out of a separate website for our archives and historical BLM materials.

Courtney recommended that the Board consider holding annual or periodic meetings in D.C. to facilitate BLM/DOI/Congressional meetings, and to meet with fund raisers. The consensus was that the PLF may send a contingent of Board members to join local D.C. members as necessary.

Courtney also recommended that the Board meet more than annually. Consensus was that the Board will begin holding quarterly virtual meetings (Zoom) and one in person meeting at our Annual Meeting.

Discussions indicated that there may be some differences between the priorities identified by the PLF advocacy fund raising issues and the BLM priorities as outlined by the BLM Director. This may create some difficulties in seeking potential donor and fund raising opportunities. The Board requested that the Development Committee reassess the PLF priority advocacy fund raising issues in relation to the priorities outlined by the BLM Director.

**PLF Awards and Scholarships** – Dave Stout (Chair, Scholarship Committee), Ray Brady, and Connie Stone reviewed 38 Scholarship applications for 2022. The Committee has recommended that we amend our online application process to obtain applicant permission for the PLF to use their photos for press release, website, and social media purposes. Maggie Wyatt reported that Ed Roberson was presented the Lifetime Service Award by Mary Jo Rugwell on July 7, 2022 at the BLM Utah State Office. Dave Mari reported that no Landscape Stewardship Award nominations were received this year. Jim Currivan reported on the Outstanding Public Land Professional Awards program. The PLF received 10 nominations this year, five nominations in each category. The Outstanding Public Lands Professional Employee Award in the Managerial/Administrative Category will be presented to Jeremy Casterson, Field Manager, Upper Snake Field Office, Idaho Falls District. The Outstanding Public Lands Professional Employee Award in the Technical/Operational Category will be

presented to Jeff Cundick, Minerals Branch Chief, Idaho Falls District.

There was a discussion about mutual calendars, nomination problems, and need for coordination among the PLF Awards Committees. Mary Jo Rugwell asked the Awards Committee chairs to meet amongst themselves to coordinate. The Executive Director and George Stone will join the discussions. Consideration will be given to online award nomination forms and making a unified request to BLM ELT members for nominations. (Subsequent to the meeting, BLM asked that nomination requests sent to ELT members also be sent to Jeff Krause and Lauren Gapinski.)

**Annual Meeting Restructuring** – Consensus was that we can eliminate field trips from future Annual Meetings, and that we will shorten Annual Meetings to 2.5 – 3 days rather than the current arrangement. This assumes that the Board will not need 1.5 days as it will meet virtually on a quarterly basis throughout the year, and that the PLF working Committees function as well.

**NEW Solutions** – Dwight Fielder provided an update on the National Experienced Workforce (NEW) Solutions program, which is the new name for the former National Older Worker Career Center. The BLM has enrolled 80 participants in the program. This is much lower than the number of participants in the Forest Service (450) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (400). Dwight thanked the PLF for assistance in communicating these employment opportunities to PLF members as they become available.

**Mentoring** – Mary Jo Rugwell reported that mentoring assistance continues to be an “ask” from BLM. Though the PLF has developed and previously provided mentor lists to BLM, Mary Jo requested that we prepare the information in a more consolidated manner. George Stone and Courtney Lyons-Garcia will look into using our membership database to store and report this information.

**2023/2024 Annual Meeting Planning** – The Board discussed the need to plan Annual Meeting locations and logistics further in advance than previously done due to market conditions. Beau McClure will pull together a list of prior locations and themes for consideration for future meeting planning.

**Priorities** – The major follow-up items from the Board’s discussions are: 1) Beau will continue to engage with BLM on reorganizing the archives at the National Training Center and a small group will meet with BLM on the history project; 2) the Finance Committee will meet to make recommendations on the 2023 budget to the Board for a decision; 3) Mary Jo will meet with BLM leadership on the topic of electronic distribution of the *Monitor*; 4) the Development Committee will further

refine PLF fund raising advocacy priorities in relation to the BLM Director’s priorities and expand their work on PLF recruitment of new members; 5) George Stone will lead a small group to study and make recommendations on the structure of the Board; 6) the PLF Awards leads will meet to discuss changes to the administration of that program; and 7) dates and locations for the next two in-person meetings need to be determined.

## GENERAL MEETING SUMMARY

**Trail Management** – The theme for the Annual Meeting was **Managing E-Bike Use on Non-Motorized Trails**. The weather in the Grand Junction area, however, proved to be challenging with rain and a flood watch forecast, that resulted in cancellation of the field trip planned for September 21<sup>st</sup>. Nevertheless, BLM adapted quickly and came to the PLF Annual Meeting venue location to present what we would have learned from the field trip regarding trails planning and management of E-bike use

on the public lands in the Grand Junction area. Greg Larson, District Manager of BLM’s Upper Colorado District Office and Greg Wolfgang, Field Manager of BLM’s Grand Junction Field Office presented an overview of regional and local programs that they administer with a focus on E-bike issues. They also discussed how they have managed to pilot approval of limited E-bike use on a case-by-case basis, the



**Greg Wolfgang**  
BLM Field Manager

authorities used, and the decision-making process. Partnerships and good communication with interested stakeholders, including local government agencies, are critical to successful implementation.

**PLF Welcome** – PLF President Mary Jo Rugwell began the General session meeting on Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> by welcoming everyone and mentioned that 2022 is the PLF’s 35th Anniversary! She also informed everyone that an updated Memorandum of Understanding between the PLF and BLM was

signed on January 26, 2022. The MOU guides how both parties will work together. We also received a warm welcome by video from Grand Junction Mayor Anna Stout. Janeth Stancle, Central Regional Director for Senator John Hickenlooper, D-CO, spoke about legislative activities involving public lands issues that the Senator has been involved in as a member of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.



**Janeth Stancle**  
Regional Director for  
Senator Hickenlooper

**BLM Overview** – BLM Director Tracy Stone-Manning spoke before the group and answered questions about BLM. She highlighted her Montana roots and love of backpacking and hunting. Before coming to BLM, Stone-Manning served as both a senior advisor for conservation policy and Associate Vice President of Public Lands at the National Wildlife Federation. Before joining the Federation, she served as former Montana Governor Steve Bullock’s chief of staff, where she helped broker bipartisan legislation. She also served as Director of Montana’s Department of Environmental Quality and as a senior advisor to Montana Senator Jon Tester.

The Director was in Grand Junction for the BLM Executive Leadership Team meeting. She reminded us that while it is important to be in Washington, D.C., the real work gets done in the field. She identified her priorities for BLM as rebuilding BLM, especially the Headquarters Office, after the last administration’s headquarters move. She is seeking to replace as much of the institutional

knowledge as possible that was lost with those employees that chose to leave the agency rather than relocate. She identified this as an area that the PLF can help with. In addition, she mentioned a continued workforce shortage with about a 20 percent vacancy rate in current positions.



**Tracy Stone-Manning**  
BLM Director

Climate change and its relationship to BLM's multiple use and sustained yield mission continues to be a priority. Landscape health and building resiliency into our public landscapes is a key component and we can expect to hear more about

this soon. The Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act are providing the Nation with the largest investment in climate resilience and restoration, she said.

Recreation is a growing program. In fact, the Director characterized BLM as a recreation agency with 80 million visitors last year. During the COVID pandemic, many Americans relied on their public lands and facilities to get out of being quarantined and get with nature. The BLM's Conservation Lands and Partnership program is developing a long-term recreation strategy.

Clean energy is an emphasis of President Biden and Secretary Haaland. The BLM continues to expect more solar, wind, and other clean energy proposals as America moves towards a carbon-free electricity sector. The Energy Policy Act calls for production of 25 gigawatts by 2025 from clean energy sources. The Director wants to ensure that no communities are left behind as new technologies develop.

**Local BLM Overview** – Greg Larson, Manager of BLM's Upper Colorado River District Office provided an overview of the office's jurisdiction, lands and programs. The Upper Colorado River District Office manages 1.85 million surface acres. The district is comprised of the Grand Junction and Colorado River Valley field offices and encompasses four million acres of subsurface minerals. The BLM's Upper Colorado River District includes several specially designated areas, including McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area and the northern portion of Dominguez-Escalante

National Conservation Area. The Little Book Cliffs Herd Management Area is located within the Grand Junction Field Office. Wildland fire is a major concern in this arid area. In past years, the district has seen two major wildfires: the Storm King and Pine Gulch fires. The interagency fire program is based in Grand Junction and includes a tanker base and smoke jumpers. The Grand Junction Field Office manages what has become a major tourist destination for trail hiking and biking. It has an oil and gas portfolio as well as significant grazing allotments. Recently, virtual fencing has been tested for grazing as an alternative to constructing and maintaining physical fences. Cows that try to cross outside their boundaries receive a shock like those from invisible fences that many pet owners use. This has the potential for significant cost savings to the livestock industry.



**Greg Larson**  
BLM District Manager

**Student Congress** – Jim Caswell, Ex Officio Board Member and former BLM Director, represents the National Association of Forest Service Retirees. In that capacity, he has served on the Student Congress committee and provided an update on the 5th Student Congress, which was subsequently held in Boise. The theme for the John Freemuth Student Congress was Wildland



**Jim Caswell**  
NAFSR and Student Congress Committee

Fire. The goals of this program are to: educate our youth on the history and current issues related to public land management; engage students in providing input into the future of these lands; and expand potential career consideration and enrich student resumes. There were 103 applications from 53 universities or colleges this year, including two from Canada. Twenty-five students from 21 universities were selected to participate. The PLF, NAFSR, and Andrus Center at Boise State University were able to obtain funds from BLM, the Forest Service, and other

organizations in addition to your generous donations to fund the event.

**BLM Challenges** – Kathy Hall, former Mesa County Colorado Commissioner provided her perspective on working with BLM over many years as a county commissioner and Resource Advisory Council (RAC) member, particularly on public lands access. She was present when then-Secretary Babbitt established the RACs, which began in Grand Junction. She emphasized the importance of building local community relationships, especially when land exchange issues need to be addressed.



Kathy Hall

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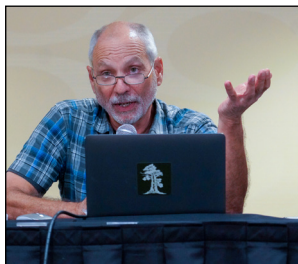
**GJ Economic Development** – Steve Jozefczyk, Deputy Director of the Grand Junction Economic Partnership presented data on the significance of recreational trails from the standpoint of the local economy. His data showed both direct and indirect benefits from jobs created by the upswing in recreational activities on public lands in the Grand Junction area, and some of the challenges as well, such as the need to provide affordable housing to attract employees. He mentioned one positive benefit over the last two years from the pandemic was the increased visitation on the trails in the local community for recreation.



Steve Jozefczyk  
GJ Economic Partnership

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**E-Bike Panel Discussion** – The afternoon panel discussion led by PLF Vice President Don Simpson focused on Managing E-bike Use on Non-motorized Trails. Panelists included Jack Placchi, former BLM CO Travel and Transportation Specialist. Jack spoke about the process for implementing the Secretarial Order to



Jack Placchi

allow e-bikes on certain BLM trails. This was done largely under existing authorities such as amending the OHV regulations and through the NEPA process. He urged that E-bike use be considered as part of BLM's travel management planning process. Jim Caswell stated that the Forest Service has issued compatible policies with those of Interior agencies regarding E-bike use, with local forest managers having discretion to decide on whether E-bikes should be used on currently non-motorized trails. Scott Winans, Secretary, Colorado Plateau Mountain Bike Trail Association, characterized the new E-bike policies as being like a grenade thrown at pedal bicycle users. He stated that there is polarization among cyclists over issues such as relative speed, passing protocols, different classes of E-bikes that appear nearly identical, and signage. He said that implementation could have gone smoother after the Secretarial Order was issued by former Secretary Bernhardt. Additionally, given that trails often cross boundaries between BLM, Forest Service, municipalities, and county ownership, there needs to be better consistency on the signage and rules for E-bike users so that they remain in compliance. Craig Grother, Western Colorado Regional Director, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers described his organization's general position on trail development and use. The BHA is concerned about sustaining roadless, undeveloped areas for wildlife hunting and fishing. For example, extensive E-bike use can pose disruption of game animal migration corridors resulting in population decline. The BHA is more concerned about planning and implementation of trails and has produced a handbook entitled "Planning Trails with Wildlife in



Scott Winans

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Craig Grother

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Nicollee Gaddis-Wyatt



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2022 PLF ANNUAL MEETING – GENERAL MEETING (continued)

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Mind” to provide guidance on this issue. Nicolle Gaddis-Wyatt, Manager, BLM’s Canyon Country District Office in Utah gave a brief overview of issues she is facing in considering E-bike usage on non-motorized trails in her area.

**PLF Banquet** – Forty-four people attended the Thursday evening banquet where Bob Moore talked about his 40-year BLM career. Bob graduated from the University of Montana in 1955 with a degree in Forest Management and Engineering. His career started in Coos Bay, Oregon and included tours in Prineville, Oregon as Chief of Operations; the Departmental Training Program and as a member of the Planning & Environmental Coordination Division in Washington, D.C.; Colorado as the State Office Division Chief of Planning & Environmental Coordination; back to Washington, D.C. as the Assistant Director for Coal Management; back to Colorado as the Associate State Director; to the Denver Service Center (now called the National Operations Center) as the Director; and back to Colorado as the State Director, where he retired in 1995.

Mary Jo Rugwell informed banquet participants that **Smokey O’Connor** was celebrating his 91st Birthday and everyone sang Happy Birthday to Smokey.

This year’s PLF **Outstanding Public Land Professional Managerial/Administrative Employee Award**, will go to **Jeremy Casterson**, Field Manager, Upper Snake Field Office, Idaho Falls District, Idaho Falls, Idaho. Jeremy has led proactive efforts to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, conserve important wildland habitat, enhance outdoor recreation opportunities, and maintain working landscapes. His successes include the development of the Sand Creek Desert Vegetation Management Plan, the South Fork of the Snake River Fee Program, and the St. Anthony Sand Dunes Special Recreation Area Management Plan.

This year’s PLF **Outstanding Public Land Professional Technical/Operational Employee Award**, will go to **Jeff Cundick**, Minerals Branch Chief, Idaho Falls District, Idaho Falls, Idaho. Jeff has demonstrated outstanding professional performance while

addressing major projects of broad public interest nationally. He is considered the BLM’s top expert in non-energy leasable minerals, phosphate mining, and miner permit oversight.

An Awards presentation ceremony for the PLF Outstanding Public Land Professional Employee Awards will be arranged by the PLF President and Idaho State Representative, BLM Idaho State Director, and BLM Idaho Falls District Manager at an appropriate time and location.

Mary Jo announced this year’s **Volunteer of the Year Awards**, which went to Margaret Lliteras and Henri Bisson. **Margaret** was recognized for her exceptional work as editor of the Public Lands Monitor. **Henri** was recognized for his work as Chairman of our Development Committee, which has identified and made a number of recommendations to improve the PLF’s fund raising capability and increase membership. Unfortunately, neither Margaret nor Henri were present to receive the awards.



Margaret Lliteras  
PLF Editor



Henri Bisson, Chair  
PLF Development  
Committee

A big Thank You goes to everyone who took the time to nominate someone and congratulations to the winners.

The silent auction and raffle run by Maggie Wyatt, with help from Theresa Currivan, were great successes. A total of \$1,525 was raised for the George Lea Founder’s Scholarship Program. We thank everyone who donated items and especially those who bid on them.

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## STUDENT CONGRESS UPDATE



**2022 Student Congress  
National Interagency Fire Center, Boise**

The Public Lands Foundation, the Andrus Center for Public Policy, and the National Association of Forest Service Retirees hosted the John Freemuth Student Congress on October 3-6, 2022, at Boise State University with the generous help of the National Interagency Fire Center. This year's Congress focused on wildland fire management to explore critical issues such as reducing wildfire risk throughout the country, protecting homes and communities, managing wildfire, and wildfire response. Twenty-five undergraduate and graduate students were selected from colleges and universities across the country to ensure a diverse group of students participated in this year's Student Congress. The participating students' travel and participation expenses were covered by the generosity of donors, grant funding, partners, and through the Andrus Center for Public Policy at Boise State University. We thank all those PLF members and others who provided donations to support the Student Congress. Your generous support helped ensure a bright future for the next generation of public land managers. If you would still like to contribute to the PLF's education, outreach, and advocacy activities just visit the Public Lands Foundation website. Donating is easy – just click on “donate” on the website. You can also contribute by sending your donation to the Public Lands Foundation at the address listed in this Monitor or on our website.

## ELECTION 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our annual election for Officers and Board Members of the Public Lands Foundation is underway. This year you again have the option of voting for 2023 PLF Officers and Board Members either on-line or by using the mail-in ballot inserted in this edition of the Monitor. You may vote for any or all of the National Representatives and for your individual State Representative. It should be noted that we currently have vacant State Representative positions for Alaska and Nevada that have not been filled, while the Board considers options on possibly downsizing the number of positions on the Board. However, if some PLF Member wishes to volunteer for either the Alaska or Nevada positions, the Board will consider those nominations in any decision to restructure the size of the Board.

You should also have received a notice by email to look for a SurveyMonkey that contains a unique link to an on-line PLF ballot. If you can, please vote on-line using the SurveyMonkey and save yourself postage and a trip to the mailbox. It is very easy and should take only a minute or two to complete.

Be sure to vote before December 15, 2022. Please also consider paying your 2023 dues when you send in your ballot! It should be noted that the annual membership fee for a Regular member has increased to \$50, effective January 1, 2023.

## MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

From now until June 30, 2023, the PLF is conducting a membership drive unlike any it has attempted before. Our purpose is to enlist as many people as possible to join us in protecting the future of BLM administered public lands. It does not matter whether you are a retired, former or current BLM employee, or someone who really cares about public lands. If you care about ensuring these lands remain in public hands and are managed sustainably for all their many uses based on the best science available, join the PLF. If you wish to have a voice in the policies, decisions and future regarding how these lands are managed, then the PLF is the organization for you!

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This is an opportunity to leverage your personal interest, experience, or expertise in working for the BLM to advocate before Congress, present and future Administrations, and the public for sound management practices, robust budgets, and modernized regulations. As a member of the PLF, you can help preserve the history of public land management in this country by adding to the holdings of our historical archives. You can keep updated on national issues or help us prepare or update our position statements. Through PLF membership, you will be able to connect with current and former BLMers or meet and catch up with them at various events sponsored by the PLF.

In addition, there is an opportunity to impact future public lands managers by volunteering to assist or supporting our investment in educating young adults through the PLF George Lea Scholarship program or the John Freemuth Student Congress. All members are encouraged to actively participate in our various committees focused on national land management issues, legislation, fund raising, or awards and special events.

If you are an existing member, we encourage you to reach out to a family member, friend, former colleague, or current BLM employee to join the PLF or renew their membership. If you are not a member, we encourage you to visit our website at [www.publicland.org](http://www.publicland.org). There you can find out more about who we are and what we do. You can

also click the membership banner and join us on our journey!

### NEW PLF MEMBERSHIP FEES

The PLF Board of Directors in August 2022 approved an increase in the annual dues for a Regular member and a change in the membership categories to simplify the annual dues structure. The Life, Sponsoring, and Family membership categories will be eliminated. Existing Life memberships will be grandfathered until the member leaves the PLF or is deceased. These changes in membership dues will take effect on January 1, 2023. The simplified PLF annual membership dues structure is as follows:

Regular	\$50
Contributing	\$100
Sustaining	\$200
Patron	\$500

**Note:** PLF members who have set up auto payment of dues for Regular memberships will need to do so again in 2023 at the increased \$50 annual dues level. This can be done on the PLF website whenever your current membership expires. The PLF cannot automatically make these changes, as this change needs to be done directly by the account holder. Please contact George Stone at [gstone@publicland.org](mailto:gstone@publicland.org) if you have membership questions.

### PUBLIC LANDS FOUNDATION GOALS

- Keep lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in public ownership and open to use by the public.
- Support multiple use management under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.
- Encourage professionalism by BLM employees.
- Increase the public's understanding of and support for the proper management of the public lands.

## LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD EDWIN L. ROBERSON

*Mary Jo Rugwell:* I took a road trip to Salt Lake City, Utah, to present the PLF Lifetime Service Award to Edwin “Ed” L. Roberson, at the BLM Utah State Office, on July 7, 2022. Ed had traveled to Utah to reconnect with former colleagues and recreate on the wonderful public lands in the State. I had reached out to Greg Sheehan, BLM Utah State Director, to enlist his help in arranging a surprise in-person presentation. In addition to Greg, Bill Lamb, a former Utah State Director and current PLF Utah State Representative, was in attendance. In spite of the fact that many BLM Utah State Office employees are teleworking, Greg was able to assemble a small cadre of Ed’s former colleagues to join in the celebration. Ed was surprised and humbled to receive this well-deserved honor.



*l to r:* Greg Sheehan (Utah State Director), Ed Roberson, Mary Jo Rugwell (PLF President), and Bill Lamb

The Public Lands Foundation grants to Edwin L. “Ed” Roberson its Lifetime Service Award for excellence in public land management. The Foundation provides this award to deserving BLM employees who have perpetuated and enhanced the proud tradition of public service.

Ed has dedicated 40 years of his life to public land management, beginning in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. A planner by education and at heart, Ed served as an Outdoor Recreation Planner, Supervisory Environmental Specialist, Supervisory Mineral Resource Specialist, Special Assistant, Field and District Manager, Assistant Director for Resources and Planning, National Operations Center Director, and finally retiring in 2020 as the Utah State Director.

While Ed’s career took him to many places, including Alabama, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Washington, D.C., it was his diverse Bureau-wide experience at multiple management levels (field, district, state, national, policy, and operational) within the full spectrum of natural resources and support service programs that contributed to his hallmark approach of collaboration and engagement with employees, partners, and communities.

Ed had a thorough knowledge of the full breadth of Bureau programs and responsibilities, policies and procedures, and their interrelated nature. He began the last phase of his career as Utah’s State Director with the unique challenges of increasing wild

horse and burro populations, declining sage grouse populations, never-ending drought and wildfire issues, grazing-related rangeland health reform and changing national monument boundaries.

Over the years, Ed has received multiple awards recognizing his many accomplishments, especially his ability to nurture relationships with local community and other stakeholders. Ed was respected for his ability to mentor and support his employees.



**Ed Roberson**  
Lifetime Service Award presentation  
July 7, 2022

For his exemplary dedication to people, including his employees, and our Nation’s public lands, the Public Lands Foundation is honored to recognize Ed Roberson with this Lifetime Service Award.

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## LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE

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The PLF continues to monitor Congressional legislation, Federal rulemaking activities, and Executive Orders pertaining to the Department of the Interior, BLM, and public lands management. The PLF, as an advocacy organization for the public lands, is actively engaged in providing our perspectives on a wide range of issues including the annual BLM appropriations, any program oversight hearings, proposed amendments to FLPMA and other major statutes affecting public lands management, and proposed regulations regarding BLM resource programs. Reviewing legislation and proposed rules and preparing comments and testimony, when appropriate, is an important part of our advocacy work. We will update our Legislation and Regulations webpage on our website under the “Advocacy” link and provide updates in the Monitor on significant actions.



Photo by Ray Brady

### **EXECUTIVE ORDER 13990 PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT AND RESTORING SCIENCE TO TACKLE THE CLIMATE CRISIS**

**STATUS:** Signed by the President on January 20, 2021.

**SUMMARY:** Section 4 of the EO requires the Secretary to place a moratorium on implementation of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program in Alaska and conduct a new and comprehensive analysis of the potential impacts of the oil and gas program. The BLM on August 4, 2021 published a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register to prepare a supplemental EIS for the ANWR Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program and announced the start of a 60-day public scoping period. The Scoping Report was released on December 1, 2021. *The Draft Supplemental EIS is anticipated to be released soon for public review and comment.*

**PLF POSITION:** The PLF will be closely tracking these actions and providing comments during any public comment period, as appropriate.

### **EXECUTIVE ORDER 14008 TACKLING THE CLIMATE CRISIS AT HOME AND ABROAD**

**STATUS:** Signed by the President on January 27, 2021.

**SUMMARY:** Section 207 of the EO requires the Secretary to review renewable energy siting and permitting processes on the public lands and increase renewable energy production on the public lands. The Secretary on January 12, 2022 announced the signing of an interagency MOU to improve Federal agency coordination and streamline reviews of renewable energy projects on public lands.

Section 208 of the EO requires the Secretary to pause new oil and gas leases on the public lands pending completion of a comprehensive review and reconsideration of Federal permitting and leasing practices and whether to adjust royalties associated with coal, oil, and gas resources extracted from the public lands. The Department of the Interior on November 26, 2021 released its report on federal oil and gas leasing and identified reforms that should be made in the program. The GAO on April 20, 2022 also released a report on Methane Emissions from Oil and Gas Development (GAO-22-104759) that included recommendations for BLM to require gas capture plans, similar to State requirements, for operations on Federal lands. *The BLM on August 18, 2022 announced the award of \$1.1 million in contracts for the plugging of orphan wells in Utah and California as part of a multi-state and multi-agency effort to plug high-priority wells on Federal lands as part of the*

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*Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act). The BLM on August 26, 2022 also announced the approval of the first application for a permanent underground storage facility for carbon dioxide sequestration on public lands in Wyoming to support the administration's efforts to combat climate change. The BLM issued a policy (IM 2022-041) on June 8, 2022 that provided guidance on the process for review and approval of geologic sequestration projects for carbon dioxide on the public lands.*

**PLF POSITION:** The PLF will be closely tracking these actions and providing comments during any public comment period, as appropriate. The PLF on April 18, 2022 issued a News Release and Position Statement that provided recommendations for further improvements in the oil and gas leasing program. The PLF Position Statement is available on the PLF website.

### **MODERNIZING ACCESS TO OUR PUBLIC LANDS ACT (MAPLAND ACT)**

**STATUS:** Approved by Congress and signed by the President on April 29, 2022.

**SUMMARY:** The MAPLand Act requires the Federal land management agencies to publish within the next four years digital online maps of public lands and information on access to public lands, including easement acquisitions. This legislation and passage of the Dingell Act in 2019 (P. L. 116-9) provide tools to address public land access issues and an opportunity for the public to nominate parcels of land for acquisition to improve access to public lands.

**PLF POSITION:** The PLF supported both the Dingell Act and the MAPLand Act. The PLF recently updated a Public Land Access Position Statement that is available on the PLF website and provides additional recommendations for addressing public land access issues. The PLF is also closely tracking a court case in Wyoming that involves public land access to checkerboard lands, commonly referred to as "corner crossing".

### **MINING LAW REFORM – 1872 MINING LAW**

**STATUS:** A Federal Register Notice published March 31, 2022 by the Department. *Public Listening Sessions were held on July 19, 21, and 26, 2022 and the public comment period was extended to August 30, 2022. Senator Heinrich (NM) introduced legislation on April 26, 2022.*

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Interior announced the formation of an Interagency Working Group to gather information and develop recommendations for improving the Federal hardrock mining regulations, laws, and permitting processes. The Notice also invited public comments to help inform the efforts of the Interagency Working Group.



**PLF POSITION:** The PLF on April 24, 2022 provided a copy of a Position Statement, in response to the Notice, on recommendations for amendments to the 1872 Mining Law. *The PLF and the National Association of Forest Service Retirees on August 29, 2022 provided joint supplemental comments on the hardrock abandoned mine lands (AML) program in response to a Interior request for comments. The PLF also participated in the Public Listening Sessions with the Interagency Working Group on July 19, 21, and 26, 2022. The PLF Position Statement and supplemental AML comments are available on the PLF website.*

### **GRAZING REGULATIONS 43 CFR PART 4100**

**RULE STATUS:** On January 17, 2020 BLM announced the intent to prepare an EIS to consider proposed revisions to the grazing regulations to improve and streamline the grazing permit process, improve the administration of grazing permits, and also potentially consider the adoption of outcome-based grazing authorizations. *The BLM intends to release a Draft EIS and proposed rule in August 2022 and final regulations in 2023.*

**RULE SUMMARY:** The proposed revisions are intended to update, modernize, and streamline the current grazing regulations and provide for greater flexibility in land and resources management. The BLM seeks to improve land-use planning and grazing permitting procedures, strengthen

controls to prevent unauthorized grazing, enhance environmental protections, and improve public input opportunities.

**PLF POSITION:** The PLF on February 24, 2020 provided comments to BLM in response to the Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS to support proposed revisions to the grazing regulations. The PLF on June 18, 2020 also co-signed a collaborative letter with other organizations to BLM providing comments on proposed revisions to the grazing regulations. The PLF will continue to track the development of the proposed regulations and provide comments as appropriate.



Livestock grazing - Oregon, BLM photo

## BLM LEADERSHIP

### BLM MONTANA STATE DIRECTOR SONYA GERMANN

The BLM on July 20, 2022 announced the selection of Sonya Germann as the new BLM Montana/Dakotas State Director. Germann replaces Theresa Hanley who served as the Acting State Director. Germann has been the Montana State Forester and head of the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) Forestry Division since



Sonya Germann  
Montana State Director

April 2018. She first went to work for the DNRC in 2004 as a part-time staff in the Forestry Division's seedling nursery and in 2007 was hired full-time as a planner in the Trust Lands Division's Forest Management Bureau and promoted to Chief of the Bureau in 2012. Prior to working for the DNRC, Germann worked for the Forest Service as a biological sciences technician at the Tongass National Forest in Alaska and was also a community rights organizer for the Montana Human Rights Network. Germann holds Bachelor's degrees in Wildlife Biology and Liberal Studies from the University of Montana and is completing a Master's degree in Resource Conservation from the University of Montana, College of Forestry.

### BLM COLORADO STATE DIRECTOR DOUG VILSACK

The BLM on July 27, 2022 announced the selection of Doug Vilsack as the new BLM Colorado State Director. Vilsack replaces Stephanie Connolly who served as the Acting State Director, who will return to her role as the Associate State Director. Vilsack is currently the Assistant Director for Parks, Wildlife and Lands for the Colorado Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Prior to becoming the Assistant Director, he served as Director of Legislative Affairs at the Colorado DNR. Before working for the State of Colorado, Vilsack was an attorney handling water, energy, mining, and public lands cases. He also founded and led several non-profit organizations, including the Posner Center for International Development,



Doug Vilsack  
Colorado State Director

a network of Colorado-based businesses and organizations addressing global poverty, and worked to establish distribution networks for household solar installations on the Navajo Nation and in rural Africa. Vilsack has a Law degree from the University of Colorado Boulder and a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Systems-Natural Resource Management from Colorado College in Colorado Springs.

With the continued changes in the leadership positions of the BLM, we would like to provide an update on the current BLM Leadership, including the State Directors that provide the day-to-day on-the-ground management for the public lands. The following are the current Deputy Directors and the State Directors for each of the BLM State Offices:

Director	Tracy Stone-Manning	Eastern States Office	Mitchell Leverette
Deputy Director, Policy and Programs		Idaho State Office	Karen Kelleher
	Nada Culver	Montana State Office	Sonya Germann
Deputy Director, Operations	Michael Nedd	Nevada State Office	Jon Raby
Alaska State Office	Steven Cohn	New Mexico State Office	Melanie Barnes
Arizona State Office	Raymond Suazo	OR/WA State Office	Barry Bushue
California State Office	Karen Mouritsen	Utah State Office	Greg Sheehan
Colorado State Office	Doug Vilsack	Wyoming State Office	Andrew Archuleta

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Mayo White Call** on March 2, 2020, in Orem, UT. He was a U.S. Army veteran. Dr. Call held a Bachelor’s degree in Wildlife and Forestry, a Master’s degree in Wildlife Management/Zoology and a PhD in Ecology and Wildlife Management. He worked for BLM as a wildlife biologist and retired as the BLM Utah State Biologist.

**Elizabeth Princess Carew** on July 23, 2022, in Anchorage, AK. Elizabeth worked for BLM in Alaska for 35 years as a Hearings Officer in the Alaska Native claims office.

**Duane D. Crimmins** on August 24, 2022, in McMinnville, OR. Duane was a U.S. Navy veteran. He graduated from Oregon State University with a degree in Wildlife Science with a minor in Range Management. He worked in the BLM Battle Mountain District, NV from 1977 until 2011.

**Rodney Harris** on June 20, 2022, in Elko, NV. Rod graduated with a degree in Forestry / Range Management from the University of Idaho in 1959. After graduation he began his career with BLM in Monticello, UT. He worked many summers on fire crews in Alaska. His career with BLM included positions in Burley, ID; Washington, D.C.; Albuquerque, NM; and finally 16 years as District Manager in Elko, NV where he retired.

**Everell “Butch” Hayes** on August 14, 2022, in Reno, NV. Butch was a Vietnam War veteran, a former Deputy State Fire Management Officer for BLM Nevada, a Logistics Section Chief for National Area Fire Command Teams, and a wildfire training Instructor. Butch also had the distinction of being one of the first 13 BLM Law Enforcement Rangers in the Nation in 1978. While he did not stay with the BLM Ranger program, his experience made him very supportive of the program and the Rangers that he supervised later in his career.

**Duane “Hoss” Loyd Hosterman** on August 2, 2022, in Ukiah, CA. Duane received a degree in engineering from Montana State University. He started his career with the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Harlem, MT and soon transferred to BLM as a civil engineer. His BLM career included assignments in Malta and Billings, MT and then Redding and Ukiah, CA. He retired from the BLM in 1995.

**Brent D. Jensen** on July 13, 2022, in St. George, UT. His interests in the outdoors led him to a career with BLM where he worked for over 37 years in Nevada, Colorado, Idaho, Utah, and Arizona. After retirement, Brent was the driving force behind the creation of the Southern Utah Shooting Sports Park and served as its chairman for many years. For 25 years he taught in the Utah Hunter



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## IN MEMORIAM (CONTINUED)

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Education Program. He also led tours of the Southern Utah area through the Dixie College Elderhostel program.

**Harvey Axel Lindquist** on August 6, 2022, in Littlefork, MN. Harvey graduated with a BS degree in Forestry from the University of Minnesota–St. Paul in 1961. He began his career with BLM as a Forester in Lakeview, OR and then moved to Baker, OR in 1963. In 1977, he transferred to the BLM office in International Falls, MN to assist in the interagency effort in the establishment of Voyageurs National Park. After completion of this project, he transferred from BLM to the Forest Service in Duluth, MN and retired in 1987. Harvey continued to work after retirement, in different positions as a surveyor, before fully retiring in 2001 from Boise Cascade.

**Doug Prado** on August 14, 2022, in Ukiah, CA. Doug retired as a BLM Ranger in 2013. He began his BLM career as a Co-op Ed Ranger trainee in Redding, CA in 1990. He attended Chico State and received a Master's degree.

**Robert "Bob" Sorenson** on August 5, 2022, in Sequim, WA. Bob was a U.S. Army veteran and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry from Colorado State University. Bob worked for

BLM for 21 years. He started his career in Wyoming and then transferred to Alaska in 1965. He was the Area Manager in McGrath and in 1972 became the Chief of Land and Minerals Operations in the Alaska State Office.

**Queen Washington** on July 20, 2022, in Washington, D.C. Queen worked in the BLM Headquarters Public Affairs office for many years.

**Tyrone Weaver** on July 7, 2022, in Fort Washington, MD. Tyrone received a Bachelor's degree from George Mason University. Tyrone recently retired from the BLM Washington, DC office after 30 years of government service. He was a procurement specialist.

**Hal March Westover** on September 12, 2022, in Florence, OR. Hal was a U.S. Army veteran and attended the University of Montana where he earned degrees in Forestry and Logging Engineering. He worked for the BLM for many years in Oregon and Colorado and was Resource Area Manager in Eugene, OR before his retirement. He was a 60 year member of the American Legion and the Society of American Foresters and also a member of the Public Lands Foundation.

The PLF is committed to never forgetting the dedicated employees of BLM who have left us. We do so on our website's Memorial Wall and by publishing names of those who passed away in the Monitor. If you have a death to report, please e-mail us at [obits@publicland.org](mailto:obits@publicland.org), preferably with a link to or copy of an obituary. You can rely on the PLF to keep you informed of topical news on the public PLF Facebook page, our website, other social media sites, and the Monitor newsletter.

***Note:** Putting together the Memoriam list in the Monitor and maintaining the Memorial Wall on the PLF website takes a lot of work by PLF volunteers. If you find errors, or if you know of something we may have missed, we apologize, and will correct the record. If you have concerns, please let Ray Brady know at [rbrady@publicland.org](mailto:rbrady@publicland.org).*

## DONATIONS

### MEMORIAL DONATIONS

#### RECEIVED FROM

Celia Boddington  
  
Mike Gardner  
  
Eric Janes  
Les Rosenkrance  
Louise Senzel

#### IN MEMORY OF

Queen Washington  
Tyrone Weaver  
Harvey Wofford  
Bill Glenn  
Ed Spang  
Glen Collins  
Irving and  
Jennie Senzel

### GENERAL FUND

Peter Bierbach	Henri Bisson	Celia Boddington
Eric Janes	Courtney Lyons-Garcia	Mat Millenbach
Louise Senzel	Don Simpson	
Gregg and Mary Simmons		

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FUND

Eric Janes

### SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Mike Gardner	Pat Harvey	John Kwiatkowski
Les Rosenkrance	Don Simpson	Rosemary Thomas
Elaine Zielinski	Gregg and Mary Simmons	

### STUDENT CONGRESS

Henri Bisson	James Casewell	Scott Florence
Kim Harb	Linda Hofman	Eric Janes
Cheryl McCaffrey	Mary Jo Rugwell	Don Simspson
Mike Ferguson/Deb Rawhouser		
Conservation Lands Foundation		

### MEMBERSHIP DUES ABOVE \$35.00 CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS

Teresa McDill	Shelley Smith
---------------	---------------

### SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Abbie Jossie	Janine Krec
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### FAMILY MEMBERS

June Bailey/Stephen Linder

### LIFE MEMBERS

Stephen Fleming	Mary Jo Rugwell
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The PLF continues to request donations to support the George Lea Founder's Scholarship fund. We hope members will make a special contribution to the scholarship fund. The PLF awarded two \$5,000 scholarships this year to deserving students. The fund needs to be replenished to be able to continue to offer these scholarships each year.

You can make a designated donation by credit card on our website at [www.publicland.org](http://www.publicland.org), or by check sent to the Public Lands Foundation, P.O. Box 7226, Arlington, VA 22207. In your transmittal, please make sure to mention if your donation is for the **George Lea Founder's Scholarship, Student Congress Fund**, or the **Executive Director Fund**. Remember, if you are making a donation in memory of someone who has passed away, you can designate your donation to go to one of these funds. The PLF Board also recently approved the establishment of a **PLF Endowment Fund** to support the long-term purposes and mission of the organization. The PLF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization. Your donations are tax-deductible to the maximum extent permitted under the law.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*The Monitor is what we make it and we encourage you to provide Letters to the Editor or provide other reviews and comments on articles included in your newsletter. It is important to hear from our membership, and if you like something or don't like something, let us know. If you do send an e-mail to the Editor, don't be surprised if it winds up as a Letter to the Editor in the next edition of the Monitor. Please provide your comments to [rbrady@publicland.org](mailto:rbrady@publicland.org). Comments should be limited to no more than 500 words in length. In addition, members are encouraged to use the [bod@publicland.org](mailto:bod@publicland.org) e-mail address to communicate with the PLF Board.*

*The Monitor generally reflects ongoing PLF activities, events, updates, awards, and information on former BLM employees. We encourage articles and discussions of issues by posting quality content that also provides a positive exposure of the goals, objectives, and mission of the PLF. However, we need to take some precautions when posting information to the newsletter and other forms of social media to ensure appropriate rules of behavior. In keeping a positive experience for our members, we reserve the right to publish only comments, photos, and other material deemed appropriate by the PLF. We intend on maintaining a friendly and professional tone in the articles in the Monitor and any Letters to the Editor.*

### DO WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT CONTACT INFORMATION?

Has your contact information changed? Tell us by emailing [info@publicland.org](mailto:info@publicland.org) or calling 703-935-0916.

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Arlington, VA 22207



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**PUBLIC LANDS FOUNDATION**  
P.O. BOX 7226 ARLINGTON, VA 22207

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_



**JOIN US!!**

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES**

Regular .....	\$50
Contributing .....	\$100
Sponsoring.....	\$200
Patron.....	\$500

## PLF 2023 BALLOT

**Article VI, Ballots, of the PLF by-laws, requires annual election by mail or electronic ballot of the Board of Directors.** Accordingly, the following is the 2023 slate of officers for the Public Lands Foundation. Write-ins are permissible. **Vote by using the SurveyMonkey sent to you by email and save postage**, or mark this ballot and mail it on or before December 15, 2022. If mailed, send your ballot to P.O. Box 7226, Arlington, VA 22207. **National Representatives—vote for all; State Representatives—vote for only your state.**

(Vote by X)	NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES	(Write-In)
_____	President	Mary Jo Rugwell
_____	Vice President	Don Simpson
_____	Vice Pres., Operations	Beau McClure
<u>Appointed</u>	Vice Pres., DC Affairs	Ray Brady
_____	Secretary	Ray Brady
_____	Treasurer	Kim Harb
_____	Director-at-Large	Tom Allen
_____	Director-at-Large	Dean Bibles
_____	Director-at-Large	Peter Bierbach
_____	Director-at-Large	Jim Currivan
_____	Director-at-Large	Mike Ferguson
_____	Director-at-Large	Dwight Hempel
_____	Director-at-Large	Eric Janes
_____	Director-at-Large	John Kwiatkowski
_____	Director-at-Large	Van Manning
_____	Director-at-Large	Dave Mari
_____	Director-at-Large	Mat Millenbach
_____	Director-at-Large	Tim O'Brien
_____	Director-at-Large	George Stone
_____	Director-at-Large	Maggie Wyatt
_____	Director-at-Large	Elaine Zielinski

### STATE REPRESENTATIVES

_____	Alaska	Vacant
_____	Arizona	Beau McClure
_____	California	Thomas Zale
_____	Colorado	Bob Moore
_____	Idaho	Jenna Whitlock
_____	Montana	Richard Hopkins
_____	Nevada	Vacant
_____	New Mexico	Jesse Juen
_____	Oregon	Duane Dippon
_____	Utah	Bill Lamb
_____	Washington	Barron Bail
_____	Wyoming	Bill LeBarron
_____	Midwest & Eastern States	Jeff Holdren

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

**If you have not already done so, please enclose your 2023 annual dues of \$50, which increase effective January 1, 2023, with your ballot. Please consider the Special Dues Categories printed on the address page of the *Monitor* in paying your dues. Your continued financial help is needed to pay for the operating costs of the Public Lands Foundation.**