

APPENDIX A

U.S. Department of the Interior
Environmental Justice
Implementation Progress Report
2013



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 Department’s partnerships with others]

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

[HTTP://WWW.DOI.GOV/PMB/OEPEC/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>

In 2013, there were four new studies added to BOEM's National Studies List in the socioeconomic discipline. These studies are new this year and do not yet have reports with which any potential EJ data could be synthesized. These studies are Evaluation of Visual Impacts on Historic Properties; Social Indicators in Coastal Alaska; Arctic Communities; Inventory and Analysis of Coastal and Submerged Archaeological Site Occurrence near the Main Hawaiian Islands; and Atlantic OCS Cultural Resources Survey and Archaeological Inventory Geographic Information System.

In 2013, BOEM had two existing partnerships with academic institutions. The Coastal Marine Institute (CMI) with Louisiana State University (LSU) and the University of Alaska at Fairbanks (UAF) is designed to respond to BOEM, state, and local information needs and interests with local expertise in the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) relevant disciplines. A major focus of the CMI program is to use the interdisciplinary environment of a research university to foster process-oriented studies, needed technologies and concepts, and synthesis of information that will benefit environmental and resource management. The LSU CMI was established in 1992. Over \$26 million in research agreements have been awarded by BOEM through the LSU CMI program. And, the UAF CMI has completed more than 60 studies with \$15 million in research agreements since 1993. In addition to funding the research of scientists through the CMIs, more than 100 graduate and undergraduate students have been supported through these projects. The BOEM Environmental Studies Program (ESP) joined the National Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU) Council on June 14, 2005, and has since joined 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. The CESU partnerships facilitate access to a wide range of expertise to address federal agency needs and advance the scientific understanding of coastal and marine ecosystems.

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT (OSMRE)

<http://www.osm.gov>

Internships for Minority Populations

Since 2000, the Division of Reclamation Support has hosted semester interns for an opportunity to work with the OSMRE Volunteers in Service to America (OSMRE/VISTA) Teams and gain professional experience with a Federal agency. The competitive student internship program (not the same as VISTA volunteers), based at OSMRE Headquarters and minimally funded by OSMRE, strategically partners with institutions that serve minority and underserved communities to provide students with a professional experience in coal country and in Washington, D.C.

The OSMRE Interns are mentored by OSMRE senior staff and conduct research projects related to community development, environmental stewardship, and poverty alleviation. In addition to

their individual assignments, interns are immersed in new cultures through field trips in Washington, D.C. and site visits to the Appalachian Coal Country Team Support Office in Beckley, WV.

The OSMRE is in its thirteenth consecutive year hosting students in the Washington, D.C. Office. In 2013, 53 percent of interns with the Division of Reclamation Support identified with a minority group. The OSMRE supported three students from the Cal State DC Scholars Program as it launched its inaugural spring semester opportunity. A newly-established partnership with the University of California DC Program provides OSMRE with a greater pool of intern candidates from one of the most diverse and innovative university systems in the nation.

Engaging in Innovative Partnerships

The OSMRE Southwest Conservation Corps (SCC) and AmeriCorps have partnered together to support State Regulatory Agencies to carry out the requirements of Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA). The SCC places OSMRE/AmeriCorps Regulatory Members with participating State Regulatory Agencies to introduce recent college graduates to state surface coal mining regulatory work in a carefully-mentored environment over a full year of training. The OSMRE/AmeriCorps Members conduct direct-service tasks, such as, water quality monitoring, GIS mapping, and community outreach.

For the third consecutive year, OSMRE partnered with the Southwest Conservation Corps to support State Regulatory Agencies to carry out the requirements of SMCRA. The SCC placed 24 OSMRE/AmeriCorps Regulatory Members with participating State Regulatory Agencies to address the need for trained regulatory personnel. The OSMRE/AmeriCorps Regulatory Program is intended to assist state regulatory programs and OSMRE field offices in introducing recent college graduates to state surface coal mining regulatory work in a carefully-mentored environment over a full year of service.

The OSMRE/VISTA Teams continued to cultivate innovative partnerships with the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) as a third-year host of seven NCCC Teams serving throughout eight states (CO, KY, NM, OH, PA, TN, VA, and WV). The seven teams consisted of 8-9 individuals each for a total of approximately 56-63 members. By combining the organizing skills of our OSMRE/VISTAs in communities across Appalachia and the capacity of the Appalachian Coal Country Team and Western Hardrock Watershed Team Support Offices, we were able to bring critical support to impoverished communities that would never have been able to do this on their own. This also opened new doors for NCCC in small rural places where their services are deeply needed.

Example: OSMRE/VISTA Robert Jackson in West Virginia

The OSMRE/VISTA, Robert Jackson, serving with Morris Creek Watershed Association (MCWA) in Montgomery, West Virginia was awarded an AGO grant (Additional Grant Opportunities) of approximately \$5,000 from the West Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. This funding helped build a hydro-turbine that pipes acid mine drainage (AMD) through limestone diversion wells before entering passive AMD treatment systems. Jackson notes that

“the limestone diversion wells are also a new technique for the watershed in which the AMD enters the limestone diversion wells, which are filled with limestone fines, before passing through the treatment systems.” The MCWA received 120 tons of donated limestone fines and dumped at four treatment sites. West Virginia University’s Dr. Deborah Beutler and MCWA have partnered to collect baseline data for the two projects and will, over time, indicate the effectiveness of this treatment system. The Hydro-Turbine also produces energy, which will power water monitoring equipment. West Virginia University technical students, Amy Young and Hannah Clutter, have been involved for their senior capstone project. Senior Amy Young observed, “This project was a lot fun, but also this allows the AMD to be treated properly before it gets into the creek.”

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE (NPS)

<http://www.nps.gov>

Cultural Perservation: N’oubliez Pas: Preservation & Advancement of the Louisiana French Language. Louisiana French refers to the collective dialects spoken in Cajun, Creole, and America Indian communities. In the context of linguistic preservation, status of the language is not yet technically considered endangered. However, significant cultural maintenance is necessary to ensure reciprocation to subsequent generations.

Amidst urban sprawl, gentrification, and tourism-driven encroachment, the situation in Natchitoches Parish is at a crucial crossroads with regard to the propagation of its linguistic heritage. Although the legacy of its Creole heritage lives on in tourism venues, place names, and traditional cultural activities, reciprocation of the Louisiana French language in Natchitoches Parish is perhaps the most-threatened example in the state. With this in mind, the NPS's Cultural Resources Specialist Dustin Fuqua has started to advance his own knowledge, retention, and use of the Louisiana French language as a means to complement its preservation.

A recipient of a 2012 NPS Albright-Wirth Grant Program award, Dustin Fuqua, a Louisiana Creole from Avoyelles Parish, was able to enhance his Louisiana French skills and abilities by utilizing grant funds to participate in statewide heritage events as well as to acquire linguistics software, literature, and musical resources. Trained as an anthropologist, Dustin utilized participant observation techniques to learn from and document the linguistic variations of native Louisiana French speakers. Project work further involved personal communications with francophone from the Acadian region of the state and traditionally-associated people of Cane River, and an ethnographic interview with a Creole centenarian from Avoyelles Parish. The award also enabled Dustin to travel to a number of Louisiana French Table meetings, a grassroots movement by which traditional speakers meet regularly to practice their language skills and keep their cultural traditions relevant and alive. Dustin is leading an effort to develop *La Table Française Aux Natchitoches* (The French Table at the Natchitoches) as a means to preserve, retain, and advance use of the Louisiana French language locally. *Aux Natchitoches* is evocative of the colonial era French post established "at the Natchitoches" or among the local Natchitoches Indians that in turn founded the earliest permanent European settlement west of the Mississippi River in 1714.

Cuyahoga Valley National Park to Pilot A *Call to Action #13: Stop Talking and Listen.*

Cuyahoga Valley National Park encompasses 33,000 acres of Cuyahoga River watershed, national history, diverse ecosystems, and numerous recreational opportunities in northeastern Ohio. The park is located between the large urban centers of Cleveland and Akron and numerous smaller communities surround and border its boundary. The result is a park within a one-hour drive of approximately four million people. The park has worked tirelessly since its inception to develop strong ties with community organizations and the cities that surround the park. While Cuyahoga Valley National Park offers many programs and park opportunities designed to reach out to local audiences, its visitation still mirrors that of other national park sites and does not reflect the diversity of the surrounding population.

Cuyahoga Valley National Park, in coordination with the National Park System Advisory Board Relevancy Committee, and Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park (Conservancy), worked together to engage underserved audiences in community conversations through a variety of meetings held throughout the park, Cleveland, and Akron. The park developed a toolkit to aid parks in engaging in community conversations and to share the successes and lessons learned at Cuyahoga valley National Park's case studies to help in establishing long lasting, mutual beneficial relationships with underserved audiences.

Commemorating first African American Girl Scout Troop South of the Mason-Dixon Line

In 2013, the National Park Service and the Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia (GSCV) joined in a partnership to promote the Girl Scout Leadership experience by offering special programs for Girl Scouts enabling them to learn from Maggie Walker's story, and her lifetime of work to empower women and African Americans. On March 26, 1932, the first meeting of Girl Scout Bird Troop, Number 34 took at the Leigh Street M.E. Church in Richmond, Virginia – becoming the first African American Girl Scout Troop chartered south of the Mason-Dixon Line. Its sponsor was African American entrepreneur and activist Maggie L. Walker.

Park Prescription Program: Partnering with National Environmental Education Foundation Parks as Prescription Program continues and over 400 “Park Prescriptions” were given out over the past year. Thanks to the connection between Dr. Robert Zarr (DC’s Park Prescription Champion), the National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF), the National Park Service, and other health partners, this vision is quickly becoming a reality. The work taking place in D.C. served as a model for NPS working with other land organizations and health providers across the country into a creation of an innovative coalition of park , health and education professionals to ‘prescribe nature to patients with long-term goals of decreasing asthma, and other health disorders while creating a next generation of park stewards.

Healthy and Sustainable Food Program: National Park Service Director Jarvis, launched the NPS Healthy and Sustainable Food Program and released the *National Park Service Healthy Food Choice Standards and Sustainable Food Choice Guidelines for Front Country Operations.*

With hundreds of concession food and beverage operations that serve over 200 million visitors annually, the NPS has a far-reaching opportunity to provide healthy and sustainable food choices and education to visitors. The healthy food standards require that concessioners offer several healthy choices within their overall menu that are basic enough to be achievable irrespective of operation size. The standards address attributes such as calories, sodium and fat content, cooking practices, education, and signage. Parks are asked to apply these standards to new contracts and to encourage existing concessioners to adopt the program voluntarily. The sustainable food guidelines address attributes such as local sourcing, shade-grown coffee and organically grown and provide concessioners and parks recommendations to be considered where it makes sense based on factors such as remoteness, seasonality, and cost.

The NPS Healthy and Sustainable Food Program builds upon the efforts NPS concessioners are already taking in the areas of health and sustainability through NPS Healthy Parks, Healthy People (HP2) and Green Parks Planning Partnership efforts. *Healthy Parks, Healthy People US* is a NPS initiative working to reintegrate human, environmental and ecological health into the mission of public parks and public lands. *Healthy Parks Healthy People US* is based within the National Park Service, it works with national, state, and local parks, as well as business innovators, healthcare leaders, scientists, foundations and advocacy organizations to foster the health-related role that parks can and do play in our society. The NPS has established a Healthy Food category for the new HP2 Awards, includes concessioners in its Environmental Achievement Award program, and is seeking other ways to encourage and recognize concessioners that exceed standards, demonstrate innovation, and provide superior service. This program and its standards and guidelines will help the NPS offer healthy and sustainable food options to its 23.5 million annual food and beverage concession customers at more than 250 locations and will help reduce the environmental footprint of concession operations through sustainable food sourcing.

Big Bend National Park collaborated with the concessionaire, Forever Resorts, LLC, to offer healthier food choices on the restaurant menu and in the convenience stores. Options for healthy, natural, organic, and alternate food products are a challenge in this remote location, as Big Bend is one of the most isolated parks in the continental U.S. Supplies and suppliers come from a great distance to reach the park. Despite the challenge, the park's concession liaison and the concession's general manager brainstormed ways to add healthy products to the menus. One solution involved researching and changing food suppliers who could deliver to the park. This enabled the concessionaire to offer natural beef and gluten free foods in the convenience stores, and an enhanced salad bar with fresh items and organic snacks in the restaurant. In addition, new menu selections provide lighter, lower calorie items for meals and an increase in vegetarian choices.

Petrified Forest National Park's concessionaire Xanterra is working diligently in pursuit of the ideals of A Call to Action #8: Eat Well and Prosper. Salads made in the park's main restaurant are now often composed of locally grown, organic greens from Day-Star Farms in Holbrook which supports the local economy.

NPS Youth Ambassador Program New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park - Massachusetts

A collaboration with the NNPS, this program involves young artists in presenting their local history to their peers through music and art so that youth are attracted to learn about where they come from, and they can connect to their local resources. The NPS Youth Ambassador Program presented a song and video on sustainability. The Youth Ambassador Program (YAP) challenges youth to "Keep it Sustainable." While, providing the message in a hip hop style YouTube video to show how to live a sustainable lifestyle and lower carbon footprint with a catchy song.

[A hip hop musical video adventure](#) along the New England National Scenic Trail (NET), produced by the NPS YAP, is creating a buzz among young people. With a storyline inspired by The Matrix, the video has registered over 1000 views on YouTube and energized young people across New England to "find their adventure" on the NET. It has even spurred other national trails to produce their own dance videos. Impressed by the energy and style of YAP's earlier video, [Get Outside and Move](#), which encourages people to explore parks and trails in their backyard, YAP approached the project with professionalism and brought fresh ideas to the table." The project goals were to generate greater awareness of the trail and to encourage New England youth to get active. The YAP helped the NET partnership see that peer-to-peer communication is one of the most effective strategies.

Building on the success of the video, YAP continues to expand awareness through school visits where the YAP team show their videos and share their outdoor experiences. The NET's primary trail partners, Appalachian Mountain Club and Connecticut Forest & Park Association are also using the video as part of their outreach programs.

Ticket to Ride Program

In partnership with the National Park Foundation the "Ticket to Ride" Program continues to provide transportation funding and in park educational programming and meals, brining kids from around the county to their local national parks. Now in its second year and with continued support from the Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund and Disney Friends for Change, "Ticket to Ride" provides financial resources for transportation, in-park educational programming, and meals that make national park field trips possible for schools across the country. The grant from Disney will help more than 60,000 students to experience location-based learning in their local national parks this year. Disney is committed to connecting kids to nature, ensuring they appreciate and understand the beauty and value of our natural resources.

Yellowstone National Park received a 2013 "Ticket to Ride" grant from the National Park Foundation (NPF), the official charity of America's national parks, for Yellowstone's Connecting Native American Youth to Yellowstone Program. The NPF "Ticket to Ride" program, supported by a grant from the Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund, helps students explore the outdoors by providing transportation and program support to national parks around the country.

Funding will help provide bus transportation for most of the 300 students and 65 teachers/chaperones from tribal schools who will participate in *Expedition: Yellowstone!* , a

curriculum-based education program for grades 4-8, or in a ranger-led *Yellowstone Field Trip* program from May 2013 through April 2014. The Yellowstone Park Foundation, the park's primary fundraiser, will support full or partial scholarships for many of the students participating in the *Expedition Yellowstone!* Program.

Schools partnering with Yellowstone include: St. Francis Indian School from South Dakota; Wyoming Indian Elementary School; Plenty Coups High School, Pryor Middle School, De La Salle Blackfeet School, Hardin Intermediate School, Hardin Middle School, Crow Agency School, and Lame Deer School from Montana.

For many students, the "Ticket to Ride" field trip will be their first visit to a national park. Welcoming Native American youth to the lands their ancestors walked upon will serve to strengthen relationships between Yellowstone and its associated tribes. By engaging youth in healthy outdoor physical activities and hands-on, place-based, interactive learning, the park hopes to open the doors to future stewardship and preservation of ecosystems in and beyond the park, as well as to reinforce the cultural and historical value of the tribal contributions to this landscape.

Historic Tax Credits Help Preserve Buildings that tell of America's Diverse Identity

The Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives Program encourages private sector investment in the rehabilitation and reuse of historic buildings. It is one of the nation's most successful and cost-effective community revitalization programs, and the largest such program specifically supporting historic preservation. Administered by the National Park Service's Technical Preservation Services (TPS) office and the Internal Revenue Service, in partnership with the State Historic Preservation Offices, the program has leveraged over \$66 billion in private investment to preserve over 38,700 historic properties from 1976 to 2012.

The program has been used to rehabilitate historic buildings in communities both large and small across the nation, not only renowned works of architecture but also those places important to our shared cultural past and that tell the stories of America's diverse national identity. In support of the National Park Service's A Call to Action plan, Action #1, "Filling in the Blanks," the National Park Service encourages efforts to preserve and protect the places and sites that fully reflect our nation's heritage.

Examples of the many buildings that represent this diverse history and have been rehabilitated and preserved using the historic tax credits are the Boyle Hotel in Los Angeles, California, and the Woodsmen of the Union Building in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

The 1889 [Boyle Hotel](#) is in Los Angeles's Boyle Heights neighborhood, a historic point-of-entry neighborhood for successive waves of immigrant groups in the city's history. The neighborhood's oldest-surviving commercial building, it is also closely associated with the history in Los Angeles of Mariachi music, a folk musical tradition from Mexico. Located opposite a plaza where Mariachis have gathered and played since at least the 1930s, the building is known for its long history of housing Mariachis. The non-profit East Los Angeles Community Organization

has rehabilitated the building into 51 units of affordable housing as well as a Mariachi Cultural Center and rehearsal rooms.

The [Woodsmen of the Union Building](#) was designed by noted Tuskegee Institute architect W. T. Bailey and built to provide first-class hotel accommodations and a bathhouse fed by the local hot springs specifically for African Americans. It was financed by Woodsmen of the Union, a fraternal insurance company, and in addition to the hotel and baths, featured an auditorium and a theater, a gymnasium, a print shop, a beauty parlor and a newsstand. In its heyday it attracted well-known entertainers, sports and political figures, such as Count Basie and Joe Louis. The building has been rehabilitated as low-income housing for seniors.

River Trails and Conservation Assistance Program

The National Park Service through the River, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program continues to help partners including nonprofits, state and local governments, and tribes build trails, restore and improve access to rivers, and develop parks. Together, we are creating sustainable communities that give every American places to walk, bike, paddle, run, explore, and connect with nature. During 2013, over 1357 miles of trails were developed, 736 miles of rivers were conserved and over 20,000 acres of open space and parkland was protected.

Skagway's Pullen Creek StreamWalk

Skagway, Alaska is considered the gateway to the Gold Rush of 1898 and home to the northern unit of Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park. As a major cruise stop, the number of pedestrians walking between the waterfront and historic district can exceed 10,000 a day during summer months. In 2009, the Municipality of Skagway Borough (Municipality), Taiya Inlet Watershed Council (TIWC), FWS, and Klondike Gold Rush decided to work together to create the Pullen Creek Stream Walk, a 0.6-mile walking path with interpretive signs tying together historical and natural history points between the waterfront and the Skagway Historic District. In 2011, the TIWC applied for NPS Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program support with the trail project. A conceptual plan for the trail was completed by Corvus Design in the fall of 2012.

In winter 2013, the NPS Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program and community partners explored jointly applying for a new Federal Lands Access Program grant. The municipality agreed to take on trail maintenance responsibility and Klondike Gold Rush provided matching funds. In spring 2013, the project was awarded nearly \$1.9 million dollars to complete planning, design, and construction of the entire trail.

Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) Grants- \$7,867,323 to support the duties of the 142 THPO's. These non-competitive grants are awarded to Indian tribes to support the activities of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs). The grants provide support in fulfilling responsibilities under Section 101(d) of the National Historic Preservation Act (see *Quick Guide – NHPA Section 101 (d)*). Such responsibilities include conducting surveys of historic places, maintaining historic site inventories, National Register of Historic Places nominations, and

reviewing Federal agency undertakings under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Tribal Heritage Grants – Tribal Heritage grants in the amount of \$645,351.00 were awarded to 17 Tribal Heritage projects. Tribal Heritage Grants assist Indian Tribes, Alaskan Natives, and Native Hawaiian Organizations in protecting and promoting their unique cultural heritage and traditions.

National Park Foundation’s 2013 Transportation Scholars Program

The [National Park Foundation](#) (NPF), awarded \$250,000 in grants to five national parks across the country through its [Transportation Scholars](#) program. Now in its 12th year, this program selects emerging transportation professionals to work side-by-side with [National Park Service](#) staff to research sustainable alternative solutions to address the growing and unique transportation issues in America’s national parks, including traffic, pollution and congestion. The Transportation Scholars Program is a unique partnership that is helping us create comprehensive transportation plans for national parks. The 2013 Transportation Scholars national park recipients include:

[Bandelier National Monument](#) (New Mexico)

The scholar will help develop a thoughtful way finding/signage plan and establish partnerships with local communities and agencies to collectively address the need for a Bandelier bike loop and regional bicycle trail.

[Cuyahoga Valley National Park](#) (Ohio)

The scholar will develop a plan for alternative transportation that will help connect underserved communities with the natural, historic, educational and recreational aspects of the national park.

[Lowell National Historical Park](#) (Massachusetts)

The scholar will help manage improvements to and expansion of the existing visitor trolley system, in addition to providing technical assistance in contract management, addressing FTA program requirements and facilitating collaboration among community partners.

[National Mall and Memorial Parks](#) (Washington, D.C.)

The scholar will develop strategic recommendations for multimodal transportation options that provide more efficient visitor mobility, safe walking/biking environments, and less traffic congestion.

[Yellowstone National Park](#) (Wyoming, Montana and Idaho)

The scholar will continue working on the “Gardiner Gateway Project,” which was started in 2012. The scholar will focus on improving the current traffic congestion, parking overflow, and pedestrian/bicycle safety concerns at the park’s historic north entrance.

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (FWS)

<http://www.fws.gov>

North American Conservation Initiative: As part of the U.S. North American Conservation Initiative, the FWS partnered with private land owners, to restore and protect many bird species. Many of these partnerships provided direct benefits to people such as improving water quality

and supported jobs and economic growth. The success stories are highlighted in the *2013 State of the Birds Report on Private Lands*.

Consultation /Partnerships with Indian Tribes: The FWS dedicated \$1 million of its FY13 Operating Plan Budget to conduct Tribal consultation work that benefitted Tribes while furthering the conservation mission. The Office of Law Enforcement and National Eagle Repository finalized its Consultation Policy with interested federally recognized Tribes regarding eagle and eagle feather distribution processes.

In 2013, FWS established a team of FWS staff and 16 Tribal representatives from across the country to revise and update its current Native American Policy. The Southwest Region established a field-level Tribal Consultation Coordinator for Arizona and New Mexico to work directly with 17 federally recognized tribes on both high profile issues such as: endangered species issues, water rights settlements, natural resource management issues and wildlife and habitat management. Through early communications with Tribes, numerous natural resources issues were resolved and greater conservation collaboration and partnerships were established.

The Midwest Region established zone Native American Liaisons to advance our communication and partnerships with tribes. The first-ever Tribal/Service coordination meeting was held September 2013. The Southeast Region conducted more than 70 consultations on Service actions with the ten federally recognized tribes and with tribes formerly inhabiting the southeast. The Southeast Region is part of a long-term consultation concerning the Investigation of an Archaeological Resources Protection Act regarding matters of the Indian Bayou Mounds at Tensas River National Wildlife Refuge. The Northeast Region utilized FY13 Service Tribal Reprogramming Allocation funds (\$105,000) to conduct two projects: 1) priority species conservation activities on the Penobscot River, and, 2) Tribal consultation and engagement with Landscape Conservation Cooperatives in the region. The Mountain-Prairie Region hosted a Tribal Leadership Roundtable discussion in Rapid City, SD, to enhance communication and collaborative partnership efforts and address mutual interests in fish, wildlife, and plant conservation across the eight-state region.

A cross program, multi-agency and Tribal leader Team lead by the Alaska Native Affairs Specialist, developed the first-ever Federal Subsistence Board consultation policy to conduct government-to-government consultation on subsistence regulations.

The FWS worked with the White Earth Nation in Minnesota for over a decade on the lake sturgeon restoration in the Red River. Since 2003, over 140,000 lake sturgeons were stocked into the lakes and rivers of the Red River Basin. October 22, 2013, Genoa National Fish Hatchery delivered lake sturgeon to the White Earth Nation. This led to ownership among the next generation of future stewards of natural resources. The public involvement led to an open line of communication with the tribal fisheries department.

Grants

The FWS awarded more than \$13 million in grants to boost recreational boating in communities across the country through the Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) program. These grants provided recreational opportunities while supporting jobs and economic growth. This program is a win-win situation for recreational boaters, conservation initiatives and job creation. A BIG grant of nearly \$1.5 million, matched with nearly \$1 million in non-federal funding, enabled the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission to partner with the Bucks County Riverfront program to install 25 new day slips on the Delaware River. Funding for the Boating Infrastructure Grant program comes from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund.

http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/GrantPrograms/SFR/SFRA_Funding.pdf

Since 2003, the FWS Tribal Grants Program awarded more than \$60 million to Native American tribes to fund a wide range of conservation programs. These grants have enabled tribes to develop increased management capacity, improve and enhance relationships with partners (including state agencies) address cultural and environmental priorities, and heighten tribal students' interest in fisheries, wildlife and related fields of studies.

America's Great Outdoors: The FWS formed a partnership with the Watts Branch of the Anacostia River and other Federal agencies to restore a segment of the one of the most urbanized watersheds in the Chesapeake Bay drainage basin. The restoration directly accounted for 26 jobs and more than \$1.5 million in local labor income including salaries, wages and benefits and \$1.5 million in local value added (the contribution of expenditures to Gross Domestic Product). Moreover, the restoration indirectly supported an additional 19 jobs, providing an additional \$1.1 million in labor income and \$1.9 in value added to the local economy. Restoring Watts Branch contributed more than \$3 million to a struggling local economy.

Let's Go Outside: The FWS sponsored numbers activities nationwide for kids and educational materials for families, students, kids and educators <http://wvs.fws.gov> Bringing Nature to the Chicago – The Chicago Illinois Field Office staff fueled community conservation in Chicago through a grassroots partnership with the Forest Preserves of Cook County. Staff provided technical support, on-site assistance and found financial support from the Friends. About the partnership: <http://dnain.fo/155G8g>.

The National Wildlife Refuges welcomed youth hunters to the refuges to take part in annual events. For example, Selawik National Wildlife Refuge celebrated the natural history and cultural traditions of the Inupiaq Village with more than 150 kids attending the Science-Cultural Camp. Kids checked fish nets, scaled and cut fish, picked cranberries, hunted caribou and seals, and other activities.

Clarence Cannon National Wildlife Refuge - Mobility and Visually Impaired Hunt takes place each year. Sportsmen and women ranging in age from teens to seniors are presented the opportunity to harvest deer.

National Fishing and Boating Week – helped raise awareness of fish through local fishing derbies and events throughout the country. Many of the derbies take place at FWS hatcheries including fishing events for youth, special needs, and adults in long term care facilities. Thousands of citizens participate in these activities.

National wildlife refuges in California, Nevada and the Klamath Basin generated \$82 million in sales, supported more than 900 private –sector jobs and produced \$28.7 million in job income for local communities. More information about National Wildlife Refuges in the Pacific Southwest Region is available at: <http://www.fws.gov/cno/refuges/>

The National Wildlife Refuges provided significant local economics by adding \$2.4 billion into the economy nationwide, and supported more than 35,000 private sector jobs. The FWS recently completed a new analysis examining the impacts to local economics of visits to national wildlife refuges. The study, called *Banking on Nature*, covered the period October 1, 2010 to September 31, 2011, and included 92 of the more than 550 national wildlife refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge System in the analysis.

Training: The FWS and the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society conducted law enforcement training for tribal fish and game officers in New Town, ND, on July 8-12, 2013. The Alaska Region conducted Alaska Native Relations training on government-to-government consultation, history, federal legal responsibilities, and Alaska Native cultures and cross cultural communication. This resulted in more dialogue at the local level, better understanding of the FWS mission, and enhanced employees’ abilities to correctly and meaningfully carry out consultation on FWS actions.

Wildlife Conservation: Wind storms and flooding in Ohio in 2013 spurred a cleanup effort. The Ohio Ecological Field Office worked with the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services to train over 200 workers to recognize and implement opportunities for wildlife conservation during cleanup activities. Workers were given the skills to recognize habitat for the Indiana bat and other bat species. They learned about the diversity and life history of Ohio’s mussels and other stream critters.

Education: The Don Edwards refuge conducts environmental educational classes for thousands of students each year at its Environmental Education Center in Alviso, CA. The Minnesota National Wildlife Refuge hosted a home school program for kids aged preschool through 6th grade. The students participated in year-long study vertebrate classes.

Geological Survey (USGS)

<http://www.usgs.gov>

The USGS is the earth and natural science bureau within the Department. The USGS provides impartial information on the health of our ecosystems and environment, the natural hazards that threaten us, the natural resources we rely on, the impacts to climate and land-use change, and the core science systems that help us to provide timely, relevant, and useable information. The USGS is not responsible for regulations or land management. The USGS does not have any

programs, policies, or activities that could disproportionately and negatively affect the health or environment of minority, low-income, or tribal communities. However, the USGS engages in many diverse scientific activities and partnerships with communities across the Nation. Information on these activities and partnerships can be found on the USGS web site. Compilations describing the work that USGS has done in partnership, specifically with Indian Tribes can be found at: <http://www.usgs.gov/indian/reports/index.html>.

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT (BLM)

<http://www.blm.gov>

Environmental Justice Partnerships and Projects at BLM – FY 2013¹

BLM Alaska

BLM's National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska Subsistence Advisory Panel

Established in 1998, the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska (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.

In FY 2013 three SAP meetings were held. 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 learns about local subsistence and socioeconomic conditions and concerns; and 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.

¹ Please note that this attachment includes only partnerships and projects that were either not previously reported or were revised since the FY 2012 DOI Environmental Justice Progress Report. Please refer to the FY 2012 Report for more information on BLM's other ongoing Environmental Justice Partnerships in Idaho and at the Washington, DC office.

Broadening NEPA Environmental Justice discussions to include climate change

The BLM recently produced an Integrated Activity Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for the entire NPR-A in which the discussion of environmental justice was expanded to include climate change, which is disproportionately affecting vulnerable individuals and poor and minority populations worldwide. The Iñupiat of the North Slope are in a unique situation because climate change impacts are more extreme in the Western Arctic than other areas, and because those impacts are particularly consequential within the context of Iñupiaq subsistence culture. This expanded focus of the EJ section will continue with the current Greater Moose's Tooth Supplemental EIS process and future NEPA documents.

It is not clear whether this provides a clear benefit to the EJ population. However, identifying climate change as an environmental justice issue in the NPR-A could support the use of scientific information to plan effectively for changes that will disproportionately affect the Iñupiat as the issue of "climate refugees" and relocation of native villages in Alaska continues to grow. A broader focus (historical overview and climate change) of the EJ sections in general is beneficial for BLM employees whose work does not normally focus on social/cultural issues but who want to better understand the Inupiaq residents of the area.

BLM Arizona

Draft Environmental Justice Guidance Developed

The BLM has developed two draft environmental justice guidance documents. The first of these documents is a step-by-step, "how to" description of how BLM Field Office personnel can perform a basic Environmental Justice analysis for upcoming projects. The document includes references and links for appropriate data sources and other directives and guidance from other agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency and the US Census Bureau.

The second guidance document is an outline of what an Environmental Justice report or chapter should contain, if the analysis is prepared by a third party, such as a contractor. This draft guidance is intended to serve as a quality control measure for BLM Field Offices, to establish a minimum standard for contracted materials, as well as providing BLM Field Offices a consistent set of requirements for preparing scopes of work and as guidance to provide to contractors as a description of required services.

Limitrophe Coordinated Restoration Partnership

An unusual and innovative partnership addressing ecological restoration has been established where the Colorado River crosses the border between the United States and Mexico. The Colorado River includes a broad flood plain dotted with willows, wetlands, and small islands, as well as the river channel. Together, these unique ecological zones constitute the limitrophe, an expanse of lush vegetation and wetlands in a setting of arid southwestern desert. The limitrophe has been subjected to multiple impacts from development and other sources for the last two hundred years. The limitrophe is also a vital part of the ancestral home of several Tribes on both sides of the international border. In an effort to restore portions of this unique environment, the Limitrophe Coordinated Restoration Partnership (LCRP) was established.

The restoration efforts proposed for the limitrophe are being led by the Cocopah Indian Tribe in partnership with the USDI Bureau of Land Management, the USDI Bureau of Reclamation, the US Border Patrol, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the Arizona Game and Fish Department, and a number of NGOs on both sides of the international border. The goal of the partnership is to enhance restoration projects along the limitrophe in order to sustain the cultural link among past, present, and future generations. The Cocopah Tribal Council has encouraged BLM managers to participate in these efforts, and the BLM Arizona Yuma Field Office has been active in supporting the partnership.

The LCRP signed recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to formalize the partnership and is developing a Coordinated Management Plan to establish Desired Future Conditions for the limitrophe. The proposed ecological restoration efforts will be developed in ways that account for social and cultural concerns among Tribes and other local communities. This, in turn, will allow the federal agencies responsible for managing this unique area to implement measures that are inclusive of the concerns of Tribes, and local minority populations.

Tribal Consultation Memoranda of Understanding

The Colorado River District and the Arizona Strip District have both signed Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with the Hualapai Tribe. These MOUs define how government-to-government and project specific consultation will take place between the Tribe and the BLM on a wide range of projects.

These MOUs provide the basis for early and comprehensive involvement of the Hualapai Tribe in review of proposed BLM actions in the two Districts, and provide both the Tribe and the Districts with a clearly stated way to gain Tribal viewpoints, and address Tribal concerns in BLM planning and implementation efforts.

BLM California

The BLM 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 socio economic population areas. California also contains varying climates and ecosystems along with differing population concentrations. Despite these challenges, the BLM 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 programs, agreements, partnerships and contracts.

Renewable Energy Tribal Outreach

Through numerous outreach efforts, including the Tribal-Federal Leadership Conference, the BLM hosted Open Houses with specific renewable energy consultations and technical meetings. Forty (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 under development. These outreach efforts also provided Tribes with technical support, maps, presentations, information, data, contacts, answers to tribal question and clarifications of tribal issues.

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

Cultural Resources Protocol Agreement for BLM-California

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. The BLM-California mounted a special outreach effort to all California Tribes and the public, providing them with the 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 the government might otherwise not have received.

Historic Preservation, Tribes and Lessons Learned from Renewable Energy Projects

The California Tribal Historic Preservation Officer-State Historic Preservation Officer Tribal Summit on Heritage Preservation and Intergovernmental Consultation provided a forum for BLM to make presentations/have discussions with California Tribal Historic Preservation Officers. Best practices and recommendations for improving consultation with tribes and tribal authorities as well as case scenarios/lessons learned as a result of renewable energy development in California. Insights into federal government processes were also offered.

Tribes were given information to assist them in vital work and BLM received a deeper appreciation of tribal concerns and issues.

Youth Summit – Multicultural Experiences in the Outdoors

BLM hosted the 2nd Annual Outdoor Summit for Youth. The Summit was co-sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service to strengthen and expand partnerships with youth organizations and other partners that educate, engage, and employ youth from diverse communities and backgrounds. Public and private partners who support youth education and employment in California were invited to participate in the one-day summit that expanded the horizons of California's youth to include the outdoors and the field of natural resources. The summit brought together 200 participants including six high schools and more than 50 organizations who support young people in California.

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.

Family Science Workshops

The BLM and 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 the scientific methods. Curiosity was stimulated using the habitat they are already familiar with. Additionally, families are directed to local natural areas for family outings. Children interact with BLM scientists with hands-on investigations in an informal, friendly atmosphere.

Off Highway Vehicle Education and Interpretation

The BLM 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.

This event opens new avenues potential income for Native American individuals and produces more knowledgeable stewards of the tribal cultural heritage. BLM benefits by building better working relationships with Tribes.

Tribal Training - History, Method and Theory of Archaeology

BLM, in partnership with Sherwood Valley Rancheria, presented archaeology (objectives, history of development, methods, and theoretical paradigms) and the prehistory of the North Coast Ranges. The training was part of Sherwood Valley Rancheria's week long Basic Archaeological Monitoring Training attended by several California Tribes.

Tribal members received an in-depth overview of archaeology's objectives and background including theoretical paradigms, prehistoric overview for the North Coast Ranges, and field methods. The information helped to demystify archaeology and its objectives, engaged tribal monitors and encouraged collaboration between tribal monitors and agency archaeologists.

Tribal Archaeological Site Recordation Training

BLM partnership with Sherwood Valley Rancheria's Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) to hold a 2-day (in-the-field) site recordation class for tribal monitors. The class goal was to train tribal monitors from a variety of Northern California Tribes how to complete forms in-compliance with Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) standards. The class entailed an overview of GPS coordinate systems and field methods (how to conduct a Class III intensive field survey, identify artifacts, map a site), as well as, completing primary and archaeological site records and photograph logs.

Tribal members learned the important details of reading, interpreting, and recording an archaeological site. The class underscored the importance of documenting sites and archiving records as temporal snapshots for condition assessments. Training could lead to employment for tribal members, strengthens tribal relations and builds rapport with BLM.

Hydraulic Fracturing – Tribal Outreach

BLM outreached to Tribes regarding proposed revised rules on hydraulic fracturing on federal & Indian Lands (43 CFR Part 3160) (disclosure of chemicals used on public and Indian lands, regulations related to well-bore integrity, and issues related to flow-back water). Presentations by BLM at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 9, Annual Tribal/EPA Conference provided Tribes with background, information and facts on the proposed regulations and hydraulic fracturing.

Tribal attendees were provided with a better understanding of hydraulic fracturing entails including; the footprint and depth of operations, and the relative location of auriferous features. Tribes were made aware of new regulations and opportunities for input. BLM received valuable input that might otherwise not have been received and more lines of communication were opened with Tribes.

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

Presentations were made to local disadvantaged schools, youth groups, and local community groups. BLM hosted booths at Career and County Fairs. BLM 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.

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 are working together with community-based organizations 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. As stewards of our nation's lands, waters, and cultural heritage, 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 pilot project also introduces and educates youth and families on how to access recreational opportunities and career options with three federal land management agencies.

Outreach was made 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 an educate public on the values of the public lands.

Inmate Crews

Agreements with the California Department of Forestry and Fire through the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's Conservation (Fire) Camp Program provide minimum security prison inmate crews who perform work on BLM land such as building barriers, participating in environmental restoration and trail maintenance. During the work, inmates are taught about the animals, plants and environment they are working in. Inmates are generally from minority or economically disadvantaged groups.

Inmates perform meaningful work, receive a small stipend, an education on the natural environment and view firsthand the negative impacts on public land of an unknowledgeable public. 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 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 (LACC)

Through an assistance agreement with Los Angeles Conservation Corps, BLM 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, and achieves additional environmental restoration and a more knowledgeable citizen who can appreciate BLM's mission and the value of natural and cultural resources.

Student Conservation Association (SCA)

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 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 reconnecting America's youth with the outdoors while benefitting public lands of the National Landscape Conservation System. BLM provides training to increase crew members' resource skills and 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, and achieves additional environmental restoration and a more knowledgeable citizen 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, are more informed as to tribal and other agency issues and concerns.

Human Health Impacts from Abandon Mines & Mining Sites

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, Mung, 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 the fishermen of such waters of the dangers through signage in multiple languages and pamphlets. Partnerships with non-governmental organizations have also been established to talk with the fishermen as another avenue of outreach.

Health is improved and BLM increases service to community and improves public perception of the agency's relevance to the ethnic communities.

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, and 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.

Public Lands Boot Camp

Public Lands Boot Camp, a new partnership with the National Monument, Coachella Valley Unified School District and Chico State University was implemented to educate, engage and employ local youth. Designed for college students who live in the Coachella area, the various aspects of a career in natural resource management are provided through staff presentations, seminars, field trips to local nature preserves and wilderness areas, outreach to public schools and Boys and Girls Clubs and public speaking assignments.

Public Lands Boot Camp will contribute to diversify the BLM workforce to better reflect the diverse population of California and particularly the Coachella Valley. Career pathways were demonstrated to local youth at a time of life when life changing decisions are being made. Spanish speaking young employees were given the opportunity to showcase their path to success with a formal presentation, the Boot Camp participants learned from role models not far from their age range. Students greatly increased interest in natural resource careers and confidence in public speaking. Participants and their families felt much more confident to visit the outdoors with their families in the future.

Volcanic Tablelands 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. The Tribe has prehistoric and historic connections with these lands and a direct interest in ensuring the land be protected from degradation and all cultural properties be preserved. The area includes over 80 thousand acres of undeveloped BLM lands. The MOA identifies opportunities for cooperation and has been used to protect cultural resources from vandalism. This year saw collaboration on the development of information kiosks that detail both the tribal and BLM perspectives. Threatened species monitoring, site stewardship, and public outreach projects were all completed in 2013 under this agreement as well.

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

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.

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: 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. Ensure minority, low-income, and tribal populations are provided with the opportunity to engage in meaningful involvement in the Department's decision making processes. 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.

Salish-Kootenai College (SKC) Student Internship Program

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.

These efforts support the following goal: 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

This program is jointly sponsored by the MT/DAKs BLM and the Beaverhead-Deer Lodge National Forest. 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.

These efforts support the following goal: 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.

These efforts support the following goals: 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. 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.

Bureau Sponsored Regional Tribal Consultation Meetings

BLM helped organize and facilitate Regional Intertribal Consultation meetings. These efforts included consultation meetings for developing Oil and Gas Onshore Orders governing the Hydraulic Fracturing process; as well as consultation meetings for proposed oil and gas pipelines in North Dakota associated with the Baaken oil fields (Bear Den Pipeline, Hess-Hawkeye Pipeline).

These efforts support the following goals: 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. Ensure minority, low-income, and tribal populations are provided with the opportunity to engage in meaningful involvement in the Department's decision making processes. 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.

Pryor Mountains/Dry Head Overlook Sacred Landscape Study

The project was a partnership with the BLM, Custer National Forest, and the Crow Tribal Historic Preservation Office. The partnership involved hiring one Crow student as BLM summer seasonal employee, and employing three Crow monitors provided by the Crow Tribal Historic Preservation Office. The effort completed the following goals: Program to use students and tribal monitors to research Traditional Cultural Properties on BLM and national forest lands. Provide ethnographic overview of areas important to tribes. Assist the field office in documenting and recording traditional cultural properties. Complete formal National Register nomination for identified properties.

These efforts support the following goals: 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. 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 BLM 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 Phillips66 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: 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. 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 BLM 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 goal: 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.

Aaniih Nakoda College Training on Submission of Public Land Use Plan Comments

At the request of Aaniih Nakoda College in Fort Belknap, BLM staff participated in a one-day training session April 26 directed at effectively commenting on public land use plans. American Indian Studies instructor Sean Chandler initiated the session with a slide presentation recounting the history of Fort Belknap and genesis of the current reservation boundaries, i.e., the shrinking of tribal lands. BLM planner Brian Hockett outlined the recently published draft HiLine RMP. Archaeologist Josh Chase spoke about the diversity of cultural properties within the planning

area and how the HiLine RMP addresses their long term management on public land. Other presenters included Mark Good of the Montana Wilderness Association, who discussed the importance of preserving Montana's native prairie landscapes. Fort Belknap Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Morris Belgard addressed the tribes' desire to preserve their history and culture. Fort Belknap Department of Wildlife Director Mark Azure spoke of sage grouse, bison and other wildlife concerns both on and off Fort Belknap. As part of the class, students will be required to submit official comment letters on the draft HiLine RMP/EIS.

These efforts support the following goals: 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. Ensure minority, low-income, and tribal populations are provided with the opportunity to engage in meaningful involvement in the Department's decision making processes. 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.

Ft. Belknap Archaeological Technician Training

The Havre Field Office recently worked in partnership with the Gros Ventre and Assiniboine Tribal Historic Preservation Office to host a three-day Archaeological Technician training which was accredited through the Aaniiih Nakoda Tribal College in Fort Belknap, Mont. The class gave students an overview of the history of archaeology, archaeological survey techniques, map reading, survey and site recordation techniques, and both prehistoric and historic artifact analysis. After one day of classroom instruction, the students spent two days in the field, recording and visiting actual cultural resource locations.

These efforts support the following goal: 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.

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, which was designed to put out-of-school young adults to work, teaching them useful life and employment skills, while at the same time accomplishing much needed wildlife habitat improvement projects. From June through October each year, the crew uses chainsaws to remove encroaching pinyon and juniper trees from carefully selected wildlife habitats in central Nevada. In addition to combating pinyon and juniper takeover of wildlife habitat, Bootstraps crews have repaired or constructed numerous fences to protect wetlands. Although the program began very modestly, Bootstraps crews have grown steadily over the years (crews are now comprised of 12–18 young adults) and have completed an impressive list of wildlife habitat improvement projects in the Fish Creek, Simpson Park, Roberts, Sulphur Springs, Toiyabe, Desatoya and Battle Mountain Ranges of central Nevada.

The Bootstraps crew camp at the job site greatly reduces 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. The crewmembers are able to gain important job skills and experience while improving wildlife habitat for sage grouse and other important species.

BLM Utah

Earth, Water Sky Summer Science Camp

Every August, the Monticello Field Office partners with the Four Corners School (FCS) to conduct the annual four-day Earth, Water Sky Summer Science Camp summer camp that immerses Utah students (ages 12-18) in an exciting outdoor classroom environment on the San Juan River. Students learn about astronomy, earth science, geology, desert hydrology, and public lands management. Youth from San Juan County and the Navajo Reservation were able to participate in this event. San Juan County is the most economically depressed county in Utah and has the highest percentage of minorities in Utah. Native Americans account for 58% of the population.

Taking students on the San Juan River provides an outdoor recreational and educational opportunity for local youth to learn about Utah's ecosystem and public land management. The partnership fosters community support.

Moab FO and Moab Multicultural Center Partnership

The BLM works with the Moab Multi-Cultural Center, which provides a range of services to the underserved immigrant families predominately from Mexico. Recently, BLM facilitated an after school program for grade-school-age girls focused on getting outside and learning about ecosystems, wildlife, archaeology and soils. BLM archaeologist Aron King also mentors older students from ages 12-17 from the same community.

The partnership benefits are: Engaging and educating local youth; fostering a welcoming atmosphere of diversity and inclusion; nurturing a diverse future workforce and citizen stewards; and inspiring minority youth to pursue higher education.

Nature High Summer Camp (NHSC)

For the past 20 years, (NHSC) has provided a week-long, intensive, energetic learning experience for Utah high school students. It introduces students to "a day in the life" of a natural resource professional. Eight State and Federal agencies partner to mentor campers by leading guided field exercises in hydrology, rangeland management, wildlife/aquatic biology, soils and forestry. The participants experience the fun and challenges of a career in natural resources. NHSC 2013 was the most diverse camp yet: BLM Utah's EEO program sponsored 10 campers

from diverse backgrounds, including 7 students recruited through a new partnership with Youth Discovery, Inc., based out of Logan, UT.

Part of NHSC's mission is to encourage young women and minorities to pursue careers in science, as well as provide an opportunity for students from varied backgrounds to gain respect for the various avenues of natural resource management. Statewide science fair winners receive scholarships to attend camp. Supports numerous youth, partnership and diversity initiatives and incorporates Bureau programs Take It Outside!, Let's Move, and Tread Lightly. Cost is only \$50 for a full week of camp, making it affordable to the general public. Healthy lifestyles are practiced through daily exercise outdoors, and nutritious meals are served.

Utah State University Youth Conservation Corps- Bilingual Youth Corps

This summer, the Moab Field Office hired two Hispanic bilingual youth corps crews to complete trail work and campground maintenance projects.

The benefits of this partnership are: youth employment, nurturing a diverse future workforce and citizen stewards; and inspiring minority youth to pursue higher education and natural resources career paths.

Camp Kwiyamuntsi

Camp Kwiyamuntsi builds stewardship careers through cultural traditions. Last August, Camp Kwiyamuntsi welcomed 13 middle-school Paiute youth for four days of fun and learning about respect for the natural world and each other. Paiute elders and agency instructors teamed up to teach students about the environment and their unique cultural heritage. The camp took place on the Dixie National Forest, which is the Paiutes' traditional homeland. Outdoor learning stations included fire ecology, wildlife, botany, astrology, and hydrology. First, a Paiute elder would teach the traditional perspective on resource use, followed by an agency instructor who would conduct a hands-on scientific demonstration. Campers measured water velocity, studied animal tracks, identified constellations, and discovered plants that their ancestors used as food, weapons, and clothing.

The partnership benefits include: engaging and educating Paiute reservation youth; fostering a welcoming atmosphere of diversity and inclusion; nurturing a diverse future workforce and citizen stewards; and inspiring Paiute youth to pursue higher education and career paths in natural resource management. Camp Kwiyamuntsi is a "Service First" project, sponsored by the National Park Foundation's "America's Best Ideas" grant, and implemented by the Forest Service, Southern Utah University Intergovernmental Internship Cooperative, Bryce Canyon National Park, Cedar Breaks National Monument, BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, BLM Utah state Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Paiute Nation.

American Indian Day Camp at Red Butte Garden

Twelve American Indian youth spent the day at Red Butte Garden in Salt Lake City studying landscapes, cultural identity, and stewardship through a Native American lens. Camp's agenda was inspired by the Medicine Wheel, a sacred symbol that represents all knowledge of the universe. Instructors were American Indian educators and Bureau of Reclamation engineers.

Agency volunteers and campers walked about a mile through the garden and visited four stations. They learned about food, medicine, and tools indigenous people developed using natural materials. They listened to creation stories and did the Bear Dance. The group also visited Utah's Natural History Museum. At the end of the day, the campers expressed how much they enjoyed camp. Learning American Indian cultural traditions and activities in a spectacular outdoor setting was a gratifying and memorable experience for all involved. Partners included Utah State Office of Education Title VII Program, Navajo, Ute and Southern Paiute Tribes of Utah, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Forest Service Intermountain Region, American Conservation Experience (ACE), Latinos in Action (LIA), Urban Indian Center, Natural History Museum of Utah and the staff at Red Butte Garden.

The benefits of the partnership are: engaging and educating urban Native American youth; fostering a welcoming atmosphere of diversity and inclusion; nurturing a diverse future workforce and citizen stewards; inspiring native youth to pursue higher education and career paths in natural resource management; reconnecting urban youth with the outdoors; and fostering community and partnership support.

BLM Utah's Hispanic Youth Initiative

In FY13, the BLM implemented a strategy to engage and include Hispanic youth in BLM recreational and educational programs. The team identified area schools that showed high Hispanic enrollment, and was able to arrange one school visit where the Fremont Archaeology Discovery Trunk was presented. New partnerships were formed with Latinos in Action and Youth Discovery, Inc. The BLM sponsored seven Nature High Summer Campers recruited through Youth Discovery, Inc. The BLM also produced Spanish-translated Nature High Summer Camp brochures.

The partnership benefits are: engaging and educating diverse youth; fostering a welcoming atmosphere of diversity and inclusion; nurturing a diverse future workforce and citizen stewards; inspiring Hispanic youth to pursue higher education and career paths in natural resource management; and reconnecting urban youth with the outdoors.

Serving Disadvantaged Populations: Moab Field Office FY2013 Overview

The BLM issued FY 2013 Special Recreation Permits to several organizations that serve disadvantaged populations, including Phoenix Multisports, The Buddy Program, SPLORE, Outward Bound (Scholarship Program), New Haven, Gateway Academy and Telluride Adaptive Sports. Telluride Adaptive Sports hosted a hand bike event at one of the BLM's Mountain Bike Focus Areas.

The BLM also hosted several Youth Corps, including the Canyon Country Youth Corps (mentioned above), which draws workers from the Navajo Reservation; and employs a student intern from the Moab Multi-Cultural Center.

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APPENDIX A

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

2013



Bureau of Indian Education



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

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