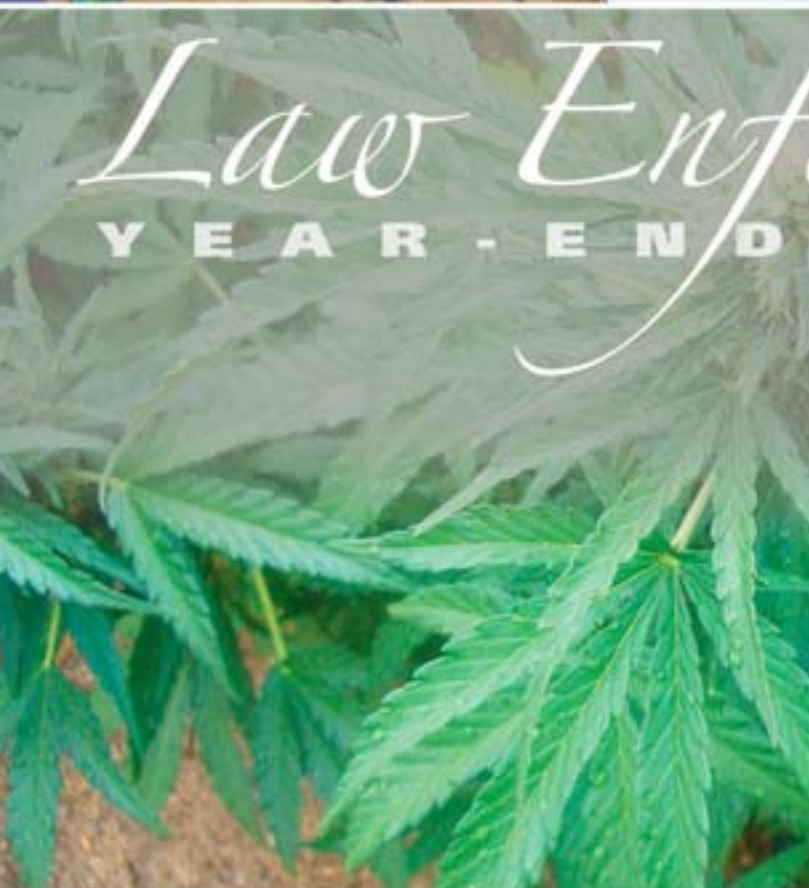




# *Law Enforcement*

Y E A R - E N D R E V I E W

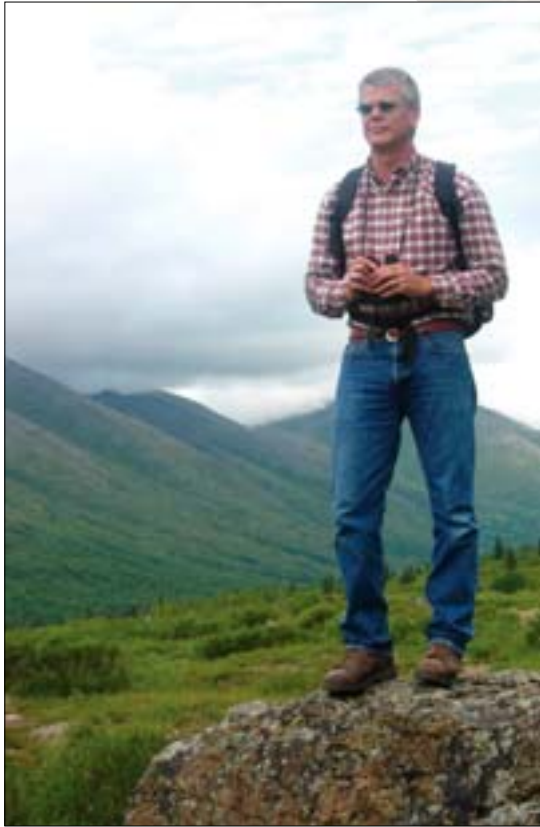


2006





*William Woody,  
Director of Law Enforcement and Security*



In 2006, The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Law Enforcement Rangers and Agents continued their dedicated efforts to protect the visitors who enjoy the many recreational opportunities found on the more than 258 million acres of public lands under

BLM management. On these lands, 18,006 incidents were reported to BLM law enforcement personnel, of which 10,400 enforcement actions were taken by Rangers and Agents. County Sheriff's Departments, State Police and Highway Patrol Agencies, enforcement branches of various State departments of natural resources, and other Federal law enforcement agencies handled many calls dealing with enforcement issues on public lands.

Investigations and prosecutions involving public lands and resources in 2006 included a joint investigation led by the Justice Department involving the 65-count indictment of 11 environmental extremists involving arson and destruction of Federal, State, and private properties. A joint investigation by the

BLM and the U.S. Forest Service of the looting and theft of archaeological sites led to the serving of 26 search warrants, the recovery of more than 100,00 artifacts, and the prosecution of seven suspects.

Multiple investigations in the western States by municipal, County, State, and Federal law enforcement personnel have led to the seizure of nearly 400,000 marijuana plants on BLM-managed lands. Suspects armed with assault rifles, booby traps, chemicals, and lethal pesticides have been found in these locations. Investigations into the dumping of residential and commercial trash on public lands were successfully prosecuted more frequently in 2006 than ever before.

The above-mentioned cases are only a small portion of the work done not only by BLM Agents and Rangers but many other law enforcement agencies that unselfishly protect the public and make our public lands safe.

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## Keith L. Allen, Deputy Director

It has been another interesting and productive year for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Office of Law Enforcement and Security. Our Special Agents have been busy with the full spectrum of issues that come with a resource protection agency.

Marijuana cultivation on BLM-managed public lands has risen dramatically in the past 3 years. As of October 2006, 368,000 plants had been seized that had at least a month left in the growing season. The projected seizures for this year will be well over 400,000 plants. This number represents a huge increase over previous years.

Historically, marijuana has been cultivated on public lands by local residents, mainly in Oregon, Washington, and California. This paradigm saw a dramatic shift in 2004. Cultivation of marijuana on public lands has been taken over by Mexican Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTOs). These DTOs smuggle illegal aliens across the international border with Mexico and transport them to locations mainly in California, Oregon, and Washington. The DTOs leave their illegal alien “workers” in the marijuana gardens, arm them with rifles, and give them very specific instructions to guard the gardens at all costs. Garden “bosses” routinely supply the workers with food and other essentials and the workers are not allowed to leave under any circumstances until the garden is harvested. The DTOs prefer public lands, including U.S. Forest Service- and National Park Service-administered lands, because they know they are not frequently visited and there is not a way to



trace ownership to these lands, in contrast with private lands.

These DTOs have begun to spread eastward to Idaho, Arizona, Utah, and as far east as Tennessee, Kentucky, and North Carolina. In many States there are documented instances of public lands users being threatened and even shot at because they were near the growing marijuana gardens. There are documented cases of marijuana gardens with as many as 17,000 plants in one location and gardens being planted and cultivated very close to residential areas bordering public lands.

These DTO-sponsored marijuana cultivation operations present a very clear and immediate danger to public lands agency employees and users of public lands. Every acre that is used by these organizations is an acre that cannot be managed by the responsible agencies. The chemicals used as pesticides and fertilizer are a serious threat to

the ecological balance of the public lands and very expensive to remediate. Conservative estimates from the National Park Service show the cost as \$10,000 per acre to restore these areas and remove trash and chemicals.

The BLM is actively engaged with Department of the Interior and U.S. Forest Service partners in trying to identify and eradicate marijuana cultivation operations. The BLM also works with the Office of National Drug Control Policy, which funds a small portion of our efforts. The BLM works with local Sheriff's Offices, granting funds and utilizing personnel to try to eradicate marijuana. Sheriff's Offices are acutely aware of the problem and are vital to this effort. The Drug Enforcement Administration and State Police agencies are an important part of our efforts, and the BLM coordinates with these agencies at national and local levels in the investigation of DTOs.



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## *Felicia Probert, Chief Ranger*



The year 2006 was again productive for the Rangers of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Rangers continued to focus their efforts on a variety of issues including managing high levels of off-highway vehicle use in some of the more popular areas, protecting cultural and historical resources and sites, monitoring the compliance of adopted wild horses and burros and ensuring that adoptions run smoothly, working to reduce the negative effects on public land resources resulting from smuggling activity along the southern international border, and preventing theft and damage of timber and a variety of native vegetation, including moss, tree

boughs used in floral decorations, and native desert plants popular in landscaping. With the significant increase in the cultivation of marijuana on public lands this year, Rangers are also working closely with Special Agents in the eradication and cleanup of the grow areas.

Throughout the year, Ranger efforts were focused on Bureau-wide priority high-use recreation areas and events. By teaming up with County Sheriff's Deputies and using a combination of public education and management tactics, the number of incidents involving the operation of vehicles while under the influence of

drugs and alcohol, environmental degradation, and rowdy and unsafe behavior were noticeably reduced in some of the key areas.

Illegal dumping of household, commercial, construction, landscaping, and hazardous waste continues to be a growing problem that Rangers are called upon to investigate because of the continued expansion of the public lands urban interface.

Six newly hired BLM Rangers completed the Land Management Police Training at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Glynco, Georgia, alongside new Rangers and Officers from other land management agencies including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, and National Marine Fisheries Service. Several of the BLM graduates were recognized for exceptional achievement in academic, driving, firearms, and physical fitness proficiency. For the first time in the history of the BLM, one of our graduates received the prestigious FLETC Director's Award.

I express my personal thanks to each of the Rangers for their continued hard work and commitment to protecting the public lands and resources.

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## *Curtis Toovey, Ranger of the Year*

In fiscal year 2006, Law Enforcement Ranger Curtis Toovey investigated and brought to trial 13 large-scale, unauthorized commercial dumping cases. These cases involved the illegal dumping of commercial debris on the public lands within the Palm Springs (California) South Coast Field Office. The elaborate casework performed by Ranger Toovey resulted in a 95% conviction rate. Ranger Toovey worked directly with Stephanie Weisman, Environmental Crimes Attorney, Riverside County (California) District Attorney's Office, and Sharon McCaslin, Assistant U.S. Attorney, Central Division, on these cases. These cases involved the illegal dumping of construction material—including concrete, as well as household utilities, building materials, demolition materials, abandoned vehicles, petroleum products, vegetative materials, and other large debris. Ranger Toovey's diligence in following single-source evidence through several contractors or vendors resulted in complete law enforcement casework, leading to the filing of complaints in State and Federal courts against commercial enterprises or individuals involved in commercial construction or landscaping. In one case, a single

piece of paper located in a dump pile by Ranger Toovey resulted in the indictment of an individual for eight separate commercial dumping sites and a pending monetary fine of \$40,000.

Recently, Riverside County formed a local task force to apprehend illegal commercial dumpers. The format used by the District Attorney's Office to investigate these cases and prepare reports was taken from Ranger Toovey's former cases. His investigations formed the template for this task force. Additionally, Ranger Toovey was called upon on several occasions by the District Attorney's Office to take the lead in investigating commercial dump sites adjacent to public lands. The Environmental Protection Agency solicited Ranger Toovey's participation in an interagency Federal task force with Riverside County to investigate illegal commercial dumping on tribal lands. Unfortunately, Ranger Toovey had to leave this task force when he was reassigned to the western part of the County to investigate increased dumping on the public lands.

In addition to the investigation of illegal commercial dumping cases, Ranger Toovey recently has taken



on investigation of violations of the Wild Horse and Burro Act. He presently has four cases, one of which has resulted in the identification of eight suspects and the issuance of five mandatory appearance citations into Federal Court. Ranger Toovey has also filed several complaints with the District Attorney's Office for violations of weapons laws.

Ranger Toovey's investigation skills, diligence in identifying suspects and evidence for prosecution, reorganization of excellence from the District Attorney's and U.S. Attorney's offices, and ability and knowledge to move from one complex resource management case to another are outstanding.



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## *Dennis Shrader, Special Agent of the Year*



In fiscal year 2006, Special Agent Dennis Shrader was responsible for several criminal investigations of significance in Oregon–Washington.

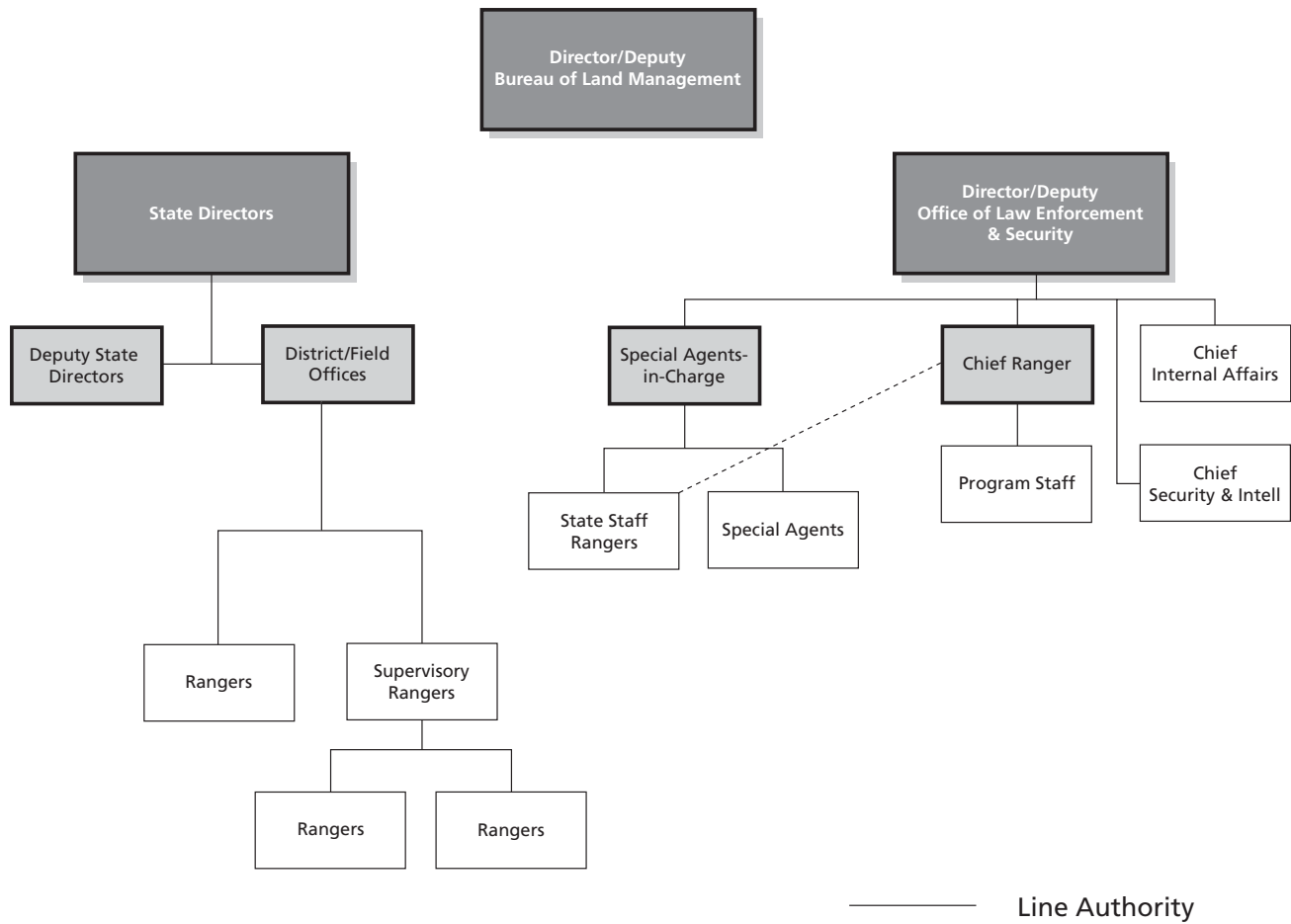
Since 2003, Special Agent Shrader has been the lead for this Bureau of Land Management (BLM) criminal investigation in Operation Bring'Em Back. A long-term, complex, undercover operation targeting the unlawful removal, theft, and trafficking of Native American human remains and cultural artifacts, it ranks as the most successful in the BLM. Still ongoing, this operation has more

than 26 Federal search warrants served, dozens of suspects identified, and hundreds of thousands of artifacts recovered so far. In 2006, 11 suspects pleaded guilty to a variety of Federal charges, including conspiracy, violations of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act, and violations of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). This investigation resulted in the first criminal conviction of NAGPRA in the Pacific Northwest. In addition, several other significant criminal activities were uncovered, including two methamphetamine labs, an indoor marijuana growing operation, and multiple wildlife poaching cases. In making this investigation, Special Agent Shrader brought together the investigative assistance of Federal, State, and local agencies, including the U.S. Attorney's Office; U.S. Forest Service; Internal Revenue Service; Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms; Drug Enforcement Administration; Oregon State Police—Wildlife Division; and the Deschutes County District

Attorney's Office. In July 2006, Special Agent Shrader began coordinating the investigation of a large, outdoor marijuana growing operation sponsored by a foreign drug cartel. After building trust at the local level with the Grant County Sheriff's Department, Special Agent Shrader set up organized and coordinated interagency BLM and Sheriff drug surveillance teams for Operation Garden Party. As a result of Special Agent Shrader's diligence and outstanding investigative work, three armed male suspects were arrested and indicted. In addition, a residence used as a base of operations for the crime was searched and warrants for arrests have been issued for additional suspects.

On August 23, 2006, BLM fire-fighters reported observing two subjects purposely lighting fires behind a fire crew. Fearing for their safety, the fire crew was forced to evacuate the area. An ongoing arson investigation, now coordinated by Special Agent Shrader, has assisted in the arrest of two local men.

## Bureau of Land Management Law Enforcement Organization



Total Special Agents = 56  
Total Rangers = 192



12/2006



**Highlights of Bureau of Land Management Law Enforcement Activities  
for Fiscal Year 2006**

<b>Incidents</b>	<b>Number (except as noted)</b>
<b>Thefts</b>	430
Theft Enforcement Actions	200
ARPA or Paleontological	71
Minerals	38
Timber	104
All Other Natural Resources	78
<b>Vandalism</b>	676
Vandalism Enforcement Actions	272
ARPA or Paleontological	47
All Other Natural Resources	447
<b>Fire Incidents (Non-Arson)</b>	666
Fire Incidents Actions (Non-Arson)	582
<b>Fire Incidents (Arson)</b>	109
Fire Enforcement Actions	14
<b>Off-Highway Vehicles</b>	3,414
Off-Highway Vehicles Enforcement Actions	3,076
<b>DUI 141</b>	
<b>Search and Rescue</b>	260
<b>Drug 836</b>	
Drug Enforcement Actions	723
Marijuana Sale and Manufacture	138
Marijuana Possession	546
Marijuana Seizures:	
Processed (in pounds)	7,580 lb
Plants	368,927
<b>Wild Horse and Burro</b>	140
<b>Hazardous Materials</b>	93
Hazardous Materials Enforcement Actions	47
<b>Occupancy Trespass</b>	211
Occupancy Trespass Enforcement Actions	160
<b>Assaults</b>	
Law Enforcement Officers	8
Government Employees Non-Law Enforcement	14
Public	21

<sup>a</sup>Archaeological Resources Protection Act

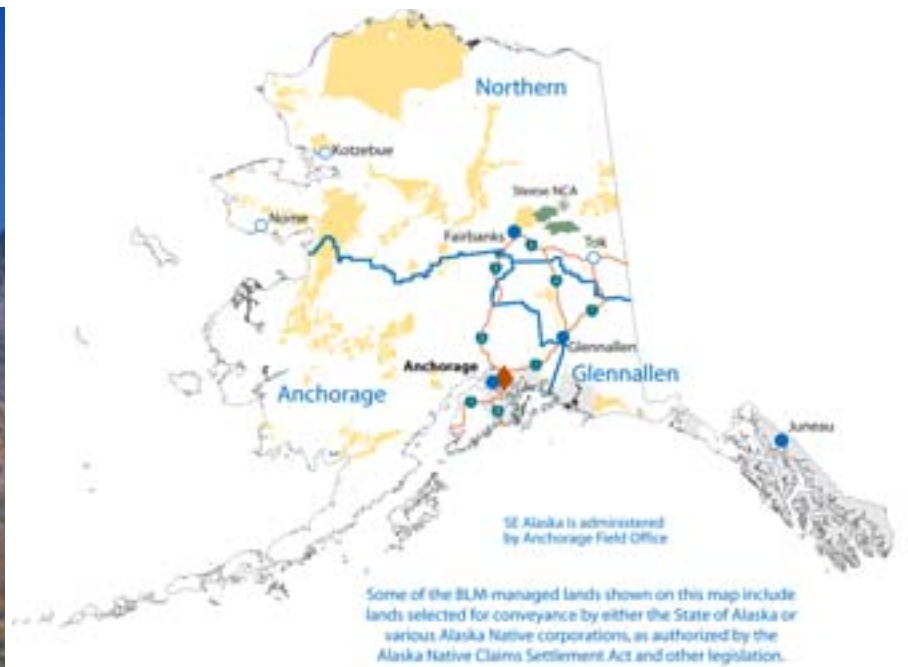
<sup>b</sup>Driving Under the Influence

Enforcement Actions = Written Warning, Citation, Criminal Complaint, Arrest, Grand Jury Indictment, Administrative or Civil Remedy

# ALASKA

## ALASKA STATE OFFICE

222 W. 7th Avenue, #13  
Anchorage, AK 99513  
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Fax: 907-271-4587







## Rohn Nelson



Rohn Nelson has served in the law enforcement field in Alaska for 18 years. Raised in Montana, Rohn attended the Alaska Public Safety Academy; he became a police officer in Galena, Alaska, in October 1988, where he earned his certification from the Alaska Police Standards Council. After serving the State of Alaska as a Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Officer, Rohn began his Federal Law Enforcement career in October 1994 as a Fisheries Patrol Officer for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Office for Law Enforcement. Rohn was promoted to Special Agent in September 1996 and served in that capacity until he accepted a position as a BLM Ranger in January 2001. Rohn became Special Agent-in-Charge in September 2006.

# Alaska BLM Law Enforcement Issues

For most of 2006, the Alaska BLM law enforcement program consisted of the Special Agent-in-Charge, four Rangers, and one Law Enforcement Assistant. One Special Agent retired in 2006, and an additional Ranger—who was selected early in the year—spent several key months in training. This law enforcement staff patrols and conducts investigations on 86.4 million acres of BLM-managed public lands and 968 miles of Alaska’s Wild and Scenic rivers.

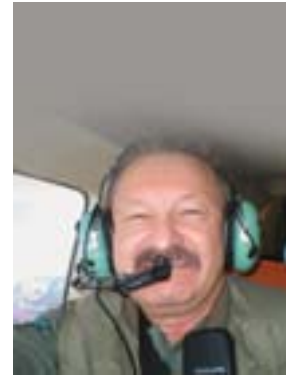
Rangers were called on to assist with the search and rescue of a man operating a D-8 Cat (Caterpillar, Inc.) that had broken through the ice of a small pond. The operator was blazing an ice road across State- and BLM-administered lands to haul mining equipment and supplies to his mining claim 71 miles away; he was reported missing when he did not return to camp. A BLM Ranger and an Alaska State Trooper located the D-8 Cat, and the entire back end of the machine was submerged. Mat-Su Search and Rescue and Dive Team, Alaska State Troopers, and BLM Rangers subsequently recovered the body of the operator and monitored the removal of the miner’s equipment, including a 3,000-gallon tanker of diesel fuel, from BLM lands.

Rangers received information about a suspected greenhouse marijuana

cultivation operation on BLM-managed lands in August 2005, after the crop had been harvested. Rangers initiated an investigation this year, and subsequently located and seized 12 mature marijuana plants from a trespass greenhouse. Rangers identified two possible suspects and obtained confessions from both during interviews. This case has been accepted by the U.S. Attorney’s Office and is presently pending charges.

Alaska law enforcement remains active in additional investigations including several military individuals in violation of driving motorized vehicles into closed areas and becoming stuck while hunting. A similar case involving large-track vehicles and extensive resource damage has also been investigated and presented to the U.S. Attorney’s Office for criminal prosecution. Other ongoing investigations include illegal hunting guides operating on BLM-managed lands, newly discovered trespass structures, and fraudulent subsistence permit applications of nonrural residents.

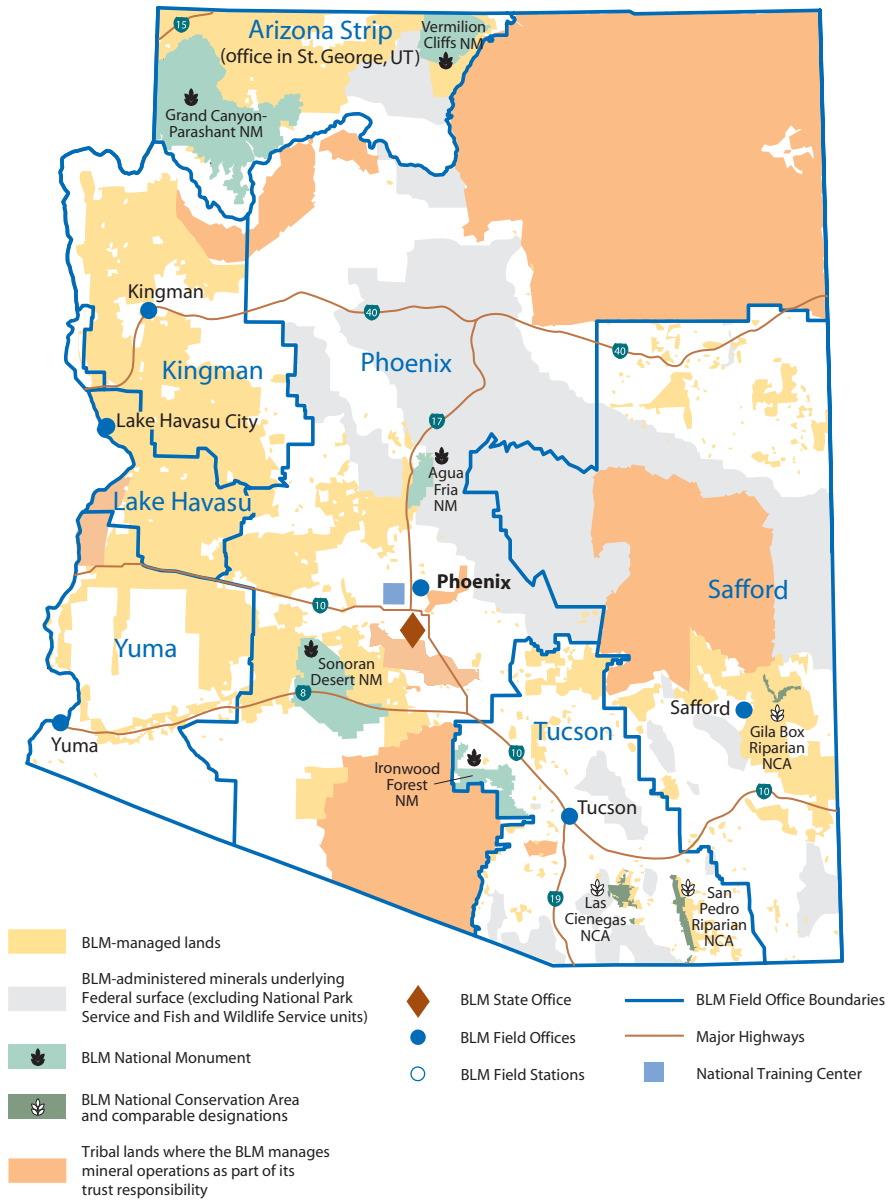
The Alaska law enforcement program continues to patrol vast and remote areas to protect the natural resources of this great State, as well as support special events such as the Iditarod Sled Dog Race and the Arctic Man Snowmobile Classic.



# ARIZONA

## ARIZONA STATE OFFICE

One North Central Avenue  
 Phoenix, AZ 85004  
 Phone: 602-417-9317  
 Fax: 602-417-9545





# Arizona BLM Law Enforcement Issues



In 2006, as in years past, law enforcement personnel in Arizona handled a wide variety of issues and investigations related to fire, drug use, theft of archaeological resources, and general enforcement of laws on the public lands. Surprisingly, one of the greatest challenges for law enforcement in Arizona comes from the effects of water-based recreation associated with the lower Colorado River.

Created in 2004, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Colorado River District combines the Yuma, Lake Havasu, and Kingman Field Offices. The District stretches from Nevada to the international boundary with the Republic of Mexico. The largest recreational effects occur on Lake Havasu and the Colorado River from an area south of Laughlin, Nevada, to the border.

In 2006, the Colorado River District had 1,302 law enforcement incidents, 605 citations issued, 84 incidents involving at least one arrest, and 32 driving-under-the-influence (DUI)-related incidents. All of these incidents and arrests were actions taken by BLM Rangers. Eight Rangers are assigned to the three Field Offices; holiday weekends in summer require additional staffing from Rangers outside the District.

The Lake Havasu Field Office has 87 developed shoreline campsites on the lake shore and nearly unlimited dispersed camping sites. The San Bernardino and the Mohave County Sheriff's Offices regularly patrol the lake on weekends. Thousands of recreationists and hundreds of boats create massive enforcement and public safety issues. Effects associated with alcohol, such as boating or DUI, underage drinking, assaults, and reckless off-highway vehicle use are prevalent. Access to many sites is by boat only. Seeking additional authority, BLM law enforcement officers became cross-delegated in 2003 by the Bureau of

Reclamation to enforce boating regulations. Colorado River District Rangers also obtained Peace Officer Authority from the Mohave County Sheriff's Office in 2006. In 2005, the BLM purchased a new law enforcement patrol boat to better provide additional security for employees, protect recreational improvements, and assist in the enforcement of boating regulations on the lake.

The Yuma Field Office also has issues related to water-based recreation. There are nine developed recreation sites, including eight fee-use areas, and extensive dispersed camping areas accessible only by boat on the Colorado River. BLM Rangers have obtained two personal watercraft through a Public Safety Grant to better access these areas. Undeveloped sites that are accessible by vehicle receive regular use and are routinely patrolled. Alcohol-related off-highway vehicle use is a major issue. One Ranger alone has made more than 25 DUI arrests in 2006—almost entirely of vehicles that were stopped for off-road infractions or resource-related violations. All Rangers were delegated Arizona Peace Officer authority in 2005 by the Yuma County Sheriff's Office so that they could deal more adequately with alcohol and minor drug offenses on public lands.

In 2006, 46 human-caused fires were documented in the District. Many of these fires occurred on the portion of the Colorado River adjacent to the international border and are attributed to illegal smuggling activities.

Although Arizona has a number of major of law enforcement issues, water-based recreation issues continue to grow. As the population growth in the Southwest continues, the Bureau will not only be tasked with protecting the resources associated with the lower Colorado River zone, but must provide adequate and safe water-based recreational opportunities as well.



# CALIFORNIA

## CALIFORNIA STATE OFFICE

2800 Cottage Way  
 Room W-1834  
 Sacramento, CA 95825  
 Phone: 916-978-4457  
 Fax: 916-978-4455





# California BLM Law Enforcement Issues



Of increasing concern is the illicit cultivation of marijuana on our public lands. This year, the California law enforcement program, with the assistance of the Campaign Against Marijuana Planting (CAMP), Sheriff's Offices, and other Federal partners, has eradicated more than 338,370 marijuana plants, seized 1,019 pounds of processed marijuana, and assisted in 24 arrests of suspects either found in the garden at the time of the raid or identified with covert investigative techniques and arrested at a later time. Nearly one of every five marijuana plants grown illegally in California comes from BLM-administered lands. The element of risk to the public, Rangers, Agents, and other BLM staff is of foremost concern. Several weapons were seized during these investigations and a variety of ammunition was found at the cultivators' campsites.

This past year the Bakersfield Special Agent completed a successful investigation into improper abandonment of oil wells, which resulted in the company settling the violations for approximately \$200,000. This investigation required the identification of leases operated on by the suspect company and then required the investigator to obtain a core drilling apparatus to drill down into the capped wells and examine the contents and the depth of the plugs placed by the suspected offender. Of 100 wells identified, 20 were on BLM-administered lands and all were found to be sealed differently than reported and in violation of established policy and legal requirements.

Other issues within the State included wild horse and burro investigations, which have resulted in multiple arrests, the seizing of several horses, and dissolving the rights of one individual who purportedly assisted in the adoption of horses through a nonprofit organization that was, in fact,

transferring wild horses for \$1,200. Several other wild horse and burro cases are being investigated that will probably result in additional charges.

The continuing growth of off-highway vehicle (OHV) use is a long-term, enduring drain on California's human resources. Within the California Desert District, three of the five field offices—Ridgecrest, Barstow, and El Centro—presently require uniform patrol needs that cannot be met without the partnership of personnel from outside the State. The Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area (ISDRA), otherwise known as Glamis, continues to see visitor numbers from 125,000 to 200,000 on four key holiday weekends—Halloween, Thanksgiving, New Years, and Presidents Day. Although these numbers are large, diligent collaboration with Imperial County and Rangers from other areas have helped to keep this area user friendly during these times. Presently, the emerging concern is for the "off weekends," when the area is left to the local Rangers and the Imperial County Sheriff's Office. Visitor use ranges from 25,000 to near 50,000 on off weekends. These numbers alone require additional human resources, which the El Centro Field Office reaches out to the neighboring BLM field offices to acquire.

BLM California had a relatively quiet year for drug lab activity in 2006. There were three drug lab cleanups—two in the California Desert District and one in northern California. Cleanup cost for removal ranged between \$7,000 and \$20,000. No arrests have been made in these incidents.

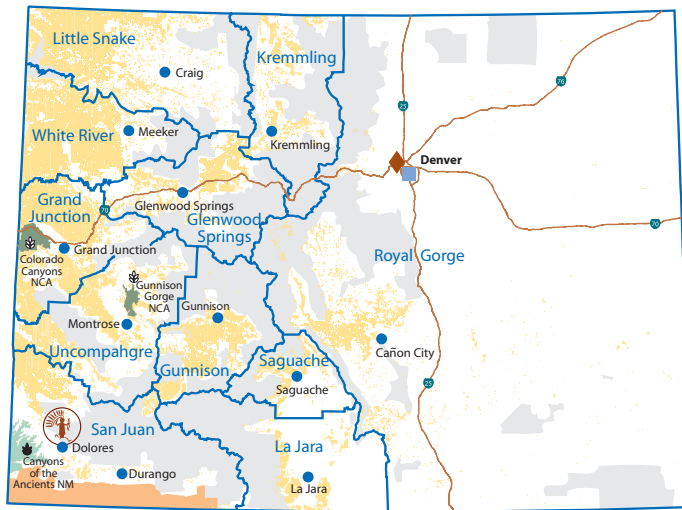
California's law enforcement needs are varied and intense. It is only through diligent use, shared resources, and working with other agencies that we continue to be successful in our stewardship of the public lands.



# CO-ES

## COLORADO AND EASTERN STATES OFFICE

2850 Youngfield Street  
Lakewood, CO 80215  
Phone: 303-239-3803  
Fax: 303-239-3896



- BLM-managed lands
- BLM-administered minerals underlying Federal surface (excluding National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service units)
- BLM National Monument
- BLM National Conservation, Recreation, and Protection Areas (National Conservation Areas, National Recreation Areas, Outstanding Natural Areas, and Cooperative Management and Protection Areas)
- Tribal lands where the BLM manages mineral operations as part of its trust responsibility
- BLM State Office
- BLM Field Offices
- BLM Field Office Boundaries
- Major Highways
- Anasazi Heritage Center



# Colorado–Eastern States BLM Law Enforcement Issues



In 2006, the Colorado–Eastern States law enforcement program provided investigative and patrol support for about 8.33 million surface acres and 66.7 million subsurface acres of public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) within Colorado and the 31 States of the Eastern States Region. Within Colorado, Rangers patrol about 700,000 acres of public land per field office. In many areas, resource managers would like to reduce the amount of patrol area to provide more visibility to areas of greater need. This creates the need for more law enforcement Rangers.

High-use recreation areas continue to account for the highest increase in workload for law enforcement personnel. Public interest in outdoor activities has increased, including off-highway vehicle (OHV) use. In most areas, OHV use is restricted to existing roads and trails, and use is limited during inclement weather. Law enforcement contacts are generally able to obtain public compliance with BLM and State OHV regulations.

Annually, the Colorado–Eastern States law enforcement program administers wild horse and burro adoptions, either at the Canon City, Colorado, State Correctional Facility or at various locations throughout Colorado and the Eastern States. About 1,850 wild horses and burros were adopted in 2006. One Arkansas subject is awaiting trial for inhumane treatment of four wild horses by neglecting to provide proper care and for causing the death of one. A North Carolina subject was charged for not providing proper care for a burro that was kept in a small stall for an extended time. The burro's hooves had grown so long that they curled up and caused the burro to become lame.

With increasing energy exploration, development, and production have come the

activities associated with hazardous materials dumping on public lands. In one case, employees of a natural gas resource company had allowed transport drivers to bleed off water mixed with volatile hydrocarbons from semitruck-loads of natural gas liquids onto public lands before injecting their product into the pipeline. The bleeding activity resulted in the contamination of soil at the injection site.

Other actions during 2006 include the increase in illegal occupancy of public lands because of continued growth in western Colorado; the abandonment or dumping of more than 50 vehicles on public lands; and increased theft of decorative moss rock and vegetative transplant because of the continued need for landscaping products for growing residential construction in Colorado.

The use of methamphetamine is a growing concern for all law enforcement agencies in Colorado. One individual was detained for possession of methamphetamine and placed under arrest. While conducting a search incident to arrest, numerous artifacts were found in the suspect's pockets. The suspect was charged with possession of methamphetamine and the collection of cultural resources, a violation of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act.

Investigating human-caused fires is another significant role Special Agents play in Colorado. More than \$180,000 has been paid by violators to defray costs associated with suppression and area rehabilitation. BLM law enforcement personnel work with the Office of the U.S. Attorney to seek cost reimbursements for this initiative.

Illegal outfitting and guiding is still prevalent in Colorado. One subject pleaded guilty before a U.S. Magistrate to two counts of providing outfitting services without a permit and was sentenced to \$1,000 per count.

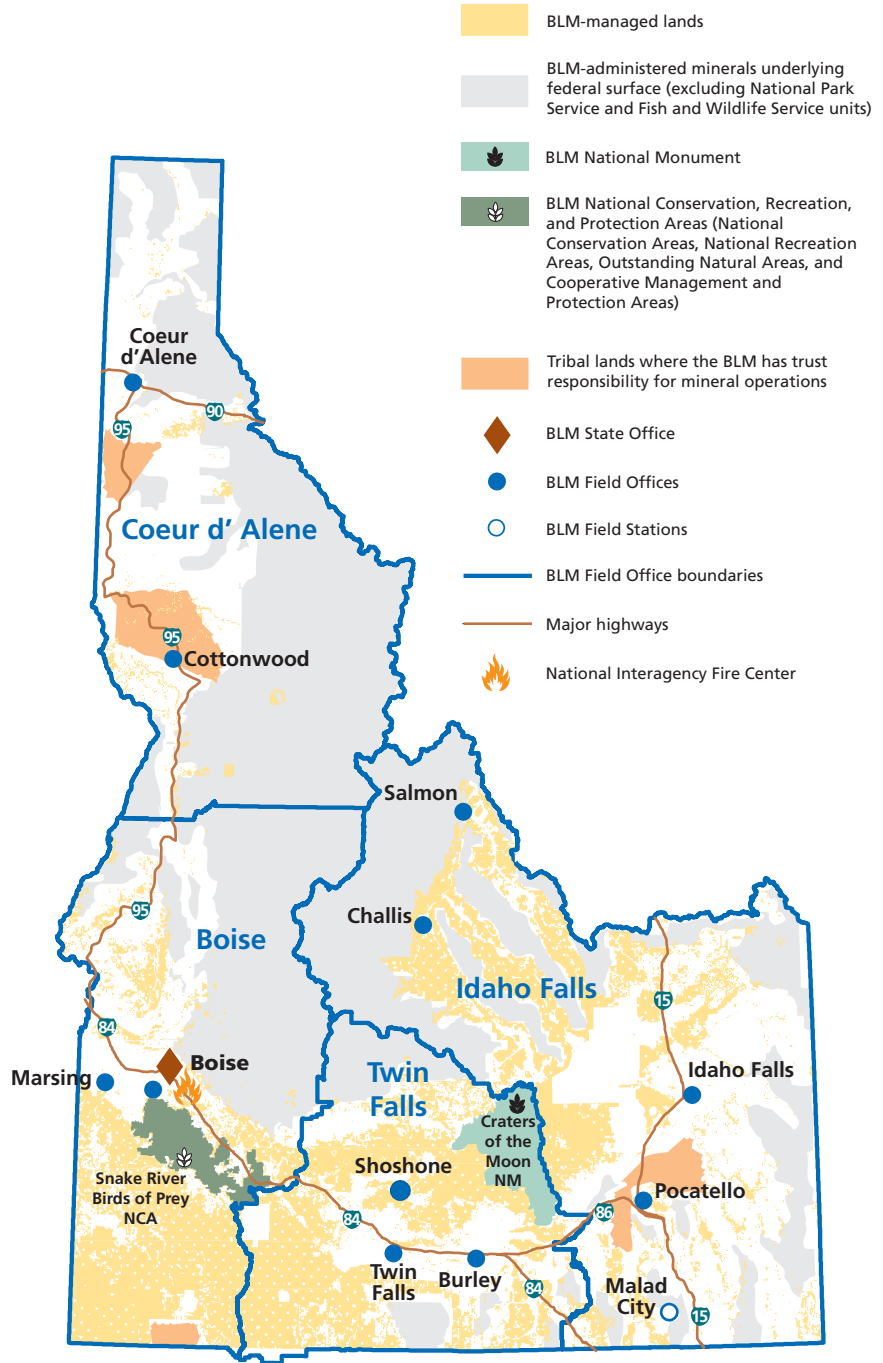




# IDAHO

## IDAHO STATE OFFICE

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 Boise, ID 83709  
 Phone: 208-373-4027  
 Fax: 208-373-4026



# Idaho BLM Law Enforcement Issues



The overall need for law enforcement intervention on public land in Idaho continued to increase in 2006. Much of this need can be attributed to population growth. In fact, Idaho's population growth rate in 2006 was one of the highest in the Nation.

The Idaho BLM law enforcement program experienced another active and productive year. To help keep up with growing activity, the Special Agent-in-Charge was successful in obtaining an additional Criminal Investigator to help with cases throughout Idaho's 12 million acres of public lands. In addition, the Ranger Division grew, with a new position on the Twin Falls District staff. With the exception of the Coeur d'Alene District, all of Idaho's Districts now have at least two Rangers on staff. Plans are under way to add a third Ranger to the Idaho Falls District in the Salmon-Challis area. Now with 10 Officers and one Law Enforcement Assistant, Idaho's program is much more capable of protecting Idaho's valuable public lands than in the past.

Idaho's program continues to rely heavily on support from local Sheriff's Departments, where 35 reimbursable cooperative agreements are presently in place. Sheriffs provide much-needed assistance in patrolling the vast amounts of public lands in Idaho, in exchange for reimbursed overtime hours and specialized equipment.

A good example of this cooperative relationship occurred when Fremont County and BLM Law Enforcement personnel joined forces and budgets to purchase a sand rail vehicle to be used at

St. Anthony Sand Dunes Recreation Area. The vehicle, which is specially designed for a sand dunes environment, is used to combat alcohol-related offenses and to provide a quick response to emergency medical incidents. The vehicle arrived in early summer and has already been credited with saving the lives of two people, whom doctors said survived only because of the timely medical response. In addition to the success of the sand rail vehicle, the Fremont County Sheriff's Department provided 4,000 hours of patrol for the sand dunes, making 5,000 visitor contacts.

Increased population growth has led to an increasing demand for decorative rock as landscape materials at new home sites in the Boise area. Several investigations have been initiated because of the large amounts being stolen, destruction to natural resources, and damage to archaeological sites.

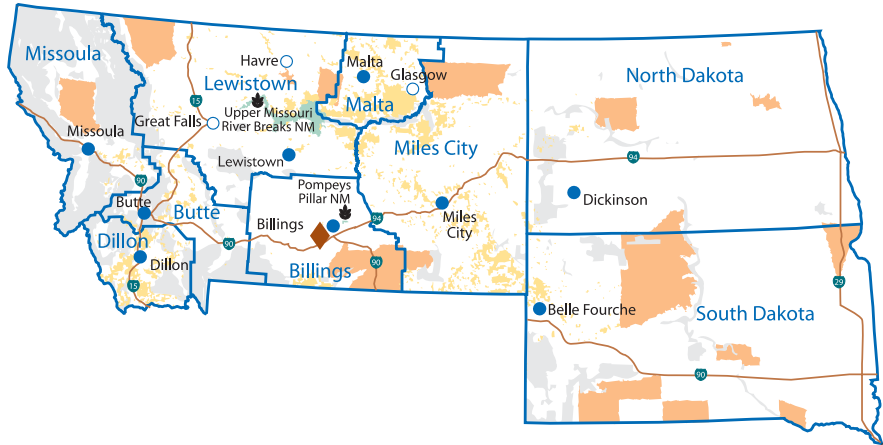
During the past two years, Idaho Law Enforcement personnel have witnessed a new trend of drug trafficking and cultivation. It is now believed that drug trafficking organizations are responsible for a majority of the marijuana that has been discovered on Idaho's public lands. A total of 8,000 marijuana plants have been removed over the last two growing seasons. Because Idaho has not been known for the production of marijuana, this creates a new law enforcement workload. To combat the problem, a Criminal Investigator was assigned full-time to a multi-agency drug task force led by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency. Investigations continue into the cultivation of marijuana on Idaho's public lands.



# MONTANA

## MONTANA STATE OFFICE

5001 Southgate Drive  
 Billings, MT 59101  
 P.O. Box 36800  
 Billings, MT 59103  
 Phone: 406-896-5183  
 Fax: 406-896-5291



- BLM-managed lands
- BLM-administered minerals underlying Federal surface (excluding National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service units)
- ♣ BLM National Monument
- Tribal lands where the BLM manages mineral operations as part of its trust responsibility
- BLM State Office
- BLM Field Offices
- BLM Field Stations
- BLM Field Office Boundaries
- Major Highways



# Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota BLM Law Enforcement Issues



The Law Enforcement Team in Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota had another successful year in 2006. As in past years, the public lands of this region were in demand from a wide variety of users. The diverse landscape of the area stretches from the Black Hills and prairie of North Dakota and South Dakota to beyond the Continental Divide and the Rocky Mountains of western Montana. In between are some spectacular and irreplaceable public lands. The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Law Enforcement Officers must adapt to constantly changing situations on these public lands.

The BLM continues to be a part of the law enforcement community in Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The BLM co-hosted the International Wildlife Law Enforcement Officers Associate meeting this year with officers attending from Montana, North Dakota, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. Archaeological and paleontological resources were targets again this year; several incidents of looting of scientific sites were investigated and prosecuted.

The Sturgis Motorcycle Rally in South Dakota again brought thousands of visitors to the Fort Meade Recreation Area, including Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne. BLM Rangers and Special Agents worked diligently to keep historic Fort Meade under control during the rally. The Secretary was briefed on the history of the BLM Law Enforcement Program, as well as current operations regarding Sturgis.

The Lewis and Clark Bicentennial events came to an end this year. The BLM's Pompey's Pillar National Monument near Billings was the site of a 4-day event to celebrate the Corps of Discovery and dedicate the new visitor center. BLM Officers assisted with security and crowd control for the events.

As the seasons change in the northern latitudes, the use of the lands changes dramatically. Public use generally peaks in summer. Areas such as the Madison River near Bozeman and the Blackfoot River in Missoula become inundated with college students from nearby universities, families, and others. Both rivers are extremely popular with float tubers and campers. Rangers working in those areas dealt with many incidents of resource damage, vandalism, drug use, underage drinking, and driving under-the-influence of alcohol.

Summer 2006 was an extremely active fire season, with thousands of acres of public lands burned. BLM Special Agents and Rangers investigated many human-caused fires around the region, determining the causes, identifying suspects, and initiating criminal and civil proceedings.

On opening weekends of the major fall hunting seasons, thousands of people go to public lands to hunt. In addition to working with the Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Wardens on hunting violations, Rangers and Special Agents received many complaints of illegal posting of public lands, illegal outfitters, and other hunting interference.

Winter sports are gaining in popularity and BLM lands are generally at a low enough altitude to allow for even midwinter access. Mountain lion hunting and protection of big game on the winter range keep officers busy even in the middle of winter.

In spring, the muddy ground attracts some errant off-highway vehicle users who cause significant resource damage on the landscape. Antler hunting has had a significant effect in spring, especially as prices for antlers increase, and resource damage by overzealous antler hunters is an ever-increasing problem.



# NEVADA

## NEVADA STATE OFFICE

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- BLM-managed lands
- BLM-administered minerals underlying Federal surface (excluding National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service units)
- ✎ BLM National Conservation, Recreation, and Protection Areas (National Conservation Areas, National Recreation Areas, Outstanding Natural Areas, and Cooperative Management and Protection Areas)
- Tribal lands where the BLM has trust responsibility for mineral operations
- BLM State Office
- BLM Field Offices
- BLM Field Stations
- BLM Field Office Boundaries
- Major Highways

# Nevada BLM Law Enforcement Issues



In Nevada, about 48 million acres of public land are administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM)—roughly 68% of the State. Resources are diverse and range from traditional uses, like grazing and mining, to the recreational demands and societal problems that accompany rapid population growth.

During fiscal year 2006, the Nevada law enforcement program consisted of 27 Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs), a Special Agent-in-Charge, a State Staff Ranger, three Special Agents, a Chief Ranger, five Field Staff Rangers, seven Resident Rangers, and eight Patrol Rangers. During the year, the Nevada law enforcement program entered into six law enforcement agreements with Federal, State, and local agencies to assist in the protection of the public lands.

Nevada manages three National Conservation Areas (NCAs) and several wilderness areas. Sloan Canyon and Red Rock Canyon NCAs are adjacent to Las Vegas, which for the past decade has been the fastest growing city in the United States, and have about 1 million visitors a year. During the year, BLM LEOs issued about 231 citations and conducted 9 arrests.

The Black Rock Desert High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails NCA is within a 2-hour drive from Reno, which ranks in the top 20 cities in the Nation for growth. This year the Burning Man Festival, the largest permitted recreational event on BLM-managed lands, drew approximately 39,000 participants to the Black Rock Desert during the 10-day event. The BLM assigned 45 LEOs to work the event through out-of-State details and State law enforcement agreements. The local Sheriff's Office provided 15 Deputies to assist the BLM during the event. During this year's operation, BLM LEOs issued 155 citations and conducted 1 arrest.

Nevada also manages a major off-highway vehicle (OHV) recreational site, the Sand Mountain Recreational Area. This area—located in Churchill County—is an example of the effects of growing OHV use. Over the past 15 years, recreational use has tripled to more than 60,000 visitors a year. During this year, the BLM law enforcement program assigned approximately 40 LEOs to work at the Sand Mountain Recreational Area (6 to 10 officers at each major holiday weekend). This year, BLM LEOs issued 133 citations and conducted 5 arrests.

The Nevada BLM has land conveyance authority under the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA), enacted in October 1998. This Act encourages the BLM to sell land in an open, competitive process so the Federal government receives fair market value and generates the greatest return for the taxpayer. Using funds generated through the Act, in conjunction with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Forest Service, and the National Park Service, the Nevada BLM law enforcement program hired six law enforcement Rangers to work in a 25-officer, multi-agency land management task force in Clark County. Through a memorandum of understanding, the four Federal land management agency task force officers target problem areas and issues and work together on the different jurisdictions.

In May, the SNPLMA Law Enforcement task force conducted a 5-day multiagency operation. Twenty-eight LEOs worked together on public lands in the Sunrise Management Area, east of Las Vegas. The taskforce issued 193 citations and conducted 24 arrests.

In total, BLM LEOs issued 1,035 citations and conducted or assisted with 46 felony arrests statewide in 2006.

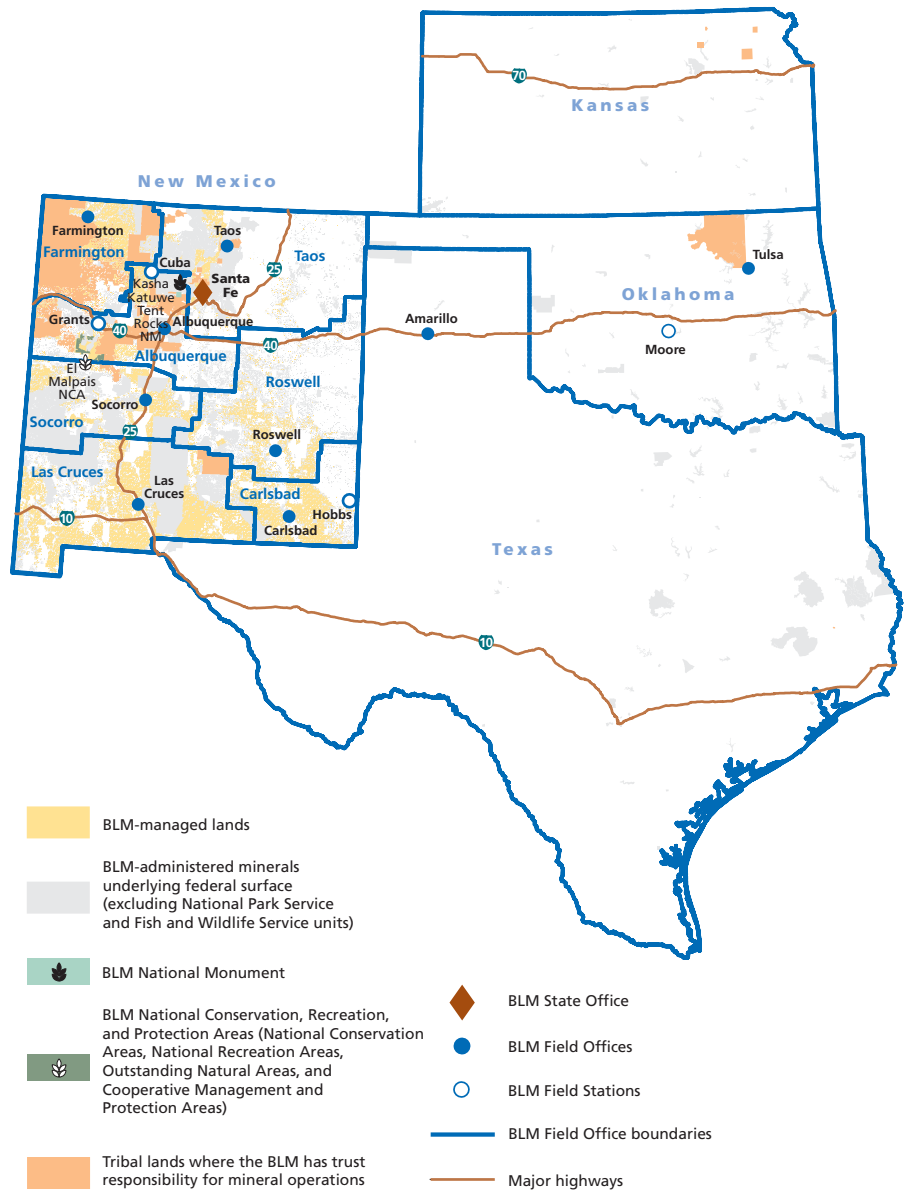




# NEW MEXICO

## NEW MEXICO STATE OFFICE

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## C. Daniel Boling

After receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Park Administration from Texas Tech University, Daniel Boling began his Federal career in 1982 as a seasonal Park Ranger with the National Park Service. He went on to work in law enforcement, interpretation, and resource management as a seasonal and permanent Park Ranger at National Parks in Texas, Colorado, and New Mexico. In 1987, he transferred to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as a patrol Ranger in Barstow, California, and in 1990 became a Special Agent in the Oregon State Office. Agent Boling moved to New Mexico as Assistant Special Agent-in-Charge in 1997, and in 2006 he became the Special Agent-in-Charge of the New Mexico BLM law enforcement program.



# *New Mexico BLM Law Enforcement Issues*

The BLM State Office in Santa Fe, New Mexico, manages public lands and mineral estate throughout New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Kansas. The BLM has Special Agents stationed in New Mexico and Oklahoma and Rangers stationed in New Mexico and Texas to address the law enforcement needs related to BLM lands, resources, and personnel.

Major areas of emphasis for the law enforcement program include archaeological resource crimes, theft of petroleum products and damage to production sites, theft of government property, hazardous waste dumping—particularly through wire burning, threats against BLM employees, large-scale trash dumping on public lands, resource damage and public safety related to illegal activity involving the international border with Mexico, unlawful acts related to wild and free-roaming horses and burros, and a broad range of recreation-related offenses.

To better address public land crimes in the northwestern part of New Mexico, a

Special Agent position is being created to work cooperatively with the Rural Crimes Initiative recently established jointly by the San Juan County Sheriff's Department, the BLM, and industry to focus on crimes occurring in the San Juan Basin oil and gas field, which consists largely of BLM-managed lands and minerals. This interagency approach is expected to yield significant enforcement results, particularly related to oil and gas theft, theft and destruction of energy structures, archaeological crimes, hazardous waste crimes, and drug offenses.

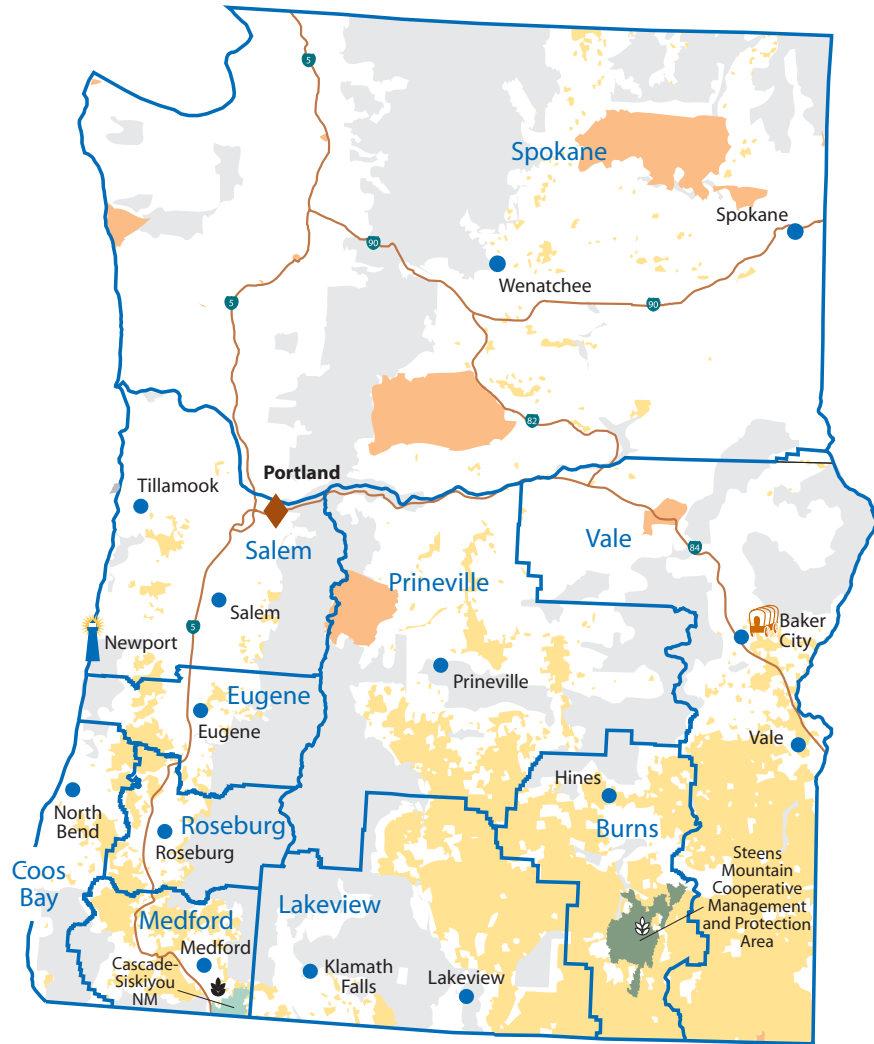
Trash dumping has become an epidemic on undeveloped lands throughout New Mexico, and the BLM is spearheading an interagency effort to combat this problem. This statewide effort includes all levels of government, as well as nongovernmental organizations and interest groups, to attempt to control and reduce trash dumping through education, cleanup, signing, rewards, and enforcement. Rangers and Agents are actively involved at every level of this initiative.





# OREGON

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- |   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
|  | BLM-managed lands  |  | BLM State Office  |
|  | BLM-administered minerals underlying Federal surface (excluding National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service units) |  | BLM Field Offices   |
|  | BLM National Monument  |  | BLM Field Stations  |
|  | BLM National Conservation Area and comparable designations   |  | BLM Field Office Boundaries                               |
|  | Tribal lands where the BLM manages mineral operations as part of its trust responsibility                                  |  | Major Highways  |
|   |  |  | National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center        |
|   |  |  | Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area Interpretive Center |



# Oregon–Washington BLM Law Enforcement Issues



The 27 Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Law Enforcement Rangers and Special Agents in Oregon–Washington are tasked with providing patrol and investigative enforcement on 16 million acres of surface and 39.9 million acres of subsurface land. These lands contain nearly 30% of BLM’s total cultural and natural resources, and nearly 30% of the Bureau’s employees work here.

This past year, the Law Enforcement Rangers and Special Agents responded to 2,678 incidents—issuing 474 Federal violation notices, 243 State violation notices, and 549 written warnings.

With the seizure of 79,681 marijuana plants, BLM law enforcement personnel saw an increase by 420 in the number of marijuana plants seized on BLM-administered land. Most of these marijuana plants were cultivated by suspects allegedly connected to foreign drug cartels. These drug manufacturing sites pose a major threat to public lands for several reasons. First, the vast majority of suspects involved in these crimes were armed with firearms when captured and arrested. This poses a significant threat to law enforcement, BLM employees, and public land users. Second, most of the manufacturing sites showed significant damage to public land and resources, including unlawful removal of and damage to trees and vegetation,

unlawful use of pesticides and herbicides, unlawful dumping of human waste, unlawful open fires, unlawful diversion of water resources, unlawful killing of wildlife, and the unlawful occupancy and use of public land.

In addition to drug-related crimes, BLM law enforcement personnel investigated several significant resource-related cases. One case, in particular, involved violations of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA): As part of Operation Bring ‘Em Back, a 2-year joint undercover operation with the U.S. Forest Service law enforcement program, BLM law enforcement personnel in central Oregon indicted seven persons involved in the unlawful removal and sale of Native American human remains from a wilderness study area on public land. Convictions in this case documented the first NAGPRA conviction in the Pacific Northwest.

In another case, a major, long-time artifact looter and trafficker of Native American human remains and cultural artifacts was indicted on Federal charges and awaits sentencing. In fiscal year 2006, Oregon–Washington BLM officers documented resource losses in excess of \$730,000.



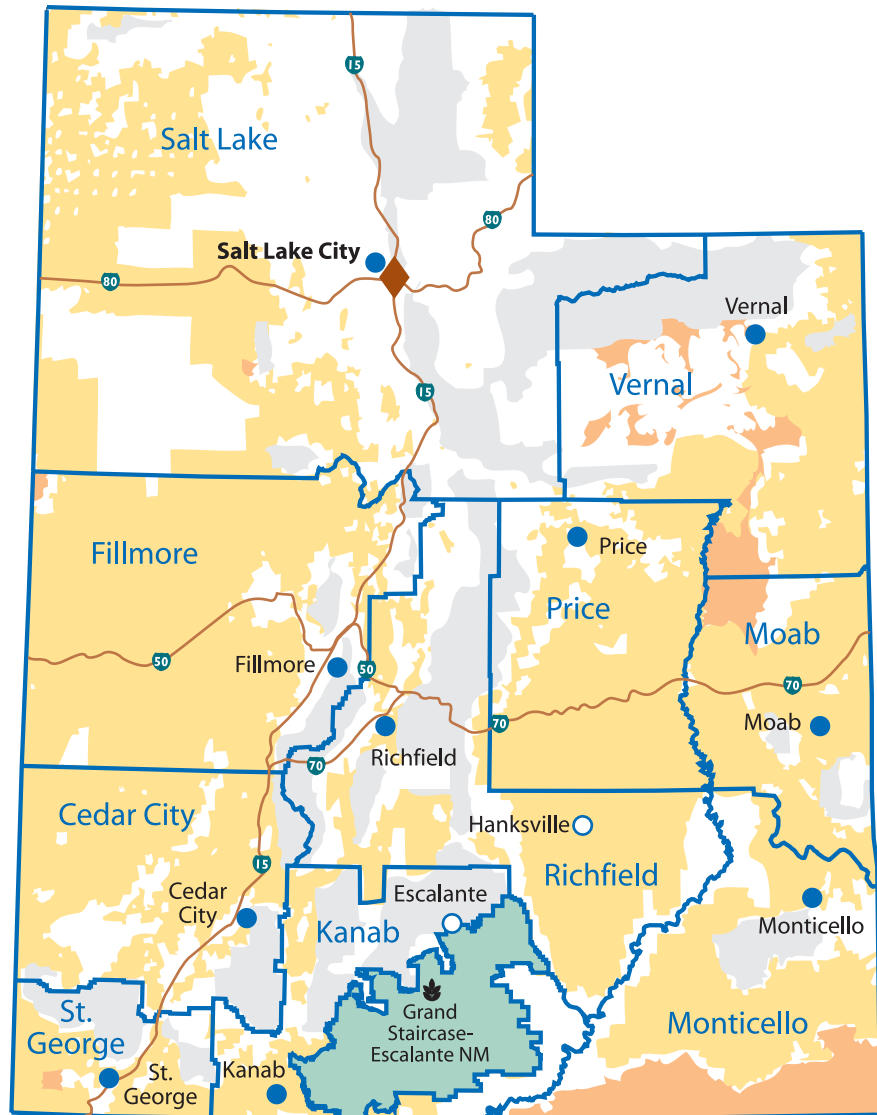
# UTAH

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Photo by © Cychia Spence, photographer.



- BLM-managed lands
- BLM-administered minerals underlying Federal surface (excluding National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service units)
- BLM National Monument
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# Utah BLM Law Enforcement Issues



In 2006, the Utah Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Law Enforcement Program was tasked with a variety of law enforcement issues associated with the management of more than 22 million acres of surface area and more than 33 million acres of subsurface acres of public land in Utah's area of responsibility. The main investigations and activities pertaining to the Utah law enforcement program were related to recreation, paleontology, archaeology, and fire. In addition, Utah law enforcement personnel observed a significant increase in oil and gas activity on public lands. Since the passage of the 2005 Energy Policy Act, Utah has experienced a 250% increase in drilling applications. The Utah BLM law enforcement program will implement an enforcement plan to address the increased activity in the oil and gas program.

An unprecedented number of recreational opportunities are available to the public on lands administered by the BLM in Utah. The BLM law enforcement program was continually challenged with the management and safety of the public during annual events located in Moab, Little Sahara, Coral Pink Sand Dunes, Monticello, and several unscheduled events located throughout the State. Recreational sites in Utah are national and international focal points, and the industry continues to increase annually. For example, Utah BLM ranks in the top three States in visitation (nearly 6 million visitors), fee collection, number of sites managed (400), and number of Special Recreation Permits issued.

Utah has several significant and pristine archaeological sites throughout the State.

These sites include the Anasazi complex at Grand Gulch, rock art at Nine Mile Canyon, Newspaper Rock, and the Grand Staircase–Escalante National Monument, as well as many high-value Anasazi sites throughout the southeastern corner of the State. In the past year, BLM law enforcement officers conducted several investigations pertaining to the Archaeological Resource Protection Act. For example, on February 23, 2006, five suspects pleaded guilty to felony vandalism of a popular petroglyph site on land administered by the BLM near St. George, Utah. As a result of a joint investigation, the suspects were charged by the Washington County Attorney's Office with third degree felonies under the State of Utah's Cultural Sites Protection Act for scratching names and obscenities into the Land Hill petroglyph site. The suspects were ordered to pay \$7,000 in restitution. Four of the suspects received 188 hours of community service and 30 days detention, and one suspect received an additional fine of \$750 and 30 days detention.

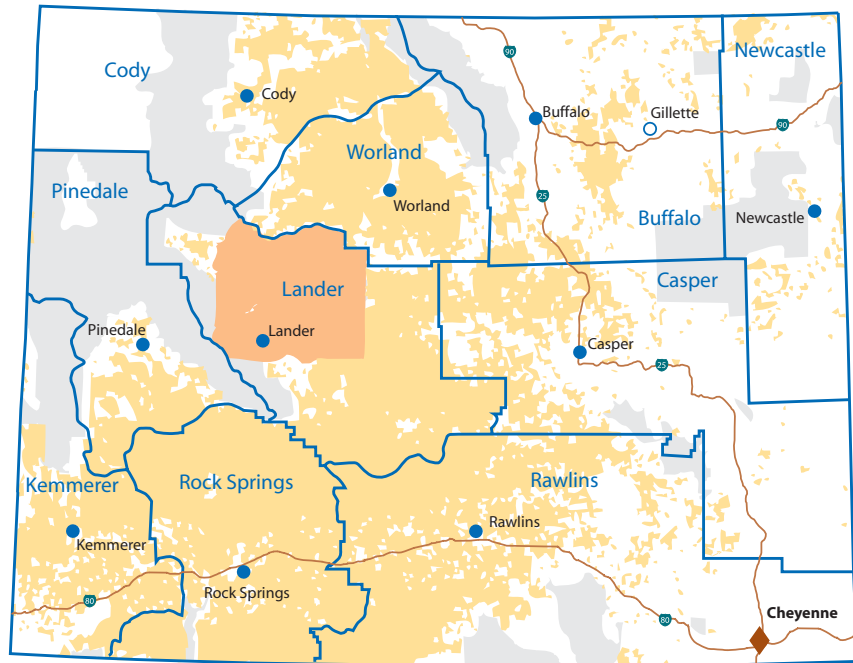
Fossil theft investigations continue to be a high priority in Utah. These areas contain significant numbers of high-value dinosaur fossils, and nearly all of the known Allosaurus specimens in the world were obtained from the Morrison Formation in central Utah. To date, BLM Special Agents are conducting two separate Allosaurus fossil investigations that involve international consignees and destinations. Allosaurus specimens are presently being sold for more than \$500,000 on the black market.





# WYOMING

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- Tribal lands where the BLM manages mineral operations as part of its trust responsibility
- BLM State Office
- BLM Field Offices
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- Major Highways

# Wyoming BLM Law Enforcement Issues



Most law enforcement issues in Wyoming are affiliated with five major areas: paleontological investigations, wild horse investigations, archaeological investigations, minerals, and issues surrounding off-highway vehicles. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Wyoming manages 18.4 million acres of surface area and 41.6 million acres of subsurface minerals.

One of Wyoming's unique programs is paleontology. The Red Gulch Dinosaur Tracksite was discovered in 1997 and is the largest in Wyoming. One of only a few sites found worldwide from the Middle Jurassic Period, the tracks are 160 to 180 million years old. This past year, there have been incidents of people trying to dig up the tracks. Wyoming also has large dinosaur fossils and one of the largest concentrations of small fish fossils in the United States.

Wyoming has more than 3,800 wild horses in 16 Herd Management Areas. Law enforcement personnel have investigated everything from wild horses that were shot and killed to adoption violations. One case involves four suspects who are charged with wild horse violations under State statutes in Sweetwater County, Wyoming. This is significant because the State passed these laws about 5 years ago in response to the killing of more than 30 wild horses. This is one of the first prosecutions under this new State statute, some of which are felonies.

Wyoming has the most miles of undisturbed emigration trail of any State. Four National Historic Trails have more

than 60% of the mileage in the State under BLM stewardship. These trails are the Oregon, California, Mormon Pioneer, and Pony Express, with a total of 340 miles. Wyoming contains the best intact trail remains in the country, which include emigrant etchings, American Indian petroglyphs, and original wagon ruts. Vandalism of the trails and sites is a large problem.

The BLM manages 41.6 million acres of subsurface minerals or about two-thirds of the State. Wyoming minerals are vitally important to the national interest. Wyoming is number one in coal, oil, and bentonite production and number two in natural gas. Coal bed natural gas development, however, may change this. As oil prices have risen, so has an increase in the theft of crude oil. For example, last year a Petroleum Engineering Technician from the BLM Kemmerer Field Office suspected oil theft from two BLM oil wells—an orphaned well and a well whose lease was terminated. As a result of an investigation by BLM law enforcement personnel, three suspects were identified. During interviews, the suspects admitted to the theft of 15 barrels of crude oil from the wells. Criminal summons were issued to the three suspects for violation of 18 U.S.C. 641, Theft of Government Property, and 18 U.S.C. 2, Aiding and Abetting. Also affecting public lands in Wyoming in recent years is the increased drilling for oil and gas in the State. This year, Wyoming issued about 4,601 Applications for Permit to Drill, which has had a significant effect on public land.





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# Major Issues of National Interest

## High-Use Recreation Areas

In Idaho, through a three-way cost-share agreement, the Fremont County Sheriff's Office, the Fremont County Emergency Medical Service, and the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Office of Law Enforcement and Security purchased a four-passenger sand rail vehicle for use at the St. Anthony's Sand Dunes Recreation Area, which is administered by the Idaho Falls District Office. The sand rail, marked with both the Fremont County Sheriff's Office and BLM Law Enforcement logos, went into use in May 2006. It has been used in more than 20 serious medical emergencies to transport emergency medical personnel and recovering injured parties from all-terrain vehicle and motorcycle accidents in the sand dunes. The sand rail has also been used in the enforcement of off-highway vehicle (OHV) registration and safety laws (e.g., helmets, safety flags, open alcoholic containers) by both Fremont County and BLM Law Enforcement Officers. Instrumental in apprehending and transporting those charged with driving-under-the-influence (of a prohibited substance) and intoxicated OHV users in the sand dunes, this sand rail is geared toward encouraging safe and family-type use.

In Utah, agreements with Grand and Juab Counties have helped the BLM patrol in the Moab Field Office and Little Sahara Recreation Area, respectively. Little Sahara, the largest fee demonstration area in Utah, consists of more than 60,000 acres designated for OHV use. A current Law Enforcement Agreement with Juab County grants \$50,000 to the County for assistance during major holiday weekends and for one County Deputy (if available) to be on call at other times. The Moab Field Office comprises one of the most highly visited OHV recreation areas in the Nation. A recent agreement with Grand County granted money from the BLM for the purchase of one sand rail and two six-wheeler OHVs for patrols within the Moab Field Office.

In California, the BLM continues to work with Imperial County, granting money in 2006 for the purchase of two sand rails for use on patrol within the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area (ISDRA). Holiday weekends continue to have a high volume of visitors at Glamis, and law enforcement assistance from other States and within California is key to providing the coverage necessary during these weekends. The California Desert

District is presently working with the American Sand Association to produce two DVD products. The first, an orientation video for Law Enforcement Officers assigned for short-term duty at Glamis, gives general information and guidance about what to expect on arrival. The second, a public service video, encourages visitors to the ISDRA to act responsibly and safely.

## Fire Investigations

Like much of the West, Idaho experienced one of its worst fire years in recent history. There were 413 recorded fires on Idaho's public lands. Of these, 221 were determined to be human-caused. In response, Law Enforcement Officers spent most of their time this past summer investigating human-caused fires that were suspicious in nature. Two investigations were initiated that involved suspected intentional burning. Suppression cost alone for these fires totaled \$3.5 million. Wildland fire investigations continue to be a priority for the BLM Idaho Law Enforcement Program.

In Colorado, more than \$180,000 has been paid by violators in restitution for suppression and area rehabilitation costs associated







with human-caused fires. BLM law enforcement personnel work with the U.S. Attorney's Office to seek these reimbursements.

Similarly, Utah BLM law enforcement personnel continue to work closely with the Affirmative Civil Enforcement (ACE) Program at the U.S. Attorney's Office in Salt Lake City, Utah. Since its inception in 1997, the ACE Program has been extremely successful in obtaining recoveries, settlements, and judgments associated with fire investigations and other resource violations pertaining to BLM losses. For example, in 2006 the U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Utah, filed a complaint for more than \$14 million against a defendant for allegedly causing a wildfire on land administered by the BLM.

In Arizona, the Colorado River District documented 46 human-caused fires in 2006. Many of these fires occurred on the portion of the Colorado River along the international border and are attributed to illegal smuggling activities.

### **U.S. Border Issues**

Arizona, New Mexico, and California are at the center of the storm for undocumented aliens crossing the U.S. border with Mexico. In New Mexico, the BLM is responsible for managing

significant public lands and resources along the U.S. border with Mexico. The effects of undocumented immigrants and smugglers range from the dumping of trash over many acres to the formation of hundreds of illegal trails and roads. Managing these borderlands also requires significant coordination with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Customs and Border Protection. The effects on BLM-managed lands not only occur at the border but extend more than 100 miles north of the border onto significant public lands.

The BLM in New Mexico manages 105 miles directly along the border and more than 2.5 million acres of lands within 100 miles of the border. The Las Cruces BLM District Office manages all of the public (BLM) land along the border. The significant lands managed by this office include approximately 10 Wilderness Study Areas, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, and many significant archaeological sites. Borderland management activities include: 1) coordination with the DHS for permits, access, and environmental reviews for their infrastructure and applied technology projects and for law enforcement operations; 2) the mitigation of the effects of trash from undocumented immigrants

on public lands, illegal trails and roads, damage to improvements, and other negative effects; 3) seasonal suppression of fires believed to be set by illegal immigrants for warming or cooking; 4) providing protection for employees, volunteers, and visitors on public lands through law enforcement rangers, safety training, and environmental information; and 5) the initial stages of the long-term work required to assess, monitor, and restore damaged public lands and resources.

The DHS investigates numerous incidents of drug and alien smuggling annually in New Mexico. DHS record keeping is not specific to the land ownership of the locations where these incidents occur, so the BLM has no reliable gauge of the volume of border-related illegal activity occurring on lands under its jurisdiction. However, the presence of trash and trails and roads indicate that such activity is an ongoing and increasing problem on BLM lands in the border area.

In Arizona, the BLM constantly addresses issues relating to managing public lands along the U.S. border with Mexico. The approach that Arizona has put together to deal with the challenges along the border

include interagency agreements and coordination, operational guidelines for law enforcement personnel, specific orientation and safety protocols for field workers, and increasing levels of attention to visitor safety. Over the last 6 years, the BLM estimates it has intercepted 8,000 to 10,000 illegal immigrants on the Ironwood Forest National Monument, who are remanded to the custody of the Border Patrol.

The BLM coordinates frequently with the Department of Homeland Security, U.S Customs and Border Protection Office of the Border Patrol on their programs and activities. These include routine and special operations to stop illegal smuggling on BLM-managed lands; project-specific details for DHS infrastructure improvements, ranging from barriers to low-water crossings; issuing permits to other DHS agencies, such as processing centers; support for technological applications, such as camera towers and remote sensing units; and environmental education, such as instruction to supervisors or agents on the “Tread Lightly” concept to reduce environmental effects.

The BLM in California continues to participate in border task force activities, along with the Border Patrol, Drug Enforcement

Administration, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement. One issue that has become increasingly difficult for BLM is the result of the construction of a fence along the Mexican border, just east of BLM-managed lands. Due to the existence of the fence, in addition to increased border patrols west of the Otay Wilderness, illegal crossings into the Wilderness have increased. This means an increase in trash dumping and other activities within that area, all of which are expected to increase even more in the coming year.

Increasingly, we have also had problems with drug trafficking along the U.S. border with Canada. The public lands in Washington State adjacent to the international border with Canada are beautiful, remote, and mountainous. Unfortunately, these lands are used by both drug and human traffickers for criminal activity. The BLM in Montana holds the Secretary position on the Prairie Integrated Border Enforcement Team and works with agencies on both sides of the border to protect our Nation.

### **Alaska Subsistence Hunting Issues**

Rangers assisted program managers in developing and implementing a process to increase compliance with

Federal subsistence hunt reporting requirements. Initially, 683 violations of hunt report requirements were documented during the 2004–2005 subsistence hunting season for moose and caribou. After implementation during the 2005–2006 season, only 38 individuals failed to return caribou permits, and only 14 individuals failed to return moose permits, increasing compliance with hunt report requirements from approximately 52% to approximately 98%. In addition, 77 individuals received warnings for failure to report within 5 days of successful harvest. Rangers also drafted and submitted a proposal for regulation change that will further support this effort.

One Ranger enlisted his State commission to investigate and successfully prosecute two individuals involved in providing false identification to match caribou harvest permits. The Ranger, in cooperation with Alaska Bureau of Wildlife Enforcement Troopers, drafted and served two State search warrants, resulting in the seizure of two caribou and two rifles. The Ranger also drafted the criminal complaint and represented the State at sentencing. The investigation resulted in the defendants receiving imposed fines totaling \$33,000, with \$22,000 suspended and \$11,000 to pay, in addition to forfeiture of the two rifles and two caribou.





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## Wild Horse and Burro Investigations

All wild horse and burro violations encountered by law enforcement personnel have been handled through criminal processes. With the largest adoption program in the BLM, the Colorado–Eastern States Law Enforcement Agents have the largest workload for investigating violations of the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971 (Act). One person in Arkansas is being prosecuted for treating a wild burro inhumanely by neglecting to

provide proper care. That individual was sentenced to 12 months of probation, 50 hours of community service, and \$770 in restitution paid to the BLM. Another person in Arkansas is awaiting trial for inhumane treatment of four wild horses by neglecting to provide proper care, resulting in the death of one. A case involving a person in Louisiana resulted in the seizure of seven malnourished and neglected mustangs. And in two separate cases, persons in Alabama were charged with the selling of five untitled mustangs.

In Wyoming, where the State recently passed wild horse protection laws in addition to the Federal Act, individuals were prosecuted under State law for the first time this year. Four individuals were charged and prosecuted for roping and castrating a wild horse, which later died from injuries it sustained. The Wyoming State law is a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of \$750, imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both.





# How to Apply for Jobs with the Bureau of Land Management Law Enforcement

Vacancies for Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Law Enforcement positions can be found at [www.usajobs.opm.gov](http://www.usajobs.opm.gov). There are several ways to search for jobs on this Web site. The most common methods are to search by job series or agency. Ranger positions are in occupational series 1801 and Special Agent positions are in series 1811. If you are interested

in applying for one of the positions listed in usajobs, you can link directly to the BLM's QuickHire system.

QuickHire, located at <https://jobs.quickhire.com/scripts/blm.exe>, is the BLM's on-line application system. QuickHire enables you to check for available jobs with the BLM; you can also create,

edit, and archive your resume and apply for jobs on-line. Student Career Experience Program (SCEP) vacancies are occasionally listed on this site, but law enforcement SCEP positions are filled at the Field Office or State Office levels through outreach efforts at colleges, universities, organizations, or BLM events.







Bureau of Land Management

# Law Enforcement

*Protecting  
Our Public  
Lands and  
Natural  
Resources*





## KNOW THE LAW... ***DON'T DRINK AND RIDE!***

Keeping the Dunes a safe, clean and fun place for all outdoor enthusiasts is your responsibility.

*Drinking and driving laws apply off-highway.*

### Don't Let This Be Your Last Ride!



BLM  
LAW ENFORCEMENT



CHP



IMPERIAL COUNTY  
SHERIFF



NATIONAL  
SHERIFFS'  
ASSOCIATION



The BLM's Director of Law Enforcement and Security has made it clear,  
*"Let there be no misunderstanding, we will strongly enforce all DUI laws in full cooperation  
with state and local law enforcement agencies at all off-road recreation locations."*

