

# Report on The Partnership Series

October 1, 1998 to June 1, 1999

Hello to our friends, supporters and sponsors from The Partnership Series Team! The Partnership Series is a suite of training courses made possible by a partnership between BLM National Training Center and the San Bernardino National Forest Association. Our mission is to be the best source of training which increases the abilities of communities to enhance the social, economic and biological health of landscapes by building and sustaining successful partnerships.

In the last nine months we have accomplished an impressive array of tasks. Since many of you have helped us to achieve our goals, we wanted let you know how we are progressing.

## 1. Course Design and Delivery

<u>Community Based Partnerships</u>	Learning how to build and sustain successful community-based partnerships that ensure a healthy environment and community		
Classes Delivered This Period:	2/9-11/99	Pinedale, WY	sponsored by BLM
	2/23-25/99	Safford, AZ	sponsored by SW Strategy
	3/9-11/99	Tonopah, NV	sponsored by BLM
	5/11-13/99	Cloudcroft, NV	sponsored by SW Strategy
Total Classes Delivered to Date	13		
Total Participants to Date	426		
Classes Scheduled	10/28-10/30/99	Yuma, AZ	sponsored by BLM
	11/4-11-6/99	Espanola, NM	sponsored by SW Strategy
	12/99	Lake Pleasant, AZ	sponsored by SW Strategy
	2/10-12/00	Carlsbad, NM	sponsored by SW Strategy
Classes Requested for 2000	We have received over 12 requests for this course with multiple requests pending. Our business plan call for nine class deliveries in 2000.		

<u>Learning Communities: Linking People, Places and Perspectives</u>	Learning how to identify formal and informal networks, gathering places and human and cultural resources within a community.		
Design Team Meeting	1/11-14/99		
Continuing Design Meeting	6/22-23/99		
Pilot Class	9/14-16/99	Lake Pleasant, AZ	sponsored by BLM
Classes Requested for 2000	We have received 3 requests so far for this new course and a multiple request is pending.		
	Our business plan call for 3 class deliveries in 2000.		

<u>Alternative Funding: Looking Beyond Traditional Sources</u>	Learning creative and new ways to fund projects.		
Design Team Meeting	11/2-6/98		
Pilot class	5/4-6/99	Phoenix, AZ	sponsored by BLM
Redesign Team Meeting	8/30-31/99		
Classes Requested for 2000	We have received over 3 requests for this new course and a multiple request is pending. Our business plan calls for 3 class deliveries in 2000.		

<u>The Art of Writing Grants</u>	Learning how to write a successful grant.		
Classes Delivered This Period	10/20/22/98	Dolores, CO	sponsored by BLM/USFS
	12/1-3/98	Lake Tahoe, NV	sponsored by BLM
	1/26-28/99	Leavenworth, WA	sponsored by USFS
	3/16-18/99	Albuquerque, NM	sponsored by BLM
Total Classes Delivered to Date	12		
Total Participants to Date	321		
Classes Scheduled	9/28-30/99	Flagstaff, AZ	sponsored by USFS
	10/26-28/99	Salida, CO	sponsored by BLM
	12/7-9/99	Dillon, MT	sponsored by BLM/USFS
	2/00	FL	sponsored by BLM
	3/00	Prineville, OR	sponsored by BLM/USFS
	5/00	AK	
	TBD	NY	

Classes Requested for 2000

We have received 6 requests for this course with a multiple request pending. Our business plan calls for 6 deliveries in 2000.

The Wise and Effective Use of Volunteers

Volunteer Forum (pre-design) 7/6-8/99

Design Course Fall 1999

Classes Scheduled 3/13-17/00 Billings, MT sponsored by the BLM

Course Requests for 2000 We have already received 2 requests for this yet to be designed class and have a multiple request pending. Our business plan calls for 3 deliveries in 2000.

**2. Course Training Needs / Validation**

In January 1999 we completed a major training needs assessment for the volunteer program. Almost 400 respondents from six federal agencies and organizations replied to our web survey. The "Volunteer Program Management: An Interagency Training Needs Assessment" will guide the design and delivery of the Wise and Effective Use of Volunteers course.

We conducted a course validation survey in November of 1998 and discovered that as a result of the Community Based Partnership training, several communities have started stewardship groups to manage their local land resources. The significance of this finding is that this training is applicable, timely and greatly desired. A validation survey for the Art of Writing Grants course was initiated early in 1999 and is nearing completion. Early analysis suggests participants are using the new skills to successfully obtain grants; many more dollars were brought in than cost to deliver the classes.

**3. The Partnership Series Staff**

In October 1999, Terri Weeding was hired by SBNFA to work primarily on marketing and resource development for The Partnership Series. In June of 1999, SBNFA will hire a volunteer training site coordinator to coordinate the Wise and Effective Use of Volunteers course; interagency funding support was obtained for that position. Within BLM, Larry Bauer and Russ Krapf (existing training coordinators at NTC) have agreed to coordinate the Community Based Partnership classes. In addition, Terry Loyer has agreed to coordinate the Learning Communities: People, Places and Perspectives course. Diane Nelson continues to coordinate the Art of Writing Grants course deliveries for the third year.

**4. Business Plan**

The Partnership Series Business Plan was completed in the fall of 1998. It documents a detailed marketing and financial path to a higher level of self-sufficiency by the year 2001. As of this date, The Partnership Series can proudly state that we are on target in terms of class delivery and financial goals. Furthermore, by July 1, 1999, the Partnership Series will have its own accounting system to help us to continue to realize our financial goals.

**5. Graphic Identity**

With the help of a talented graphic designer, we have recently created a compelling graphic identity for The Partnership Series. Our logo can be found on letterhead, shirts, and on our new web site. See [www.blm.ntc.gov/partner](http://www.blm.ntc.gov/partner). We also designed a new brochure which reflexes our professionalism and dedication to premier natural resources training.

**5. Marketing Database**

The Partnership Series marketing database is in design phase and will be up and running by the end of this summer. Our capacity to target agency, non-profit, local government and citizens interested in The Partnerships Series training will be greatly enhanced.

The Partnership Series has accomplished a multitude of objectives and as a result, we are receiving words of praise, validation and offers of support from many quarters, including the BLM Executive Leadership Team, USDA Forest Service, Department of Interior, and the Office of the Vice President! Most gratifying are the overwhelming number of requests for courses from all over the country. It is our intention to continue to implement the business plan, hire and allocate additional people and resources to service as many requests as possible. Our training philosophy of natural resource management through partnerships and community stewardship is making a difference!

Many thanks to all of you who have contributed!

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