

Introduction

Announcer: The Bureau of Land Management presents live from the National Training Center in Phoenix, Arizona and the M Street Office in Washington D.C., "M Street Live," a broadcast series focusing on BLM issues of interest. Today's topic: Planning 2.0, focusing on the BLM's Planning 2.0 initiative to improve the Land Use Planning Process. And now the host of your program, Tessa Teems.

T. Teems: Hello. Welcome to our "M Street Live" program on Planning 2.0. Thanks for joining us. I'm Tessa Teems, Training Coordinator for planning, E-planning, socioeconomics, collaboration and dispute resolution at the BLM National Training Center in Phoenix, Arizona. Today we'll discuss the Planning 2.0 initiative, what it is, where it came from, what the goals are, what changes are expected, and when it will happen. As well as how the BLM is going to meet those goals. The last part of the show is set aside for your questions. So, be thinking about those as we move along. Today we're fortunate to have with us some key players in the Planning 2.0 initiative. Joining us live from our M Street Office in Washington D.C. First is Shasta Ferranto, the Planning 2.0 Project Manager and a Planning and Environmental Analyst. Hey, Shasta, thank you so much for joining us.

S. FERRANTO: Hi, Tessa. I'm happy to be here today.

T. Teems: We also have with us Brian Amme, Branch Chief of planning and NEPA. Brian, we're so glad you could join us.

B. AMME: Thanks, Tessa. Glad to be here.

T. Teems: Now, I know that we promised you that Joe Stout would be joining us on the panel today however Joe is out sick. Filling in for Joe is Leah Baker, a planning manager and Planning and Environmental Analyst. Leah, thanks so much for filling in at the last minute. We really appreciate it.

L. Baker: No problem, Tessa. I know I'm no Joe, but I'm glad to help.

T. Teems: As I mentioned, we want to take your questions during the show, and there are a few ways to do that. If you think of a question during our presentation, please feel free to call, fax, text or email at the numbers or address on your screen. To call us, dial toll-free at 1-877-862-5346. You can fax us at 602-906-5701. And to email or text us, please send it to: BLM TC telecast@blm.gov. We'll try to answer all your questions during our scheduled time, but if we can't, someone will get back to you after the broadcast. So please be sure to include your name and office location when you send in your questions. So now that we have that out of the way, let's go ahead and talk about Planning 2.0. To begin, let's hear what Linda Lance, BLM Deputy Director for programs and policy, has to say about Planning 2.0.

L. LANCE: Hello, everyone. I'm Linda Lance, BLM Deputy Director. Welcome to today's "M Street Live" program. Today I want to talk with you about the BLM's Planning 2.0 initiative, an important priority for both the Department and the Bureau. Today our public lands face many

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challenges, as you well know, on an unprecedented scale. As managers of these lands and resources, we have the responsibility to develop a better understanding of landscapes than we ever have had before. To advance important conservation goals and appropriately develop resources, our planning efforts are front and center. We cannot adequately address resource management issues such as the effects of climate change, the increasing intensity of wildfires, and the spread of invasive species, or confidently balance the conflicting demands on the public lands on a landscape scale without effective planning. Because Land Use Planning is the foundation of our work, our goal with Planning 2.0 is to ensure we have the underpinning we need to face the day's challenges. I've been fortunate to visit BLM Field Offices across the country and I continue to be impressed every day with the amazingly hard work you do as stewards of our public lands. I'm especially impressed with your creativity and innovation in solving the problems that we face today. Through Planning 2.0 we're looking at how to improve the planning process by applying some of the innovative approaches we've seen in the Field Offices. We're also looking for ways to spread the lessons learned from these successes across the agency and across the country. Most of the ideas you'll hear presented today came from on the ground planning efforts across the Bureau. I want to thank all of you for these ideas and for the amazing work you do to move the BLM forward. As part of this process we hosted two public Listening Sessions earlier this fall in the west and on the web. All of these sessions -- during all of these sessions a diverse group of people came together and discussed ideas on how to improve BLM's Land Use Planning Process. In October we held a WebEx session with BLM planners to learn from their experiences in the field. We've also met with the field committee on these planning efforts, and we've reached out to our local partners through the western Governors association, the national association of counties and the BLM Resource Advisory Councils, to gather input and share ideas. As we move forward with Planning 2.0, it's important that everyone who works on Resource Management Plans play a part in the Planning 2.0 initiative. This includes Field Office managers, planners, interdisciplinary team members and other Field Office staff. It also includes people who are affected by our decisions, such as people from local communities and users of the public lands. I am confident that with your input, as well as input from our partners, stakeholders, and the public, the Planning 2.0 initiative will allow us to be more responsive to changes, increase collaboration and think beyond our historic administrative boundaries. I urge you if you have ideas from your experiences, please speak up today. We'd like to hear from you as we had continue toward a Landscape Approach to planning. Thanks for joining us.

T. Teems: As you just saw in Deputy Director Lance's video, the Planning 2.0 initiative is a top priority for the Department of Interior and the BLM. Ultimately the main goal of Planning 2.0 is to improve the way the BLM manages public lands.