



JOURNAL

Serving the Needs of Land Professionals
February 2005

This newsletter is produced through a partnership between the Bureau of Land Management-Eastern States and the Eastern Lands and Resources Council.

It's time to register! The Joint Spring 2005 Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC) and the Western States Land Commissioners Association (WSLCA) Conference will convene from April 17-20, 2005, in Washington, DC. Registration and details inside...

Visit our Web site at:
www.elrc.org

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Joint Spring Conference on Public Lands: Cost-effective Strategies for Public Land Managers

Sponsored by the
Eastern Lands and Resources Council &
Western States Land Commissioners Association

at the

Radisson Hotel, 2121 P Street, NW
Washington, DC

You're invited!! This will be an opportunity for **State and Federal officials**, along with **land trust** managers, to deal with key **real estate** issues. The conference will feature innovative **finance** techniques for working forests and other **conservation properties**, such as transferable tax credits, new market tax credits, and ecosystem credits. Other topics involve **split estates, inholdings** and new opportunities for **partnering with the military** on conservation properties. Speakers will discuss **monitoring and enforcing conservation easements**. We will hear about how States are rethinking revenue sources and purposes for their **payments in lieu of taxes** and the impact of a recent Supreme Court decision on enforcing Federal **land use plans** along with the new approach to Forest Service land use planning.

This conference will explore cutting-edge technologies with direct application to land management, including Geographic Information Systems (**GIS**) and Global Positioning Systems (**GPS**). Participants will learn about meeting renewable energy portfolio and forest management targets through **biomass** projects. Conferees will explore how to enhance predictions for secondary and tertiary **oil and gas production** and new advances in **imaging, drilling, and production**. They will also see applications of **remote sensing** to management of **invasives, endangered species habitat and wildfires**.

Continued on page 2



Message from the ELRC President...

Dear Friends,

As you look through this issue, I'm sure you'll agree that there are really innovative natural resource programs going on in the Eastern States. The need for an organization like the ELRC is more important than ever. The fall conference put on by Minnesota was incredibly successful. It featured a large and diverse attendance dealing with the topic of Off-Highway Vehicles that is an important policy issue in every State. Bill Brice and his team did a great job of putting on the conference! We all look forward to another great conference in Vermont this fall.

In this newsletter, you will see information on the joint ELRC – Western States Land Commissioners Association Conference this April 17-20. Elinor Schwartz has done an incredible job of pulling together great speakers and interesting topics for this year's conference. The ELRC Executive Committee also helped to pull together ideas and speakers that make this conference especially relevant to the Eastern States.

The sessions on conservation finance, working forests, conservation easements, split estates and forest-related biomass energy should not be missed. Charles Jordan, Chairman of the Conservation Fund is one of the most inspiring environmental speakers you're likely to ever see. Rand Wentworth, President of the Land Trust Alliance will bring up-to-date information on the national controversy with conservation easements. Several high level, Federal administration staff will update us on new directions for the President's second term. I hope everyone will seriously consider attending this year's conference.

I hope to follow up our successful summer phone/web conference on land conservation finance with a spring phone/web conference on forest-related biomass energy, which is an emerging topic for many states. Look for an email notice for this free seminar in the coming weeks. Feel free to email me if you would like a notice of this conference at robert.oconnor@state.ma.us.

Finally, I'd like to thank BLM-Eastern States' State Director Michael Nedd for his continued support of ELRC and also Peggy Riek for her hard work in pulling together this newsletter.

Bob O'Connor, ELRC President

The ELRC

...fostering responsible public land management policies for tomorrow

The ELRC is an organization comprised of highly trained public land professionals in the eastern United States which provides a collaborative and unique forum for enhancing land stewardship and conservation.

The ELRC fosters communication, strengthens professional development, and promotes sound policies and practices among those involved in the management and administration of public lands, records, and natural resources.

For more information, write:
Bob O'Connor, Director of Land and Forest Policy,
Massachusetts Executive Office of
Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02114
Email: robert.oconnor@state.ma.us
or call Bob at (617) 626-1170

Joint Spring ELRC/WSLCA Conference...continued from page 1

The conference will include a **GPS workshop** on resource assessment and location.

To request further details or offer case information on conference issues, please contact Elinor Schwartz, Joint Spring Conference Coordinator at 703-920-5389, 703-920-5402 (fax), or by email at es@elinorschwartz.com.

For hotel reservations in the ELRC block, please contact 202-293-3100, or reservations@sleepindc.com.

Fall 2004 ELRC Conference Focuses on OHVs

Representatives from 15 States, including Minnesota, traveled to Biwabik, Minnesota, to attend the Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC) Fall 2004 Conference held from October 3-7, 2004.

Professional State and Federal land managers and recreation planners learned how Minnesota and other States are dealing with issues surrounding off-highway vehicle (OHV) use. With the popularity of the sport growing dramatically, public land managers from across the country are faced with similar challenges—managing OHV activities and promoting responsible use.

Conference participants learned about the planning process for Minnesota's Iron Range OHV Recreation Area; discussed enforcement issues and mitigation of environmental impacts; listened to private land owners, user groups, and the manufacturing industry; and learned about the Department of Natural Resources' (DNRs) trail designation process. The conference also provided a venue for attendees to exchange information about programs in their States.



Photo by Minnesota Office of Tourism

The demand to use off-highway vehicles on public land is growing.

In addition to topics covered by the States, BLM's Washington Office Senior Social Scientist for the Planning, Assessment, and Community Support Group, Rob Winthrop, and the Director of the Socio-Economic Program at the Sonoran Institute, Ray Rasker, provided an outstanding presentation on the use of the Economic Profile System (EPS) used by BLM. The EPS, which encourages collaborative public lands management, is a computer-based system for easy retrieval of local economic and demographic information. The BLM-ES has partnered with the Sonoran Institute and the National Association of Counties (NACo) to make crucial socio-economic data easily available nationwide.

Also, during the conference, BLM-ES' State Director Mike Nedd introduced BLM's Deputy Director Jim Hughes, who made a special appearance to present the BLM Director's Four Cs Award to ELRC President Bob O'Connor, representing the ELRC. The award was given to the ELRC in recognition of the valuable partnership that the BLM-ES and the ELRC have shared. The two groups have eagerly worked together to build a strong, proactive relationship to care for the Nation's natural resources and lands entrusted to them in their areas of jurisdiction.

Contact: Susan Balgie, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Information and Education, (651) 282-6861; E-mail: susan.balgie@dnr.state.mn.us, and Peggy Riek, BLM-Eastern States, Writer-Editor, (703) 440-1716



Photo by Peggy Riek

(From left) BLM-Eastern States (BLM-ES) State Director Mike Nedd; ELRC President Bob O'Connor; Wisconsin DNR Community Services Specialist Diane Conklin; Tourism and Recreation Director from Bayfield County, Wisconsin, Pat Thornton; Minnesota's Lake County Land Commissioner Mr. Clair Nelson; BLM's Washington Office Senior Social Scientist for Planning, Assessment, and Community Support Rob Winthrop; and the Director of the SocioEconomics Program at the Sonoran Institute Ray Rasker take a break from the busy ELRC conference for a photo.

What's Happening in YOUR State?

Michigan Partnership Protects 271,000 Acres of Working Forest

Michigan Governor Jennifer M. Granholm and representatives of The Nature Conservancy announced an agreement with The Forestland Group, LLC, to protect more than 271,000 acres through a working forest easement on 248,000 acres and acquisition of 23,338 acres. The parcels stretch over eight counties and link together more than 2.5 million acres of Federal, State, and natural areas in the Upper Peninsula.



The project will cost nearly \$58 million, of which The Nature Conservancy has raised more than \$40 million from public and private sources. The Forestland Group has acquired more than 1.5 million acres of timberland in 14 States.

Contact: Ed Meadows, Manager, Acquisitions and Exchanges, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (and ELRC Member-at-Large), (517) 373-8343; E-mail: meadowse@michigan.gov

Governor Granholm said that the agreement is an extraordinary opportunity to protect Michigan's timber jobs and local economies, while ensuring public access and protecting forests, lakes, and streams.

Highlights of the project include:

- ◆ Land that will remain open to the public for hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, and outdoor recreation;
- ◆ Timber harvesting according to sustainable forestry certification;
- ◆ More than 300 natural lakes;
- ◆ 516 miles of riparian habitat along major rivers and streams, including 192 miles of State and Federal wild and scenic rivers;
- ◆ More than 31 miles of land bordering Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore;
- ◆ Roughly 130,000 acres of buffer and inholdings to State Forests and State Parks;
- ◆ More than 52,000 acres of wetlands; and
- ◆ Over 100,000 acres of adjacent buffer and inholdings to Ottawa and Hiawatha National Forests and Seney National Wildlife Refuge.

Minnesota Partnership Produces New Road Construction Material

Minnesota motorists may soon be driving on a new type of road surface constructed with aggregate materials using waste taconite rock. The concept is the result of a collaborative effort by members of the Minerals Coordinating Committee, including Minnesota's Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Department of Transportation (MnDOT), the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Agency, the Natural Resources Research Institute, the Minnesota Geological Survey, and private mining and aggregate companies.



Photo by MnDOT

Minnesota's DOT Road Operations Engineer, Ben Worel, inspects one of the test cells made of taconite rock.

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Minnesota partnership...continued from page 4

Two test plots were constructed this year at MnROAD, a state-of-the-art pavement laboratory managed by MnDOT. The taconite rock, taken from a mine in Eveleth, Minnesota, was crushed directly into aggregate and used in concrete and hot mix asphalt test sections. A network of electronic sensors embedded within the 6 miles of test pavements determined how the taconite aggregate would react under various conditions.

Initial results suggest that the taconite aggregate may create a durable pavement and provide improvements in steering and braking. Also, a major new source of construction aggregate materials would save taxpayers money and conserve the State's resources. Normally, the taconite layer that was used for the test would be placed into a waste rock stockpile at the mine and left alone.

The long-term goal of this project is to help market higher volumes of taconite by-products from Minnesota to large cities and other states. One immediate benefit would be an increase in the aggregate supply to the Twin Cities area, which is facing a declining local supply.

Bill Brice, division director for DNR's Lands and Minerals, is committee chair. Dennis Martin, senior geologist with Lands and Minerals, coordinated the project.

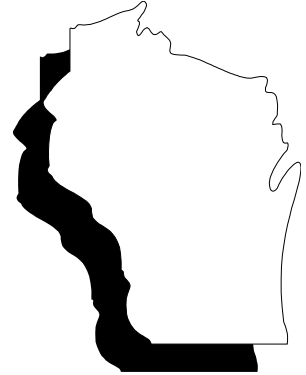
Contact: Susan Balgie, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Information and Education, (651) 282-6861; E-mail: susan.balgie@dnr.state.mn.us

Rare Young Trees Given New Lease on Life

Most northern hardwood forests are dominated by second-growth maple—both sugar and red maple. Past cutting practices and the elimination of seed trees of rarer species have contributed to this problem. In most forests, some very important species have been

nearly lost from the mix—including yellow birch, hemlock, white pine, and red oak.

Fortunately, there are many acres of Wisconsin Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (BCPL) property where this problem is not as severe as on other ownerships. The BCPL has remnant patches of older growth hemlock-hardwood forests where the rarer species can still be regenerated—if careful stewardship is practiced. While maple still tends to dominate managed areas and deer browsing is a huge problem, BCPL foresters are learning and implementing techniques to restore some of the rarest forest species and types.



What has the Wisconsin BCPL done? In short, we have learned to work with what Mother Nature gives us, and not to work against her. BCPL foresters are finding that releasing established saplings and poles is much more effective than planting—especially when dealing with species heavily favored by deer, including yellow birch and white pine. Since the fall of 2003, BCPL foresters and technicians have released thousands of young crop trees—work that would not get done via commercial timber harvests.

What are the results? If timed correctly, and applied to the best young “crop” trees, release efforts can double growth rates, increase the percentage of quality stems in the stand, and help to maintain a diverse forest.

Contact: Mike Paus, District Office Administrator, Wisconsin Board of Commissioners of Public Lands, (715) 277-3366; E-mail: michael.paus@bcpl.state.wi.us

Massachusetts Announces New Forest Viability Program

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) recently announced the new Forest Viability Program. Modeled after the highly successful Farm Viability Enhancement Program (FVEP), the purpose of Forest Viability Program is to maintain high standards of ecological health, encourage long-term ownership and proper forest management, and increase financial viability on the State's 2.4 million acres of private forestland. To date the FVEP has completed and helped implement farm business plans on 275 farms and protected over 20,000 acres via covenants over the past 10 years. Incredibly, all but two of these farms are still actively farming.

Through this new program, private landowners engaged in a forest-based business can receive technical assistance and financial support to improve the ecological integrity and economic viability of their forestland. Forest landowners may apply to the Forest Viability Program under any one or a combination of the three business categories: 1) Traditional Forest Products (e.g., market innovations for sawlogs, cordwood, and pulp); 2) Non-Traditional Forest Products (e.g., medicinal and nutraceutical plants, food products, decorative and handicraft, or rustic furniture); and 3) Recreation and Wildlife (e.g., cross-country ski/hiking trails, hunting leases, wildlife viewing, or environmental education). Selected forest landowners will work with a technical team comprised of environmental, economic, and marketing consultants, with special knowledge of the forest-based business, to develop a focused Forest Viability Plan.

This plan will suggest ways for the landowner to increase the economic return from his or her forest-based business through ecologically sustainable methods such as more efficient production of specialty products, niche marketing, direct marketing, value-added initiatives, eco-tourism, and improved management practices. Landowners with an EOEA-approved Forest Viability Plan will also be eligible for up to \$20,000 in funding to implement all or part of their Plan.

In return for the development of a Forest Viability Plan, the landowner must grant the State a 5-year covenant, which will require that the entire property from which the forest-based business is

derived remain undeveloped (excluding existing developed envelopes or other uses designated in the approved Forest Viability Plan) and will forbid practices that are not compatible with long-term forest management. Landowners who accept implementation funding must grant a similar 20-year, no-development covenant.

Through this new initiative, Massachusetts will help to ensure the continued flow of ecosystem services and public benefits from these forestlands including: clean water, clean air, wildlife habitat, scenic landscapes, forest products, recreational opportunities, and carbon sequestration. In addition, these properties and the forest products produced will continue to add benefit to the local economy and support the important tradition of working woodlands in Massachusetts.

Contact: Christy Edwards, Land and Forest Policy Coordinator, Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, (617) 626-1151; E-mail: christy.edwards@state.ma.us

Innovation on a Shoestring at Ohio State Parks

Despite tight budgets, Ohio State Parks has been collaborating with partners to deliver new and expanded recreational opportunities at little or no cost to the parks. For instance, three parks have added archery ranges in the past few years with the cooperation of the Archery Trade Association and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Division of Wildlife, and a fourth is working to complete a new archery range this spring. Four State parks have added disc golf courses to their offerings in recent years with the help of local disc golf enthusiasts. At one of these parks, which offers day-use facilities only and has a very small budget, a local corporate sponsor donated all of the wire baskets to create an outstanding 18-hole disc golf course.

Since the Ohio Trails Partnership (OTP) was formed 7 years ago, it has contributed over \$200,000 in donations and 100,000 hours in labor to State parks around Ohio for hiking, bridle, and mountain biking trail development and maintenance. The OTP is comprised of highly motivated and enthusiastic representatives of the Ohio

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Ohio State Parks...continued from page 6

Horseman's Council, the Ohio Mountain Biking Association, and the Buckeye Trail Association. The umbrella group does fundraising, hosts an annual communal work day, and encourages local chapters of their respective groups to initiate trail building, improvement and maintenance projects in their nearby parks. The OTP has not only added to Ohio State Parks' great legacy of recreational trails, it has also brought harmony and a shared purpose among three valued park user groups whose often competing special interests used to cause friction.

Our State park staff has done a remarkable job of providing good customer service as well as innovating to provide new recreational offerings. However, with continuing tough times ahead, a growing backlog of deferred maintenance, and severe reductions in the workforce (staff has been reduced by 22 percent since 2000), more funding is needed soon to keep our park system viable. To help fill the gap, a Parks Pride Pass program has been proposed for spring. Under the program, park visitors would purchase and display a daily pass, or an economical yearly pass good for unlimited visits. The Parks Pride Pass is expected to generate \$3 million, which will supplement the revenues generated by overnight facilities, equipment rentals, and concession agreements that currently provide 42 percent of Ohio State Parks' operating budget.

Contact: Dan West, Division Chief, Department of Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation, (614) 265-6561;
Email: dan.west@dnr.state.oh.us

Vermont to Host ELRC 2005 Fall Conference



Beautiful fall foliage in Stowe, Vermont.

Photo by Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation

Mark your calendars!!! The ELRC Fall 2005 Conference will be held at the Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center in Burlington, Vermont, from October 2-6, 2005.

Vermont's unspoiled scenery and outstanding natural resources are legendary. These factors contributed to National Geographic Travel Magazine recently naming Vermont as one of the top travel destinations in the world. And Burlington, Vermont, is consistently rated as one of the most livable cities in the country. What better place to learn about natural resource management issues, and what better time of the year to visit Vermont than the fall when Vermont colors are at their peak?

This year's fall conference will provide a great opportunity for public land managers from across the country to share ideas and learn from others on how to meet the many new and difficult land and resource management challenges we face. Find out how Vermont and other States are addressing such issues as wind and other renewable energy development on public land, creative land conservation and land management initiatives and partnerships, public lands management planning, and other related topics of interest.

Over the past decade, Vermont has acquired many new and notable State land holdings including the former "Champion" lands in northeastern Vermont, numerous Lake Champlain properties, many Long Trail parcels along the crest of the Green Mountains, several Forest Legacy conservation easements, and other significant properties. While these new holdings provide many important benefits, they also create additional land management challenges for public land managers in Vermont. Many of these land conservation achievements and the special management issues they pose will be highlighted at the conference.

Consider extending your stay a few days before or after the conference and find out for yourself what makes Vermont such a special place. Discover Burlington's many fine restaurants and shops, or stroll along its newly renovated waterfront. Visit nearby University of Vermont, or explore Lake Champlain or the famous Green Mountains. You could stop by the National Park Service's new Marsh Billings Rockefeller National Historical Park in beautiful Woodstock, or even visit one of Vermont's outstanding State parks!

Contact: Mike Fraysier, State Lands Director, Vermont Natural Resources Agency, Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation (and ELRC Secretary), (802)241-3682; Email: mike.fraysier@anr.state.vt.us



**Eastern Lands and Resources Council -
Western States Land Commissioners Association
Joint Spring Conference
Radisson Hotel - 2121 P Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037
April 17-20, 2005**



February 2005

TO COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC LANDS AND LAND MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATORS:

The Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC) and the Western States Land Commissioners Association (WSLCA) will hold their 2005 Joint Spring Conference at the Radisson Hotel near Dupont Circle in Washington, DC, from April 17 through April 20. This year, we are focusing on “Cost-effective Strategies for Public Land Managers.”

In addition to an impressive agenda, the conference provides an outstanding opportunity to develop effective working relationships with officials in the Administration and Congress, to hear about how State colleagues are managing their current issues, and to learn about grant opportunities.

We urge all ELRC and WSLCA members to participate and to encourage officials in their Federal and State counterpart agencies to attend. The agenda is designed to benefit both policymakers and program managers. Representatives from non-member States, Federal agencies, non-profit organizations, and guests are also welcome.

*Enclosed are registration materials. Please return your registration form, activity sheet, and payment by **March 25**.*

Please contact the Radisson Hotel directly for your accommodations at (202) 293-3100, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. EST, or send an E-mail to reservations@sleepindc.com. The rate for conferees is \$150.00 for a single or a double per night for reservations guaranteed with a credit card. Rates for the ELRC/WSLCA block of rooms apply on a first-come, first-served basis for the period of April 15 through April 22.

We hope that you will join us to discuss how to make our partnership with the Federal land and environmental management agencies more productive, from land exchanges to energy policy to managing endangered species habitat.

If you have any questions, please contact Elinor Schwartz at (703) 920-5389, or es@elinorschwartz.com.

Sincerely,

*Kevin Carter
President, WSLCA*

*Robert O'Connor
President, ELRC*



**Eastern Lands and Resources Council -
Western States Land Commissioners Association
Joint Spring Conference
Radisson Hotel - 2121 P Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037
April 17-20, 2005**



Sunday, April 17

3:00 – 5:30 pm Registration
 4:30 – 5:30 pm ELRC-WSLCA Joint Membership Meeting
 6:00 – 7:00 pm Reception for Members and Guests in the Hospitality Suite - Dale & Ed Leary, VT, Hosts

Monday, April 18

7:30 – 8:20 am Breakfast Discussion: Partnering with the Military on Conservation Lands, *Rich Engel*, Marstel-Day (formerly Navy Department, now in private sector)
 8:30 – 11:45 am Roll Call of State & Federal Agencies and Land Trusts (5 minutes per organization)
 Open Forum: State Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) - *Bill Brice*, Minnesota DNR
 Luncheon Forum: Everything You Wanted to Know About Forest Policy, Especially Forest Plans
Mark Edward Rey, Under Secretary for Natural Resources & Environment, Department of Agriculture

CONSERVATION FINANCE

1:45 - 2:30 pm Strategies for Protecting Working Forests - *Chris Zinkhan*, Managing Director, The Forestland Group
 2:45 - 3:45 pm Successes in Using New Market and Transferable Tax Credits - *Phil Hocker*, Manager, ConServeCo, *Kevin Schuyler*, The Nature Conservancy
 4:00 - 5:00 pm Responding to Challenges to Federal Tax Credits - *Rand Wentworth*, President, Land Trust Alliance
 5:00 – 7:00 pm Reception in the Radisson Hotel's Gabriel Restaurant

Tuesday, April 19

RESOURCE CHALLENGES

7:30 – 8:20 am Breakfast Discussion: Meeting Renewable Energy & Forest Management Objectives through Biomass
 8:30 – 9:30 am Partnering with Foundations - *Charles R. Jordan*, Chairman of the Board, The Conservation Fund
 9:45 – 10:45 am Effectively Monitoring & Enforcing Large Conservation Easements - *Tina Hall*, The Nature Conservancy, *Rusty Painter*, Conservation Trust of North Carolina
 11:00 – 11:45 am Impact of a Recent Supreme Court's Decision on Enforcing Federal Land Use Plans - *Robert G. Dreher*, Deputy Executive Director, Georgetown University Law Center; *Matthew McKeown*, Deputy Solicitor, Department of the Interior
 12:00 – 1:30 pm Luncheon Forum: Policy and Management Initiatives - *R. Thomas Weimer*, Acting Assistant Secretary for Water and Science, Department of the Interior

REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT

2:00 – 4:00 pm Initiatives at the Department of the Interior - *Jim Hughes*, Deputy Director, BLM
 Current Approaches to Inholdings and Split Estates - *Ray Brady*, Group Manager, Lands & Realty, BLM; *Greg Smith*, Director & *Cynthia Swanson*, Acting Assistant Director, Lands, Forest Service
 4:15 – 5:00 pm Concurrent ELRC & WSLCA Membership Meetings

Wednesday, April 20

7:30 – 8:20 am Breakfast Discussion: Coastal Initiatives - Acquisitions, Regional Planning & Habitat Conservation

Concurrent Workshop: OIL & NATURAL GAS DEVELOPMENT

8:30 – 9:15 am MMS Initiatives: The Next Offshore 5-Year Plan & Revising Natural Gas Valuation Regulations - *R. M. "Johnnie" Burton*, MMS Director
 9:30 – 11:30 am New Advances in Imaging, Drilling and Production - *Tom Readinger*, Associate Director for Offshore Minerals Management, MMS, *Kim Harb*, National Ocean Industries Association

Concurrent Workshop: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

8:30 – 10:00 am ESA Legislative Update - *Bob Irvin*, World Wildlife Fund, Congressional Staff
 10:15 - 11:30 am Using Remote Sensing & GPS to Improve Maps of Habitat, Fires & Invasives - *Scott Cameron*, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Policy, Management & Budget, Interior; *Leslie Cone*, BLM; USGS, Fish & Wildlife Service and Forest Service
 12:00 – 1:30 pm Working Lunch: Planning the 2006 Joint Spring Conference
 1:45 – 4:00 pm GPS Workshop: Class (1 1/2 hours) & Field Practice in Rock Creek Park - *Tom Terry*, XY Project

See www.elrc.org for detailed agenda updates.



ELRC - WSLCA Conference

Radisson Hotel

Radisson Hotel - 2121 P Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037

April 17-20, 2005



Please register **now** with a separate form for each person.

NAME _____
 TITLE _____
 ORGANIZATION _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 PHONE _____ FAX _____ E-MAIL _____
 GUEST _____

REGISTRATION FEE

\$50 for each non-member fee can be applied to the 2005 ELRC or WSLCA membership dues for States joining before or at the conference. The conference fee covers the meeting, three breakfasts, two or three lunches, two receptions, and the GPS workshop.

- _____ \$350 per person for member States* whose registration is received by **March 11**
- _____ \$350 per person for member States* with registrations received by March 25 for 4 or more participants
- _____ \$395 per person for member States* with registrations received after March 11
- _____ \$450 per person for non-member States
- _____ \$2,950 for 10 full-time participants or their equivalent (up to 22 part-time participants)
- _____ \$125 per person for a single day
- _____ \$20 per guest at each breakfast
- _____ \$35 per guest at each lunch
- _____ \$35 per guest at Reception - Monday, April 18
- _____ TOTAL

* Member States include Federal Agency Liaisons to the ELRC & WSLCA and their colleagues

PAYMENT FOR REGISTRATION

_____ Payment: _____ check _____ purchase order or _____ credit card [Visa, MasterCard or Discover]

Please make **registration** payments payable to: **ELRC/WSLCA CONFERENCE** and register **online** at www.elrc.org, by **fax**, or by **mail**, so that it is received by **March 25, 2005** by:

Mr. William Brice, ELRC Treasurer
 Division of Lands and Minerals
 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
 500 Lafayette Road
 St. Paul, MN 55155-4045
 651-296-5939 (fax)

Contact Jeanne Mittelstadt at 651-297-4953, 651-296-5939 (fax), or jeanne.mittelstadt@dnr.state.mn.us for more information or to send the following **credit card** information: name, billing address, card number and type, plus the 3 digit number on the back of the card and its expiration date.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Please make hotel reservations for the ELRC block directly with the Radisson Hotel at 202-293-3100, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. EST, at 202-956-6693 (fax), or at reservations@sleepindc.com **before March 25**, for conference rates of \$150.00 for singles or doubles, and guarantee them with a credit card.



ELRC-WSLCA JOINT SPRING CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES
Washington, DC
April 17 - 20, 2005



Please indicate which activities you or your guest will attend and send one form for *each participant* with your registration.

Please note if you need a **vegetarian** lunch or special accommodations _____

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Guest: _____

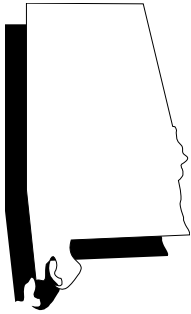
		Conferee	Guest
Sunday, April 17	Reception	_____	_____
Monday, April 18	Breakfast	_____	_____
	Lunch	_____	_____
	Reception	_____	_____
Tuesday, April 19	Breakfast	_____	_____
	Lunch	_____	_____
Wednesday, April 20	Breakfast	_____	_____
	Working Lunch to Plan the Joint Conference for 2006	_____	_____
	GPS Workshop: 1:45 - 4:00 pm	_____	_____

Please mail or fax this form with registration so it is received by March 25 by:

Mr. William Brice, ELRC Treasurer
Division of Lands and Minerals
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4045
651-296-5939 (fax)

Union Chapel Mine Fossil Site in Walker County, Alabama

Acquired by the Alabama State Lands Division in 2004, this unique 40-acre tract provides the opportunity to view a world class Carboniferous fossil “trackway” site. The site was uncovered during mining operations, and scientists have determined that this is one of only two such locations in the world. The site includes fossils evidence of fish, horseshoe crabs, insects, and a creature the size of a large alligator nicknamed “frogzilla.”



Currently, the Alabama State Lands Division is in the process of securing the tract as well as supporting research on the site to gain a greater understanding of the resources present. Future plans include working with scientists to better understand the site’s fossils and facilitating public visits for educational purposes.

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Following assistance from Alabama’s Representative Robert Aderholt, the site received an exemption from reclamation under the existing Federal law under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977.

ELRC Members: Share your success stories. Let us hear about innovative activities or programs going on in your State. Send, fax, or E-mail your articles to Bob O’Connor, ELRC President.

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