

Meeting the Challenge: A Forum on the Outlook for Recreation in the West on the National Forests and BLM Lands

The magnificent lands in the American West that are owned by the people and managed by the U. S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management provide tens of millions of Americans and international visitors with a full range of outdoor recreation opportunities. With public demand soaring for all forms of outdoor recreation, these Federal agencies are facing unprecedented challenges today and in the years ahead – challenges made more difficult by dramatic population growth in the West, new recreation technologies and increasing pressures on the Federal budget.

- What will be the impact of future recreation demand on the agencies, on the great outdoors, on the private sector businesses that enhance the recreation experience and on the States and communities whose economies are so linked to outdoor recreation?
- Will the Forest Service and the BLM have the financial and human resources to handle rising recreation demand?
- How can the private sector and State and local governments partner more effectively with the Federal agencies to serve the public better?
- How can public and political support be generated on behalf of recreation programs and facilities on the Federal lands?

On May 15-17, 2005, in Reno, Nevada, at ***Meeting the Challenge: A Forum on the Outlook for Recreation in the West on National Forests and BLM Lands***, leaders from the private recreation and tourism industry, State governments and local gateway communities in the West will come together with Forest Service and BLM leadership to address these and other questions and to decide how they can work together to ensure that future outdoor recreation needs are met. **The goal of the Forum will be to produce tangible, concrete policy recommendations and a strategy for implementing them that will enable these two Federal agencies to fulfill their recreation mission and better serve those who want to enjoy the magnificent lands these agencies manage. It will be a working meeting that will produce actionable outcomes.**

Those who participate in ***Meeting the Challenge*** will be asked to bring relevant concerns, ideas and possible solutions. Each participant will have a unique and invaluable perspective on the role of the Forest Service and the BLM in providing outdoor recreation experiences in the West. Through educational presentations, individual interaction, frank and candid exchanges of views and facilitated discussions, a practical agenda for the future will be set.

This will be an unprecedented opportunity to help shape the future for these two very significant providers of outdoor recreation and for outdoor recreation in the West.

SPONSORSHIPS

Interested parties are invited to support the Forum by becoming sponsors at one of the following levels:

Platinum -- \$10,000

Platinum sponsors will be recognized prominently on Forum signage at the Registration Area and in the Exhibit Area, at all meal functions and in the final conference program. Platinum sponsors can have two tabletop displays in the exhibit area and will be given six complimentary Forum registrations.

Gold -- \$5,000

Gold sponsors will be recognized prominently at the Registration Area and in the Exhibit Area, at the opening and closing meal functions and in the final conference program. Gold sponsors can have one tabletop display in the exhibit area and will be given three complimentary Forum registrations.

Silver -- \$2,500

Silver sponsors will be recognized in Forum signage in the Exhibit Area and at two Forum breaks. Silver sponsors can have one tabletop display in the exhibit area and will be given two complimentary registrations.

All sponsors will be acknowledged in media releases regarding the Forum and in the Final Report and Recommendations that will result from the Forum.

Contributors -- \$1,000

Contributors will be acknowledged in the final conference program and can have one tabletop display in the exhibit area.

AGENDA

Sunday, May 15

4:00 p.m. Plenary Session

The Case for Recreation on the Public Lands

Remarks by

Kathleen Clark, Director of Bureau of Land Management
Dale Bosworth, Chief of the Forest Service

Carl Wilgus, Idaho State Tourism Director and Chairman, Western States
Tourism Policy Council

5:30 p.m. Opening Reception with Exhibits

Monday, May 16

7:00 a.m. Breakfast/Presentation on National and Regional Socio-Economic Trends

8:30 a.m. Plenary Session

Agency Perspectives

10:30 a.m. Plenary Session

Private/State/Local Perspectives

12:30 p.m. Luncheon/Presentation on New Agency Business Models

2:00 p.m. Plenary Session

Cooperation and Partnerships: Best Practices

4:00 p.m. Facilitated Working Groups

5:30 p.m. Reception with Exhibits

Tuesday, May 17

7:00 a.m. Breakfast and Review of Previous Day

8:30 a.m. Facilitated Working Groups

12:15 p.m. Luncheon/Reports of Working Groups

2:00 p.m. Facilitated Plenary Session

Development of Consensus Recommendations and Implementation Strategy

5:00 p.m. Forum Closes Sine Die

The Registration Brochure for the Forum will be mailed by early April and posted on this website at that time. To ensure you receive a copy of this brochure, please e-mail your postal and e-mail address to evalente@travelnevada.com or to aubking@aol.com.

