



Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Elk Conservation Award

Annually, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) seek to recognize the dedicated people and outstanding projects, which have contributed significantly to the conservation of elk, other wildlife, and their habitat. The *RMEF Elk Conservation Awards* are given as acknowledgement of exemplary service and accomplishment in one of three conservation categories: *Individual Achievement, Habitat Enhancement, or Partnership*. Field units are strongly encouraged to recognize eligible BLM employees and projects.

Individual Achievement

Nominees for this award category must have demonstrated history of working in collaboration with the BLM and RMEF. Candidates must also have at least five years of experience working directly in the areas of conservation or enhancement of elk populations or their habitat. This can include wildlife planning, analysis, research, and applied management and implementation of wildlife or habitat conservation projects which benefit elk. Nominees will be rated based on the caliber and extent of demonstrated success in program/project management and implementation, as evidenced by:

- ✓ Sustained individual commitment to elk and elk habitat;
- ✓ Demonstrable benefits to elk and elk habitat; and
- ✓ Long-term success.

Habitat Enhancement

Programs and/or projects nominated for this category must include active participation by both the BLM and the RMEF. For projects having multiple phases or continuing over multiple years, the nomination must state a definite completion point and the specific product or accomplishment to be considered for recognition. The following habitat enhancement evaluation criteria will be used in the selection process:

- ✓ Landscape or watershed scale focus;
- ✓ Acreage affected;
- ✓ Habitat type(s) and importance of habitat;
- ✓ Diversity of tools utilized (e.g., prescribed burning, easements, weed control);
- ✓ Benefits to elk and other wildlife species; and
- ✓ Commitment to habitat monitoring and project maintenance.

Partnership

Nominations for the Partnership category must involve active participation by the BLM and the RMEF; as well as, an array of other partners working together to accomplish landscape-scale elk habitat enhancement or protection. Partnership nominations may also include important realty actions and accomplishments involving the BLM and RMEF that resulted in increased protection to key elk habitat and/or increased public and hunter access to federal lands. The following evaluation criteria will be used to determine recipients of the Partnership Award:

- ✓ Number, diversity, and level of engagement of partners;
- ✓ Creativity in problem solving, outreach, or management approach;
- ✓ Significance of project location, scale, and habitat components (e.g., critical winter range, summer range, critical migration corridor, calving area, water sources); and
- ✓ Number of acres affected.

Nomination Submission Instructions

Nominations for RMEF Elk Conservation Awards can be submitted throughout the year. Award nominations should be concise and informative, yet provide sufficient detail to fully convey the significance of the accomplishments being recognized. Photos, video clips, maps and other related illustrations or supporting materials may be included in the nomination package.

Questions regarding the RMEF Elk Conservation Awards should be directed to Linda Cardenas at 406-523-4580. Award nominations should be submitted via email to: lcarden@blm.gov or mailed to:

Linda Cardenas
Bureau of Land Management
c/o Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
5705 Grant Creek Road
Missoula, MT 59808



**Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Elk Conservation Award
2014 NOMINATION FORM**

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Project/Individual Name:

Category: *(Individual Achievement, Habitat Enhancement, or Partnership)*

Project Location: *(include BLM District or Field Office; City/Town; County, State; nearby geographic features – Mountain Range, River/Creek drainage, etc.)*

Inclusive Dates of Project or Individual Achievements:

II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION/INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT: *(Provide a concise narrative of the project and its benefits. The narrative must include a brief background, statement of project goals and management objectives; type of habitat, benefits to elk, benefits to other species, benefits to the public; project scope/number of acres, number and type of activities or events, public outreach and collaborative efforts, etc.)*

III. BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT INVOLVEMENT: *(Provide a brief narrative describing the BLM role in this project and describe tangible benefits of this project.)*

BLM Employee(s)/Unit to be Recognized:

Name: _____ **Contribution:** _____

Name: _____ **Contribution:** _____

IV. PARTNER INVOLVEMENT: *(Provide a brief narrative describing the role of partners in the project; include names as well as indirect or in-kind services.)*

Partner(s) to be Recognized: *(Organizations or Individuals)*

Name: _____ **Contribution:** _____

Name: _____ **Contribution:** _____

IMPORTANT NOTE: Nominations must be in this format. The form may be expanded by inserting additional lines of text, as needed. The completed form may not exceed three pages of 12 point type. Up to five photos or other illustrations may be included as supporting attachments.



National Making Tracks with the BLM Award

The National Making Tracks with the BLM Awards are presented jointly each year by the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in recognition of the conservation efforts of outstanding people and successful conservation projects implemented on BLM-administered lands. Nominations are accepted in four categories:

1. The **Habitat Management Projects** category is a single year award for projects that best incorporate active wild turkey management into ecosystem management projects that significantly benefit habitat improvement for the wild turkey.
2. The **Habitat Management Programs** category is a multiple year award that recognizes program accomplishments that benefit wild turkeys over multiple years.
3. The **Partnership Achievement** category is in recognition of accomplishments in strengthening and expanding the partnership between the BLM and the National Wild Turkey Federation.
4. The **Conservation Education** category is a multiple year award that recognizes accomplishments in which the BLM has had substantial involvement in the planning or execution of Conservation Education Programs that highlight wild turkey restoration, management, and conservation.

One individual or group will be recognized within each category. Persons or groups may be nominated in more than one category (please use a separate form for each category). Please describe your nomination information as completely and concisely as possible.

Award nominations will be evaluated by a national awards committee. The review criteria consist of the project description, number of acres involved, integration with BLM natural resource management, benefit to wild turkeys and associated species, partners involved, visibility, outreach and public awareness.

The National Making Tracks with the BLM Awards will be presented at the 39th Annual National Wild Turkey Federation National Convention and Sport Show, to be held February 12 - 15, 2015, in Nashville, Tennessee.

Award nominations are due no later than Friday, **December 12, 2014**. Questions regarding the awards should be directed to John Sherman at 505-954-2182. Award nominations may be submitted via email to jssherma@blm.gov or mailed to:

John Sherman
Wildlife, Riparian, and Challenge Cost Share Program Lead
BLM New Mexico State Office
301 Dinosaur Trail
Santa Fe, NM 87508



**National Making Tracks with the BLM Award
2014 NOMINATION FORM**

1. **Individual _____ or Group Award _____** *(Check one)*

2. **Name of individual or group:**

3. **Category:** *(Check one)* _____ Habitat Management Projects
_____ Habitat Management Programs
_____ Partnership Achievement Program
_____ Conservation Education Program

(Use a separate form if you want to nominate the same person/group for more than one category.)

4. **Name, address, phone, fax and e-mail of nominee:**

5. **Project title:**

6. **Project location:**

7. **Name, address, phone, fax, and e-mail of nominator:**

8. **Names, addresses, phone, fax and e-mail of up to three people who are familiar with the project and nominee's work:**

9. **Description of project or accomplishment:** *(Provide a brief narrative outlining the scope, objectives, acres involved, method, time frame, and results of the project. Include the number of acres where habitat was enhanced.)*

10. **Describe how the project was integrated with the BLM natural resource management:**

11. **Describe the benefit to wild turkeys and associated species:**

12. Describe the partners involved and their involvement with the project (*e.g. Total hours, value of in-kind services, monetary contribution, etc.*):

13. Describe the visibility of the project to the general public, members of the National Wild Turkey Federation and local chapters:

14. Describe the type and amount of outreach that was done and the public awareness that was achieved by the project:

15. Other important information (*Videos and/or pictures are encouraged.*):



Mule Deer Foundation

Mule Deer/Black-Tailed Deer Conservation Award

This award was established by the Mule Deer Foundation (MDF) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to recognize the BLM field offices or individual employees for development and implementation of projects that exemplify excellence in mule deer and/or black-tailed deer conservation, such as maintaining and enhancing the productivity of mule deer/black-tailed deer populations and their habitats. The 2014 Mule Deer/Black-Tailed Deer Conservation Award will be presented at the Mule Deer Foundation Annual Convention to be held in conjunction with the Western Hunting & Conservation Exposition, February 19 - 22, 2015, in Salt Lake City, Utah. The following nomination guidelines apply:

- Nomination must include one project or a group of projects for each unit nominated. The intent is to recognize units or individual(s) for either an individual project, or multiple projects. Multiple projects will not necessarily rank higher than single projects. Unit accomplishments will be evaluated based on their overall value and contributions to mule deer or black-tailed deer conservation;
- Submitted projects may include land and habitat protection, management or restoration, conservation education, research or other projects that contribute to the conservation of mule deer and/or black-tailed deer;
- Projects should occur on BLM lands, but projects that include multiple ownerships are strongly encouraged;
- Nominated projects must include involvement by both the BLM and the Mule Deer Foundation. Involvement by other partners is strongly encouraged, but not required;
- Projects may have been initiated prior to 2014, but completion of the project must occur by **December 12, 2014**;
- Nominations may include projects from field, district, and/or state offices;
- Project nominations may be re-submitted if not selected for an award in a given year. However, the project may not be submitted more than three times.

Nomination Submission Instructions

Nominations for the 2014 MDF/BLM Mule Deer/Black-Tailed Deer Conservation Award are due no later than Friday, **December 12, 2014**. Award nominations should be concise and informative, yet provide sufficient detail to fully convey the significance of the accomplishments being recognized. Photos, video, maps and other related illustrations or supporting materials may be included in the nomination package.

Questions regarding this award should be directed to Linda Cardenas at 406.523.4580. Award nominations may be submitted via email to: lcarden@blm.gov or mailed to:

Linda Cardenas
BLM Washington Office
Division of Fish and Wildlife Conservation
c/o Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
5705 Grant Creek Road
Missoula, MT 59808



Mule Deer Foundation
Mule Deer/Black-Tailed Deer Conservation Award
2014 NOMINATION FORM

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Name of Nominated Unit or Individual(s):

Project Location(s): BLM field office(s), district(s), or state office(s), other federal partner administrative units (e.g., Wildlife Refuges, Ranger Districts, National Forests, Regional Offices, or Research Stations), and/or private land designations.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Provide the following information for each project associated with the unit or individual being recognized:

- ✓ Project title(s) (*provide a title for each project, if multiple projects are identified/unit*);
- ✓ Date project(s) initiated and completed (*if ongoing, then estimate completion date*);
- ✓ The BLM office and brief narrative of their contributions;
- ✓ List of partners involved and a brief narrative of their contributions;
- ✓ Brief narrative or table outlining financial and in-kind contributions for all projects and partners involved (including the BLM);
- ✓ Habitat type(s) affected and the habitat value/importance associated with project(s) (*Example: critical winter range, critical migration corridor, fawning area, summer range, etc.*);
- ✓ Total acreage affected; and
- ✓ Brief narrative describing the project's overall conservation benefits and importance for mule deer/black-tailed deer and other wildlife species.

NOTE: Additional illustrative materials, such as photos, video, maps and other supporting documentation may be included in the Nomination package, but are not required.

Contact Person:

Phone Number:

Email: