



JOURNAL

Serving the Needs of Land Professionals

February 2003

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The Joint Spring Meeting of the Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC) and the Western States Land Commissioners Association (WSLCA) Conference will convene March 30, 2003, through April 2, 2003. See registration information and details inside....

JOINT SPRING 2003 ELRC/WSLCA CONFERENCE—A Unique Opportunity to Strategize with State and Federal Colleagues!

This year's Joint Spring 2003 Conference of the Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC) and the Western States Land Commissioners Association (WSLCA) will be held in Washington, DC, from March 30 through April 2, 2003, and will feature the theme of "Integrating Land and Water Management."

Among the Federal speakers are Congressman Wayne Gilchrest, Chairman of the House Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans; Dale Bosworth, Chief, U.S. Forest Service; Fran Mainella, Director, National Park Service; Jim Hughes, Deputy Director, Bureau of Land Management (BLM); Conrad Lass, Chief of Staff, BLM; Walter Cruickshank, Deputy Director, Minerals Management Service; and Jack Craven, Director, Forest Service Lands Staff.

The conference will offer State and Federal representatives an opportunity to address cutting-edge issues, such as:

- ◆ Water quantity and quality issues that cross multiple agencies and sometimes involve conflicting land management objectives;
- ◆ Issues on water rights and strategies for dealing with recurring droughts and floods;
- ◆ Alternative approaches for meeting water-quality objectives and new decisions affecting Federal protection of wetlands and other waters;
- ◆ Estuary restoration and appraisal techniques for aquatic lands;

Continued on page 2

Message from the ELRC President...



Dear Friends:

In our last newsletter, I mentioned the challenges we would all be facing with shrinking budgets and the impact on our ability to manage our natural resources.

In Maine, like a lot of other States, the challenges are now very real with a proposed budget to eliminate positions which will certainly impact program delivery. Doing "more with less" will continue to be the buzz phrase of the day. However, addressing these budget issues can bring about positive change, if we work hard and take the opportunity to be creative.

As you know, the ELRC has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Bureau of Land Management, which will foster communication and collaboration. And another great spring conference has been developed, with the focus of "Integrating Land and Water Management."

I will be at the spring conference, not because I happen to be the current President, but rather because this conference is similar to ones in the past and offers that rare opportunity to meet other resource professionals who deal with managing our publicly-owned resources.

Please make every effort to attend the conference, and I look forward to seeing you in a few weeks.

Thanks.

Ralph Knoll
ELRC President

2003 Spring Conference...continued from page 1

- ◆ Key real estate issues, exchanges, and rights-of-way; and
- ◆ An update on energy legislation and regulations.

Other subjects will involve Youth Service and Conservation Corps Projects on public lands and the current status of proposals to reform the Corps of Engineers. A reception with Federal officials will provide more opportunities for informal discussion.

The conference will conclude with a guided tour of the map collection at the Library of Congress, with a temporary exhibit of high-resolution LANDSAT photographs entitled, "Earth as Art," a preview of the original Lewis & Clark maps, and selections from the Library's permanent collection.

For more information about the Joint Spring 2003 ELRC/WSLCA Conference, contact Elinor Schwartz at (703) 920-5389, by E-mail at elinorschw@aol.com, or visit the ELRC Web site at www.elrc.org or the WSLCA Web site at www.wslca.org for details.

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:
Ralph Knoll, Director, Planning and Land Acquisition, Maine Department of Conservation
22 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0022
E-mail: ralph.knoll@maine.gov
or call Ralph at (207) 287-4911

A New England Adventure to Remember!

In early October 2002, the Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC), an organization of professional lands and resources managers, met in Massachusetts at the John Hancock Conference Center located in the heart of Boston's historic Back Bay.

ELRC members came together to discuss similar issues with their counterparts from other States. During the week they learned from each other, obtained ideas and strategies for land conservation efforts, received information on cutting-edge technologies, and accumulated a wide variety of documents on activities and successes of the host State of Massachusetts. The conference also allowed the ELRC members to interact with Federal Agencies such as the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) with whom the ELRC has a partnership. During the week, ELRC and BLM representatives exchanged information on how they, as land managers, serve the public on land management and conservation issues in their States and within the eastern Federal jurisdiction.

This year, the State of Massachusetts assembled the action-packed, educational conference and provided an impressive agenda consisting of informative and valuable onsite presentations and activities. The theme of this year's conference was "Partnerships in Land Conservation." Representatives and speakers from Massachusetts State Government,



(From left) Executive Office of Environmental Affairs Naturalist Peter Alden, BLM Eastern States Director Mike Nedd, and Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC) President Ralph Knoll listen to Walden Pond State Reservation Park Supervisor Denise Morrissey as she discusses the management of Walden Pond State Reservation to ELRC conferees.

New England Forestry Commission, Massachusetts Audubon Society, Mount Grace Conservation Trust, Metropolitan District Commission, MassWildlife, The Nature Conservancy, Harvard University, and the National Park Service introduced conferees to the ways Massachusetts has implemented resource programs, projects, and land conservation efforts.

Some of the presentations at the conference center included:

- Partnerships to achieve a land conservation vision;
- Massachusetts Conservation Restriction and Municipal Open-Space Grant Programs—A national model in grass roots land conservation;
- Land conservation approaches that protect landscape ecology;
- A grassroots approach to smart growth: The Massachusetts Community Preservation Initiative;
- The Biomap: A science-based guide to land conservation to protect biodiversity;
- The Hull to Peck Deal, a partnership approach to conserving 8,000 acres of working forests; and
- Increasing the power of individual forest landowners to better manage forests and market forest products.

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New England Adventure...continued from page 3

On-site visits and presentations at diverse Massachusetts sites included:

- Traveling to The Northland Cranberry Bog, hearing a presentation on “Conserving working cranberry lands across Southeast Massachusetts and future management issues;”
- Sailing aboard The Schooner, Ernestina, the official vessel of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and designated National Historic Landmark. This included a tour of the Boston Harbor Islands National Park Area, and the most recently protected 130-acre island—the last of the unprotected islands in Boston Harbor;
- Visiting the Charles River Esplanade and hearing a presentation on “Doing more with less, protecting key remaining Metro Boston open spaces through partnerships, donations, and bargain sales,” followed by a boat tour down the Charles River. Discussions included, “The rebirth of the Charles River—10 years of river restoration.” Other talks on the tour included “Resolving 90 boundary encroachments to create a river greenway utilizing transportation funds for construction,” “Connecting the Charles River Esplanade Park to the Harbor using Big Dig environmental mitigation funding,” and “The Muddy River Restoration Project: A Federal, State, city, and non-profit partnership;”
- Traveling to Walden Pond, where an actor portrayed Henry David Thoreau in a forested setting as might have existed in his time;
- Picnicking atop Mt. Wachusett with views of New England and hearing

about “Balancing the protection of Massachusetts’s most easterly old growth forests within its busiest downhill ski area,” “Stretching acquisition dollars through partnerships,” and “Protecting Boston’s future water supply through focused land acquisition;”

- Visiting Harvard Forest to learn about “Researching New England’s land use history to aid in future forest land acquisition,” “The Tully Project: Providing 9,000 acres in 200 parcels in 2 years through a State-non-profit partnership,” with a tour of Fisher Museum and the world-renowned Harvard Forest dioramas;
- Experiencing the Quabbin Reservoir with its history and unique and cultural areas, and learning about “The management of the 58,000-acre Quabbin Forest—the first Green Certified public land in the U.S.A.,” and lastly,
- Dining at the Salem Cross Inn, a National Historic Landmark on a quiet New England road, surrounded by rolling fields.

And if that wasn’t enough, on the last day before leaving Boston, conferees were invited to take a Boston Duck Tour aboard a WWII amphibious landing vehicle for a last opportunity to learn about Boston’s history and fabulous sights—a grand ending to a great week!

Contact: Bob O’Connor, Massachusetts Environmental Affairs Executive Office (and 2nd ELRC Vice President), (617) 626-1170, E-mail: Robert.Oconnor@state.ma.us

(Article written by Peggy Riek and Terry Lewis, BLM, Eastern States; Photo by Peggy Riek.)

BLM-Eastern States and the ELRC Sign Partnership Agreement

On November 6, 2002, the Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC) and the Bureau of Land Management's Eastern States (BLM-Eastern States) signed a Memorandum of Understanding at BLM-Eastern States headquarters office in Springfield, Virginia, becoming partners in the East. The MOU formalizes a framework of communication and consultation on lands and natural resources management that is mutually beneficial to both the ELRC and the BLM-Eastern States.

As partners, BLM-Eastern States and the ELRC will: 1) discuss lands and natural resources management issues of mutual interest or concern; 2) foster communication and strengthen professional relationships among State, local, and Federal officials in related fields; 3) work toward the development of sound Federal and State public land management policies; 4) promote

general policies of sound resource management and conservation of public lands; 5) identify areas of cooperation where both the BLM-Eastern States and the ELRC can share experience and expertise to make a positive impact in managing public lands in the eastern United States; and 6) identify a pool of State and Federal lands and resources managers who can provide expertise to address lands and resources questions and situations that partners encounter.

The ELRC President, in consultation with the BLM-Eastern States Director will appoint 3 to 5 members to represent the ELRC for a period of 3 years. This group will meet biannually, and other times as needed, with BLM-Eastern States to discuss mutually beneficial land management issues, concerns, trends, and areas of cooperation.

Alabama Welcomes Annual ELRC 2003 Fall Conference...*Southern Style*

Easy-going, friendly, gracious, and dedicated to fried chicken, magnolias, and porch swings. This is "*Southern Hospitality*." This is the 2003 ELRC Fall Conference.

Welcome to coastal Alabama! Home of sugar white sands and jubilees. The State Lands Division of the Alabama Department of Conservation & Natural Resources is pleased to host the Fall ELRC Conference October 5-9, 2003, in Point Clear, Alabama. Located on the relaxing and historic waters of Mobile Bay, the conference promises to treat its guests to the full extent of *Southern Hospitality*.

This year's four-day conference brings together land management leaders from across the United States to showcase the achievements of land use, resources, and management in Alabama, as well as provide a forum of information and idea exchange. During the conference, guests can expect to be on the run with excursions throughout the coastal area of Alabama.



A taste of Alabama's beautiful scenery.

Tours of the area will include the exploration of Mobile Bay and Dauphin Island, where Fort Gaines remains sentinel over the Bay which echoes the words of Admiral Farragut, "Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead!" Follow this with a guided tour through the languid and serene Mobile-tensaw Delta with a visit at the Historic

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Fall 2003 ELRC Conference...continued from page 5

Blakely State Park. Ending with the Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, guests can delight in the shopping, landscape, and seafood cuisine of the Eastern Shore.

Add all of this with a stay at the Marriott Grand Hotel, where the crickets serenade on moonlit nights at Julep Point on the Bay...and you have a tradition of southern graciousness that has reigned since 1847.

Contact: Amy P. King, Public Education & Outreach Coordinator, Alabama Department of Conservation & Natural Resources, State Lands Division, Coastal Section, (251) 929-0900 Email: aking@dcnr.state.al.us or www.alabamacoastalcleanup.com

(Photos by Keith Gauldin and Dan Brothers, Alabama Department of Conservation & Natural Resources)

What's Happening in YOUR State?

Sunken Log Salvage at Moosehead Lake

Beginning in 1999, Maine's Bureau of Parks and Lands began a program authorizing qualified divers to salvage sunken logs from publicly owned submerged lands. To date, nearly all of the recovery efforts have focused on the various bays and coves of Moosehead Lake in Piscataquis County.

While the prospects of spending the summer recovering 100-year-old hardwood logs from the cold waters of Moosehead Lake sounds like treasure-hunting at its best, in reality the work is slow and difficult. Finding reliable markets for the logs has proven to be even more difficult as only a few mills are equipped to handle this unique product. After three seasons at Moosehead Lake, only 300 logs per year are recovered on average. So far, only two firms are planning to return to Moosehead Lake for the 2003 season.

Contact: Ralph Knoll, Director, Planning and Land Acquisition, Maine Department of Conservation (and ELRC President), (207) 287-4911, Email: Ralph.Knoll@maine.gov

ELRC Members: Share your success stories. Let us hear about innovative activities or programs going on in your State. Send, fax, or Email your articles to Ralph Knoll, President ELRC.

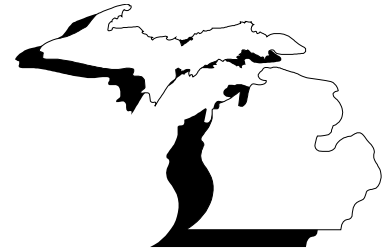
Wisconsin's News

Wisconsin is in the midst of its own fiscal crisis. The budget deficit for the fiscal year ending this June 30 is \$450 million. The projected deficit for the next biennium is \$3.2 billion. Democrat James Doyle, our new Governor (and former Land Commissioner), is proposing to deal with the deficit through steep cuts in State agency budgets. There will be position cuts of up to 20 percent in some departments.

The Board of Commissioners of Public Lands has been able to avoid earlier budget cuts, primarily because we're funded through trust fund earnings. However, we won't be so fortunate in this round. We'll have to cut positions by about 15 percent. Ironically, these cuts will occur as Governor Doyle indicates he wants to give our Board broader authority to invest in additional forest land purchases. Large blocks of industrial timber land in northern Wisconsin have been put on the market recently. In his campaign, Doyle stressed the importance of preventing forest fragmentation, and he wants our agency to work with the Department of Natural Resources to protect the State's timber resources. The legislature would have to approve this expansion of our investment authority.

Contact: Dan Wisniewski, Secretary, Wisconsin Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (and ELRC 1st Vice President), (608) 266-8369 E-mail: dan.wisniewski@bcpl.state.wi.us

ELRC Web Site — A Powerful Tool to Serve State Programs



The Eastern Lands and Resources Council's (ELRC) Web site at www.elrc.org is a low cost tool that helps States to keep in touch, gain knowledge, improve State programs, and communicate with other organizations. **But, what is the real potential to assist States in delivering cost-effective programs in times of significant budget challenges?**

Our vision would be to: 1) Increase the information on the site; 2) Provide a "One-stop Shop" for public land managers to deal with issues they face; 3) Offer a "Question and Answer" section to request information on issues States face; and 4) Furnish links to pertinent agencies, organizations, and information sources.

One idea we have is to arrange for an intern or a volunteer who would like to make this rewarding job happen. It could prove to be a satisfying, excellent skill building project. And **you** can help us find the right person who would like such a job as a personal goal, a resume builder, or you may even know someone who is looking for a professional developmental opportunity.

We would like to hear your thoughts on how the ELRC Web site can best do this. And to get your input, you are invited to participate in the **First ELRC Web Site Contest!**

So far, interesting ideas for the Web site include:

- ◆ Highlights of recent conferences;
- ◆ Upcoming events of related associations;
- ◆ News from natural resource agencies (i.e., "Hot Topics" in resource management);
- ◆ Job Announcements;
- ◆ Recent studies and reports;
- ◆ Policies and procedures on how States handle land matters (i.e., PILT, fees, rules, etc.);
- ◆ Recently enacted legislation (State and Federal);
- ◆ Training courses;

- ◆ "Our Public Lands" (natural resource statistics by State; national forests; etc.);
- ◆ RFPs (and names of good contractors);
- ◆ Reference section (information on current issues);
- ◆ Question and Answer section (to request information from other States and groups);
- ◆ Disclaimer note (ELRC is not a policy or lobbying group, does not endorse sites listed or linked, an email to the Web site will not be answered directly, etc.); and
- ◆ Links to all State and Federal natural resource agencies; laws in all States (for easy research on how others handle situations); natural resource non-profit associations; and think tanks.

We look forward to hearing from you. Please submit your suggestions on Web site enhancements and **names of potential interns** via E-mail to meadowse@michigan.gov or by fax: (517) 335-1880.

Contact: Ed Meadows, Manager, Acquisitions and Exchanges, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (and ELRC Member-at-Large), (517) 373-8243 E-mail: meadowse@michigan.gov



Contemporary Topics in Managing Public Lands INTEGRATING LAND AND WATER MANAGEMENT



Eastern Lands and Resources Council - Western States Land Commissioners Association

2003 JOINT SPRING CONFERENCE — March 30, 2003, through April 2, 2003

**Radisson Barcelo Hotel - 2121 P Street, NW
Washington, DC**

January 2003

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 2003 Joint Spring Conference at the Radisson Barcelo Hotel near Dupont Circle in Washington, DC, from March 30 through April 2. This year we are focusing on “Integrating Land and Water Management.”

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 7.

Please contact the Radisson Barcelo Hotel directly for your accommodations at (202) 293-3100, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 am to 6:00 pm EST, or send an E-mail to reservations@barcelodc.com. The rate for conferees is \$150.00 for a single or a double per night for reservations guaranteed with a credit card by March 14. Rates for the ELRC/WSLCA block of rooms apply on a first-come, first-served basis for the extended period of March 28 through April 3.

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 managing endangered species habitat.

If you have any questions, please contact Elinor Schwartz at 703-920-5389, or elinorschw@aol.com.

Sincerely,

*Doug Sutherland
President, WSLCA*

*Ralph Knoll
President, ELRC*



Contemporary Topics in Managing Public Lands

INTEGRATING LAND AND WATER MANAGEMENT



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Washington, DC

Main Conference Location: Phillips Collection Ballroom – Hotel Lobby Level, 1st Floor

Sunday, March 30

5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Joint ELRC & WSLCA Membership Meeting
6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Reception for Members and Guests

Monday, March 31

7:00 – 8:30 a.m. Breakfast
7:30 – 8:30 a.m. *Breakfast Discussion: Youth Service & Conservation Corps Projects on Public Lands*
8:30 – 10:00 a.m. Welcome, Roll Call, and Introductions
10:15 – 11:45 a.m. **GREENINFRASTRUCTURE**
Creating a Seamless Land and Water Network of Wildlife Habitat and Parks
12:00 – 1:30 p.m. **Luncheon**
WATER QUANTITY
1:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. Projecting Regional Water Supplies
2:15 – 3:00 p.m. Evolving Approaches to Surface- and Ground-Water Rights
3:15 – 4:00 p.m. Land Management Strategies for Recurring Drought and Floods
4:15 – 5:00 p.m. Everything Else You Wanted to Know about Forest Policy – Open Forum
5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Reception for Land Management Agencies

Tuesday, April 1

7:00 – 8:30 a.m. Breakfast
7:30 – 8:30 a.m. **Congressional Breakfast**
WATER QUALITY
8:30 – 9:00 a.m. *Featured Agency: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*
9:15 – 10:30 a.m. Healthy Landscapes: Alternative Approaches to Meeting Water Quality Objectives:
Land Use Practices, Adaptive Management, and Water Quality Trading
10:45 – 11:45 a.m. How are Federal Court and Administrative Decisions Affecting Federal Protection of Wetlands
and Other Waters?
12:00 – 1:30 p.m. **Luncheon**
REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT
1:45 – 2:45 p.m. Effecting Land Exchanges under the Watchful Eye of Congress & Inspectors General
3:00 – 3:45 p.m. Valuing Communications & Pipeline Rights-of-Way; Reciprocating on Road Easements
4:00 – 5:00 p.m. ELRC & WSLCA Membership Meetings

Wednesday, April 2

7:00 – 8:30 a.m. Breakfast
7:30 – 8:30 a.m. *Breakfast Discussion: Status of Proposals to Reform the Corps of Engineers*
Concurrent Workshop: ENERGY
8:30 – 9:15 a.m. Legislation and Incentives for Fossil and Renewable Projects;
9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Update on Royalty-in-Kind and Other Minerals Management Service (MMS) Initiatives
10:45 – 11:30 a.m. Reuse and Disposal of Water Produced with Oil, Gas and Coalbed Methane;
Hydro Project Relicensing
Concurrent Workshop: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
8:30 – 10:00 a.m. Coastal Challenges: Integrating Resources to Restore Estuaries
10:15 – 11:30 a.m. Valuing Aquatic Lands: Appraisal Techniques, Lease Rates and Compatible Uses
12:00 – 1:15 p.m. Working Lunch: Planning for 2004 Joint Spring Conference
2:00 - 3:30 p.m. **Tour** at the Library of Congress - Madison Building: “Earth as Art” High-resolution LANDSAT
Photography and a Preview of Original Lewis and Clark Maps



Contemporary Topics in Managing Public Lands

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Washington, DC

Please register now with a separate form for each person to help us finalize arrangements.

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

REGISTRATION FEE

\$50 for each non-member fee can be applied to 2003 ELRC or WSLCA membership dues for States joining before or at the conference. The conference fee covers the meetings, three breakfasts, two lunches, two receptions and the tour.

- ___ \$325 per person for member states
- ___ \$375 per person for non-member states
- ___ \$18 per guest at each breakfast
- ___ \$35 per guest at each lunch
- ___ \$35 per guest at Reception for Federal Officials - Monday, March 31
- ___ TOTAL

PAYMENT FOR REGISTRATION

- ___ Payment enclosed
- ___ Payment will be mailed

Please make your check payable to ELRC/WSLCA CONFERENCE and, if possible, mail with your registration and activity sign-up list to:

Mr. William Brice, ELRC Treasurer
 Director, Division of Lands and Minerals
 Department of Natural Resources
 500 Lafayette Road
 P.O. Box 45
 St. Paul, MN 55155
 (651) 296-9553/ Fax: (651) 296-5939
 william.brice@dnr.state.mn.us

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Please make hotel reservations directly with the Radisson Barcelo Hotel at (202) 293-3100, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. EST, or at reservations@barcelodc.com **before March 14** for conference rates and guarantee them with a credit card.



Contemporary Topics in Managing Public Lands

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Washington, DC

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 other accommodations _____

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Guest: _____

		Conferee	Guest
Sunday, March 30	Reception	___	___
Monday, March 31	Breakfast	___	___
	Lunch	___	___
	Reception	___	___
Tuesday, April 1	Breakfast	___	___
	Lunch	___	___
Wednesday, April 2	Breakfast	___	___
	Working lunch to plan the 2004 Joint Spring Conference	___	___
	Tour	___	___
	Request a ride to National Airport directly after the tour	___	___

Please mail with registration by March 7 to:

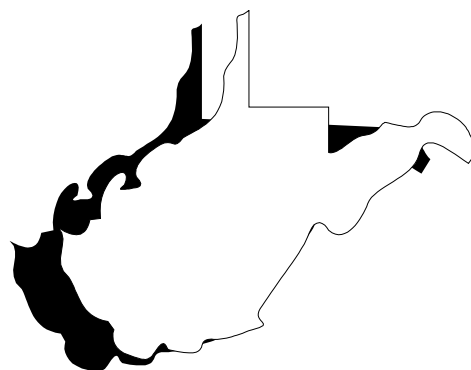
Mr. William Brice, ELRC Treasurer
 Director, Division of Lands and Minerals
 Department of Natural Resources
 500 Lafayette Road, P.O. Box 45
 St. Paul, MN 55155
 Phone: (651) 296-9553
 Fax: (651) 296-5939 or by E-mail: william.brice@dnr.state.mn.us

ELRC and WSLCA Members Invited to Attend the National Lands Training Session in October 2003

Eight State land managers and administrators from the Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC) and the Western States Land Commissioners Association (WSLCA) are invited to join the National Lands Training session October 6-10, 2003. The session will take place at the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's National Conservation Training Center in Shephardstown, West Virginia. State participants pay no tuition charges, but will need to pay for their room, board, and transportation.

U.S. Forest Service (USFS) employees are the main participants for the fall session, while both Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and USFS employees attend the spring course in Phoenix, Arizona. For all sessions, the faculty for the training sessions is drawn from the USFS, BLM, Department of Agriculture's Office of the General Counsel, as well as Land Trusts.

For more information about the upcoming training session in October, contact Bill Woodland at wwoodland@fs.fed.us. ELRC/WSLCA members who may want to participate should contact Ralph Knoll at ralph.knoll@maine.gov or Kelly Bast at kelly.bast@wadnr.gov, respectively.



**Ralph Knoll, President
Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC)
Maine Department of Conservation
22 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0022**

www.elrc.org