



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Washington, D.C. 20240
<http://www.blm.gov>



JUN 28 2011

Mr. Henri Bisson
President
Public Lands Foundation
P.O. Box 7226
Arlington, Virginia 22207

Dear Mr. Bisson: *Henri*

Thank you for your June 8, 2011, letter regarding management of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands with wilderness characteristics. The BLM remains committed to providing protection for these special places and appreciates your continued involvement.

As you know, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar provided direction for addressing wilderness characteristics on lands under the BLM's jurisdiction and affirmed that the BLM will continue to maintain an inventory of lands with wilderness characteristics and consider this inventory when making land use plan and project-level decisions. In addition, on June 10, 2011, Secretary Salazar sent a letter to each member of Congress requesting assistance in identifying BLM-managed public lands where there is strong support in the local community and among elected officials for permanent protection through wilderness designation.

Wilderness is a key component in preserving our natural heritage for future generations. I welcome your ongoing support and input on this important policy matter.

Sincerely,

Robert V. Abbey
Director