



United States Department of the Interior  
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Bureau of Land Management

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Miles City, Montana 59301

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **BLM CITIZEN'S WATCH PROGRAM IMPLEMENTED**

MILES CITY – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Miles City Field Office is looking for volunteers interested in protecting and rehabilitating Eastern Montana public lands as part of the BLM Citizen's Watch program.

Volunteers would assist the BLM Miles City Field Office (MCFO) in its management objectives to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the more than 2.7 million acres of public land under the MCFO jurisdiction.

The program is in its initial stages in the MCFO area; however, the program has been implemented in the BLM Billings Field Office area with marked success.

Citizen's Watch Volunteers assist in a variety of essential duties, to include interacting with the recreating public and other users of public lands, monitoring and maintaining approved travel routes and natural resource protection and rehabilitation work.

Volunteers also detect and reporting law violations to BLM law enforcement personnel for follow-up and prosecution.

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Citizen's Watch Volunteers do not perform law enforcement of any type, such as stopping or questioning violators, issuing warnings or notices or carrying firearms or anti-personnel chemical sprays.

Volunteers wear a limited uniform provided by the BLM. Magnetic vehicle door decals are also available for identifying vehicles used for patrolling and mileage is reimbursed at a rate of 36 cents per mile.

“This is a great opportunity for folks to get out in the field, meet people and give great public service, not to mention getting involved in natural resource management,” said David Jaynes, Associate Field Manager at the Miles City Field Office. “Job satisfaction is very high with Citizen's Watch volunteers and the service they provide helps maintain our public lands for continued use and enjoyment by everyone.”

More details are available. Interested persons are encouraged to contact BLM Law Enforcement Ranger Lori Harbaugh at (406) 233-2830; MCFO Associate Field Manager David Jaynes at (406)233-2816; or BLM Public Affairs Specialist Mark Jacobsen at (406) 233-2831.

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