

# Take It Outside!

## Children and Families Outdoors

BLM Believes Getting Children and Families Outdoors is a HIGH Priority.

The “Take It Outside” program focuses on starting, promoting, and expanding BLM programs that engage children and families in outdoor activities.

### Take It Outside has Four Primary Audiences:

#### **Schools and Youth Groups:** *Active and Meaningful Learning Outdoors*

Educating children in outdoor settings is a proven technique for enhancing understanding of natural processes and promoting attitudes of respect and responsibility.

#### **Children and Families:** *Building Family Bonds and Having Fun Outdoors*

Outdoor recreation and volunteer activities help families strengthen their bonds and gain a greater understanding of the natural environment. BLM proudly supports family oriented programs such as National Public Lands Day and Kids Free Fishing Day.

### Funding Take It Outside: A Little Money Goes a Long Way

In 2008, BLM created the “Take It Outside Incentive Funding Program” to encourage BLM offices to work with partners, other federal agencies and nonprofits to support and manage projects to encourage kids, families, and schools to participate actively in outdoor activities.

#### **BLM’s Incentive Funding Program**

- leveraged nearly 2 million dollars in partner cash and/or in kind donations,
- generated 60 projects and programs,
- provided opportunities for over 35,000 kids and their families to participate in outdoor and stewardship activities on BLM public lands.



# WOW! 2008 Take It Outside Successes...too numerous to list!

Take It Outside projects got kids and families outside, having fun, touching bugs, examining trees, learning about animals, rafting rivers and developing a sense of stewardship for public lands.

**“It was great being out in the woods for the entire week learning about nature. I prefer it to being in the city.”**

Oregon’s School Forestry Tour is an outdoor, youth, experiential camp where kids learn about Forest Management, Forest Products, Wildlife, Fisheries, Archaeology, Fire Behavior, and Tree Identification and oh, they play around funny shaped trees.



**“I never knew there were so many invertebrates in the river, or that I could play so many different roles out in the wild such as: CSI when determining which animals were, or had been in a habitat.”**

Florida High School Kids get wet, get interested, get knowledge standing in the water constructing a wetlands at the Jupiter Inlet Natural Area in Jupiter, Florida.



**“Many Southern Paiute tribal youth exist with all the modern conveniences and have lost their connections to their heritage.”**

Arizona’s Yevingkarere Camp Connecting Paiute Indian Youth to Traditional Homelands provided the opportunity to immerse Paiute youth and elders into their traditional lands within the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument and reestablish connections to monument resources.



**Exciting Opportunities Await...**To learn how you can get involved, be a partner, or get information, contact: **Patti Klein**, BLM’s National Take It Outside Program Manager at: (801) 539-4235 or email: [patti\\_klein@blm.gov](mailto:patti_klein@blm.gov). You can visit us on the web at [www.blm.gov](http://www.blm.gov) or [www.getoutdoorsitsyours.gov](http://www.getoutdoorsitsyours.gov)