

BLM Notes– Climate Issues Committee meeting – Nov 22, 2010

\*BLM was very involved in the grasshopper spray program in 2010.

\*Mountain Pine Beetle is rapidly spreading throughout the BLM forested lands and is moving into limber pine woodlands at the lower elevations as well.

\* The BLM is actively involved in 3 Rapid Ecoregional Assessments (REA). The Middle Rockies REA covers the mountains in Northwestern Wyoming, the Big Horns and the Black Hills. The Northern Plains REA covers the plains of eastern Wyoming from about Douglas up into Montana. These two REAs are being administered from Montana. The Wyoming Basins REA is in the discussion phase and covers most of the sagebrush areas from SW Wyoming up thru the Big Horn Basin. These assessments deal with conservation elements, covering terrestrial and aquatic habitats and wildlife species of concern and the potential impacts from four change elements – invasive species, wildfire, climate change and development (both industrial/energy and population growth).

\* The Bureau is still refining and developing its climate change policies.

\* The WY BLM working with the University of Wyoming (Program in Ecology) and the Society of American Foresters has developed a “Living on the Edge: Integrating Science into Range-Margin Species Populations” workshop. The first was held at the University of Wyoming on Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>. The next workshop will be held in Cody in the spring. We will let the committee know when the dates are set.