

Subject Line: Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Artificial Lighting Impacts Best Management Practices Publication: Literature Inquiry

This inquiry regards literature on avoiding and reducing artificial lighting impacts on natural night skies and dark environments. Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) has an agreement with the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to develop a library of best management practices (BMPs) for avoiding and reducing artificial lighting impacts on natural night skies and dark environments. You have been identified as someone potentially interested in and knowledgeable about the impacts of artificial outdoor lighting on environmental and socioeconomic resources.

If you or your colleagues have literature resources (books, articles, web sites, research reports, white papers, journal papers, etc.) or other forms of information that you believe the BLM should consider and are willing to share for developing the artificial lighting BMPs publication, please forward the information by _____ to or contact:

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9700 S. Cass Ave. EVS/240
Argonne IL 60439
630-252-6182
Sullivan@anl.gov

If you plan on forwarding information, then sending a reply of your intent by _____ will also be appreciated.

If you have general questions about the artificial lighting BMPs project, please contact the BLM Project Manager:

Noelle Glines-Bovio
Bureau of Land Management
Wyoming State Office
VRM/ NLCS State Lead
5353 Yellowstone Rd
Cheyenne, WY 82009
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Background

BLM-administered public lands are increasingly used for activities, developments, and visitor services that require outdoor lighting. Artificial outdoor lighting can affect ecological, cultural, scientific, recreational, and scenic resources and can have unintended consequences on community economies. In addition to resource impacts, lighting that cause nighttime glare can

create unsafe conditions within outdoor work environments and have health-related effects on people living nearby.

With assistance from Argonne National Laboratory, the BLM is currently developing a technical publication on BMPs for avoiding and reducing artificial lighting impacts on natural night skies and dark environments. The artificial lighting BMPs publication will provide comprehensive technical guidance on practical methods for reducing impacts from artificial lighting associated with BLM-managed land uses. The publication is intended for use by BLM field personnel, industry proponents, and other stakeholders.

BLM is seeking information that may be helpful for developing a high-quality artificial lighting BMPs publication, including information about artificial lighting impacts and potential mitigation measures applicable to artificial lighting impacts on:

1. Outdoor recreation experience (including scenic values and sense of remoteness);
2. Science and education (e.g., astronomy/ stargazing);
3. Historic/cultural/tribal values;
4. Animal habitats and behavior (mammals, birds, reptiles, fish, amphibians, insects);
5. Human health and safety; and
6. Security and law enforcement.

Information is sought on impacts and potential mitigation measures from lighting associated with customary BLM land use development and activities, including authorized land uses owned and/or operated by others outside of the BLM, such as the development and operation of communication facilities, renewable energy generation development, oil and gas drilling and production, electrical transmission lines, electrical substations, coal and gas fired power plants, hard rock and mineral mining, recreation activities, etc., and facilities owned/leased and operated by the BLM such as fire facilities, ware-yards, office buildings, visitor centers, campgrounds, etc.

Please feel free to forward this e-mail to your colleagues. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Regards,

Robert Sullivan
Environmental Science Division
Argonne National Laboratory

Paperwork Reduction Act

The purpose of this survey is to provide information to the Bureau of Land Management to develop a library of best management practices (BMPs) for minimizing environmental impacts from artificial night lighting. Response to this survey is voluntary. No action may be taken against you for refusing to supply the information requested. The reporting burden for this request is estimated to average 20 minutes, which includes the time for reviewing instructions and completing and reviewing the request. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. Please direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form to: U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (1090-0011), Bureau Information Collection Clearance Officer (WO-630), 1849 C Street, N.W., Room, 2134 BLM, Washington, D.C. 20240.