

## Lewis & Clark and the Changing Landscape

The Montana-Dakota's BLM fire program recently participated in the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial National Signature Event in Bismarck, North Dakota. The Community Assistance Program staff provided a fire education trailer as a tool to explain how BLM is working to restore healthy conditions to ecosystems entrusted to federal land managers. The main goal of the trailer is to describe how the western landscape has changed and how various social impacts have led to that change.



Andy Drobeck explains how the landscape has changed since the days of Lewis and Clark to schoolchildren from Bismarck area schools. (Photo by Terina Mullen)

Titled "Our Changing Landscape," the trailer includes eight static educational displays and two video loops. BLM personnel were on hand to give presentations on a myriad of fire topics—fire ecology, fire behavior, the changing landscape, using fire as a tool, the role of fire in nature, historical use of fire, wildland-urban interface issues, and others. Thousands of Bismarck-area students visiting the event listened to presentations about how the landscape has changed since the days of Lewis and Clark.

BLM personnel plan to attend the other Lewis and Clark Bicentennial National Signature Events through 2006, so look for the trailer on our nation's highways.

For more information about the "Our Changing Landscape" traveling fire education trailer, contact Mike Dannenberg at 406-896-2913. More information on Lewis and Clark Bicentennial National Signature Events can be found at: [www.lewisandclark200.org](http://www.lewisandclark200.org).



"Our Changing Landscape" traveling fire education trailer developed by the Montana-Dakotas BLM fire staff. (Photo by Terina Mullen)