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**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT LV-08-06** 

For release: May 22, 2008 (541) 947-6237

## Wildflower Tour Hosted in Silver Lake

**Contact: Scott Stoffel** 

**SILVER LAKE** – The Lakeview District of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), in conjunction with the Fremont-Winema National Forests and Oregon Native Plant Society, will host a Celebrate Wildflowers field tour on May 31, 2008.

Members of the public interested in the identification and discovery of wildflowers are encouraged to attend. Botanists will be present to highlight the properties and life phenomena exhibited by plants located in the Christmas Valley/Fort Rock Basin. The group will carpool to multiple destinations to observe the best blooming of flowers in the area.

The tour will begin at 9 a.m. at the Silver Lake Ranger District located on Highway 31 on the west side of Silver Lake, Oregon. Participants are encouraged to bring the following items: sack lunch, water, sunscreen, hat, boots or heavy shoes, wildflower keys (if available), and mystery plants from home or the local area for identification. It is requested that individuals please leave their pets at home.

"This is a great time to visit the sagebrush-steppe of southeast Oregon," said Shirley Gammon, BLM Lakeview District Manager. "The scattering of wildflowers across the high desert landscape is truly a site to behold."

For more information about the upcoming tour, please call Lucile Housley at (541) 947-6131 or Jeannette Wilson at (541) 576-2107.

## About the BLM

The BLM manages more land – 258 million surface acres – than any other Federal agency. Most of this public land is located in 12 Western States, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1.8 billion, also administers 700 million acres of subsurface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, and cultural resources on the public lands.

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