

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT OR-08-18
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Media Advisory
Volunteers sought for National Public Lands Day 2008

PORTLAND- Oregon/Washington Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is looking for volunteers to participate in the 15th annual National Public Lands Day on Saturday, September 27, 2008. In what has become the largest volunteer hands-on effort of its kind in the country, participants will come together to lend a hand to the very lands they use to hike, bike, climb, fish, swim, explore, picnic, or just plain relax.

Individuals, families, and community groups of all ages are encouraged to come together to give something back to their public lands. T-shirts, lunches, and environmental education activities will be provided for the volunteers at each of the project sites. All tools, safety equipment, and materials needed for the projects will be furnished by the BLM.

“We are calling on volunteers to help restore, beautify, and improve the habitats and recreation areas that we all benefit from and enjoy”, said Ed Shepard, BLM State Director. “The BLM is committed to promoting stewardship and increasing volunteer opportunities for the public.”

For the fifth year, volunteers at federal sites will not only receive free admission on the day of the event, but also a coupon to return for a “fee-free” day any time in the next year at any site managed by the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, or U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Volunteers range from Girl Scouts and senior citizens to corporate executives and Members of Congress -- they all have one thing in common: enjoyment and appreciation for our public lands.

Please note that some events may occur before the 27th due a conflict or another overlapping event. A complete listing of BLM events is attached. In addition, volunteers are encouraged to visit www.publiclandsday.com or www.blm.gov/or for complete information on events planned near you.

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 sub-surface 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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National Public Lands Day

A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

Oregon/Washington BLM Events September 27, 2008

OREGON

Coos Bay

North Spit
Site improvements and
noxious weed removal
Bob Golden (541) 756-0100

Eugene

West Eugene Wetlands
Trail System
Trail maintenance, trash pick-up,
weed removal, rehabilitation to
erosion sites, sign installation.
Doug Huntington (541) 683-6600

Medford

Cascade-Siskiyou National
Monument Day (formerly Jenny
Creek Day)
Nordic and snowmobile trail work,
fence maintenance, and range
restoration work.
Dennis Byrd (541) 618-2200

Eight Dollar Mountain Wayside Botanical Area

One-mile hiking trail construction
to Illinois River, boardwalk
maintenance, and guided tours.
Barbara Zurhellen (541) 618-2200

Salem

Marmot Dam Site
Site preparation, rehabilitation,
planting native vegetation.
Zachary Jarrett (503) 375-5646

Roseburg

Susan Creek Campground
Fire ring installation, picnic table
assembly, other improvements for
ADA accessibility.
Ariel Hiler (541) 440-4930

Burns

Steens Mountain Wilderness
(multiple week-long trips)
Fence removal in wilderness
Laura Dowlan (541) 573-4400

Lakeview

Christmas Valley Sand Dunes
(September 20)
Fence construction, sign
installation, site maintenance
Kim McLean (541) 947-2177

Topsy Campground/Upper Klamath River (September 20)

River clean-up, sign installation,
bird and bat box installation/
maintenance, riparian planting.
Scott Senter (541) 883-6916

Prineville

Deschutes Resource Area
Vegetation restoration, road
closures, fence repair, removal of
trash and unwanted material.
Molly Brown (541) 416-6700

Vale

Jordan Craters Cave Inventory
(September 12-14)
Inventory caves for public cave
nomination process. Guided
tours and presentations on 13th.
David Draheim (541) 473-3144

National Historic Oregon Trail
Interpretive Center – Baker City
Maintenance, restoration, repair
work on 4.5 miles of hiking trails.
Sarah LeCompte (541) 523-1843

WASHINGTON

Spokane

McLoughlin Canyon Historical
Landscape
Sign installation, trash clean-up,
trail brushing, parking construction,
overlook enhancement, weed pull
and seeding with native grasses.
Diane Priebe (509) 665-2100