



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT MILES CITY FIELD OFFICE **Press Release**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Public Lands Day event set

MILES CITY, Mont. --- The Bureau of Land Management Miles City Field Office will be hosting National Public Lands Day on September 30, 2006.

The event is open to anyone who would like to volunteer their time to improve Eastern Montana's public lands and will be held on the historic Calypso Trail, located north of Terry.

For the third year in a row, volunteers who work at a NPLD site managed by any of five federal agencies will be rewarded with a pass good for free entry any day during the next year at public land sites managed by those agencies: the BLM, National Park Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and USDA Forest Service.

To get to the Calypso Trail NPLD site, go west of Terry about 2.5 miles on old Highway 10 (the frontage road). Turn right on Milwaukee Road, which is a gravel road, and then proceed about 3.5 miles and cross the old rail road bridge over the Yellowstone River. The start of the trail is about 1/4 mile from the bridge.

Camping is permissible on public land although no developed campsite exists. There is also nearby access to the Yellowstone River for fishing or camping. Portable toilets will be on site for the day. For more information contact the BLM Miles City Field Office at: (406) 233-2800.

The Calypso Trail gets its name from the now-defunct railroad stop of Calypso and historically served as a freight road, travel route and purported boot-leg trail. The BLM has made improvements to the road making it accessible by vehicle traffic.

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The 13th annual NPLD event is predicted to see a record 100,000 volunteers who are expected at 1,000 sites coast to coast across the United States. National Public Lands Day is the largest volunteer, hands-on effort of its kind in the country and volunteers and sponsors will contribute more than \$10 million worth of improvements to public lands country-wide.

By educating volunteers at sites across the country, NPLD maintains the legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps, an army of 3 million Americans who in the 1930's countered the devastation of the Dust Bowl and the American chestnut blight by planting more than 3 billion trees, building 800 state parks, and fighting forest fires.

National Public Lands Day sponsors include; Toyota Motor Company, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of Defense, Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Tennessee Valley Authority, and USDA Forest Service.

Participants include numerous state and local agencies, nonprofit groups such as the National Parks Conservation Association, International Mountain Bicycling Association, Boy Scouts of America, and Girl Scouts of the USA.

The event is managed by the National Environmental Education & Training Foundation, chartered by Congress in 1990 as a private nonprofit organization to develop and support environmental learning programs to meet social goals and build partnerships among government, the private sector and non-governmental organizations.