

NEWS Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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BLM
Burns District Office

TRAINERS WANTED FOR NORTHWEST EXTREME MUSTANG MAKEOVER

HINES, Oregon – After hosting several successful training and adoption events in the last year, the Mustang Heritage Foundation has selected the Pacific Northwest for their next Extreme Mustang Makeover challenge. With only 100 days to bring wild to mild, 30 trainers from across America will gentle 30 wild Oregon mustangs and compete for \$7,500 in cash and prizes.

March 20-22, 2009 marks the calendar for the Northwest Extreme Mustang Makeover to be held in Albany, Oregon in conjunction with the annual Northwest Horse Fair and Expo. During competition, trainers are evaluated on the body condition of their American Mustangs, as well as their ability to handle the horse "in hand" through a series of maneuvers including picking up the horse's feet, maneuvering it through obstacles and loading it into a trailer. Following the "in hand" course, trainers will mount their animals and complete a "horse course" that includes a series of obstacles and requires the trainer to demonstrate the level of competency the horse has accomplished. The finalists also compete in a freestyle event.

Trainers are needed for this event! If you are interested in showcasing your mustang training abilities and competing for cash and prizes as well as commission on your adopted horse, apply as soon as possible. The application deadline is November 1, 2008. For more information, or to apply, visit www.extrememustangmakeover.com or call the Burns District BLM Office at (541) 573-4400. If 30 trainers have not applied by November 1, the event will be canceled.

At the conclusion of the Northwest Extreme Mustang Makeover, the participating Mustangs are available for adoption by competitive bid.

The Mustang Heritage Foundation, a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization, in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), created the Extreme Mustang Makeover events in order to recognize and highlight the value of Mustangs through a national training competition. These events give the public a unique opportunity to see the results of wild horses becoming trained mounts, and to display the beauty, versatility and trainability of the rugged horses that roam freely on public lands throughout the West.

