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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOCAL VOLUNTEERS REPAIR CABIN IN BARTON GULCH

DILLON (October 12, 2006) - The Dillon Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management celebrated National Public Lands Day on September 30 with a cabin overhaul project. Volunteers from the Dillon area prepared an old mining cabin for public use as part of the Recreational Cabin Rental Program. The Sunset Mine Cabin is located along Barton Gulch near Ruby Reservoir east of Dillon. Dillon BLM expects the cabin to be popular with the public during hunting season and during the winter for cross country skiers.

Twenty volunteers from the 3-Rivers Back Country Horsemen, the Montana Youth Challenge and the Dillon FO, contributed more than 150 hours of volunteer labor to spruce up the cabin. They hauled away two truckloads and two trailer loads of garbage and miscellaneous debris then sprayed the exterior of the cabin with wood preservative. The inside was disinfected and cleaned out to guard against disease. To complete the day's effort, volunteers built a 24' x 60' horse corral to facilitate use by horsemen.

According to organizer, Mark Sant of the Dillon BLM, the cabin will be re-chinked this fall and a vault toilet installed. Additional information will be provided when the cabin is available for public use.

National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands American's enjoy. Last year, nearly 90,000 volunteers built trails and bridges, planted trees and plants, and removed trash and invasive plants at various sites on public lands throughout the country.