FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Coos Bay BLM Seeks Volunteers for Advisory Committee

NORTH BEND, Ore. – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Coos Bay District is looking for volunteers to join its Resource Advisory Committee (RAC). Volunteers on the committee represent a variety of interests and will recommend public land restoration and maintenance projects to the BLM for funding.

The Coos Bay District RAC currently has six vacant positions. Once all the vacancies are filled, the Coos Bay District RAC will have fifteen members, equally divided into three categories.

On October 3, 2008, the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 was reauthorized as part of Public Law 110-343. This legislation authorizes the Coos Bay District RAC to recommend funding on Title II projects or natural resource management projects that improve and/or enhance the public lands in the Coos Bay District. The land management projects are located in Coos, Curry and Douglas counties and are on or adjacent to BLM lands.

There is **one vacancy** in Category One, which represents the following interests:

- Organized labor or non-timber forest products harvester groups;
- Developed outdoor recreation, off highway vehicle users, or commercial recreation activities;
- Energy and mineral interests;
- Commercial or recreational fishing interests;
- Commercial timber industry; or
- Hold federal grazing permits, or other land use permits within the RAC area

There are **two vacancies** in Category Two, which represents the following interests:

- Nationally recognized environmental organizations;
- Regionally or locally organized environmental organization;
- Dispersed recreational activities;
- Archaeological and historical interests; or
- Nationally or regionally recognized wild horse and burro interest groups, wildlife or hunting organization, or watershed association.

There are **three vacancies** in Category Three, which represents the following interests:

- State-elected office holder;
- County or local elected officials;
- American Indian tribes within or adjacent to the RAC area;
- School official or teacher; or
- Public at large.



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Volunteers will serve a four year term and attend approximately two, day long meetings per year. RAC members serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for travel expenses. Applicants must be Oregon residents and should reside within Coos, Curry or Douglas County.

The Secretary of the Interior will appoint the RAC members, striving to confirm members who have demonstrated the ability to work collaboratively with others of differing viewpoints.

Application forms must be received at the Coos Bay District BLM Office, ATTN: Glenn Harkleroad, 1300 Airport Lane, North Bend, Oregon 97459 by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, January 5, 2009.

For more information about the Coos Bay District RAC and/or to obtain a membership application, please contact Glenn Harkleroad at 541-751-4361 or by email at glenn_harkleroad@blm.gov

About 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 BLM, 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 BLM 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.



