Ochoco and Deschutes National Forests, and Prineville District, Bureau of Land Management Office of Communications

Working as One to Serve Central Oregon www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon

For immediate release: April 4, 2008

Contact: Tom Walker (541) 383-4787

Unwelcome Hitchhikers on Boats What You Can Do About It

BEND –If you treasure Central Oregon's lakes and rivers for boating and fishing outings, come learn how to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. The Oregon State Marine Board is partnering with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Portland State University, and the U.S. Forest Service for a boat cleaning and invasive prevention training for interested community members.

The three-hour course will teach the public, natural resource professionals, and law enforcement officers how to prevent new infestations of aquatic weeds, fish, and other non-native animals in our lakes and rivers.

Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Training will be held Thursday April 24, 2008 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Barnes Conference Room in the Deschutes County Building at 1300 Northwest Wall Street in downtown Bend. The training session is free of charge.

Please contact Tom Walker, U.S. Forest Service fish biologist, for further information at (541) 383-4787.