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

Date: August 26, 2008

Contact: Sue Olson (541) 383-5561

For immediate release

South Bend Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project Environmental Assessment Available for 30-Day Objection Period

Bend—The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the South Bend Hazardous Fuels Project is released for a 30-day Objection Period beginning August 27, 2008. This project was designed under the authority of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003, and was developed through a collaborative process with at-risk (of wildfires) communities, organizations, individuals and other agencies.

Located within the Greater Bend Community Wildfire Protection Plan boundary, this project is designed to reduce wildland fire risk in the area adjacent to the southern urban growth boundary of Bend. The project will reduce fuels on 3,021 acres through thinning, mowing, pruning, hand piling and underburning.

The EA is available on the website at www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon. For further information or a copy of the EA, contact Beth Peer (541) 383-4769 or David Frantz (541) 383-4721 at the Bend/Fort Rock Ranger District, 1230 NE Third Street, Suite A-262, Bend, Oregon 97701.