

NEWS Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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Medford District Office

BLM

For Release: March 25, 2008

Annual Rogue River Cleanup Scheduled for May 17

The BLM is actively looking for individuals or groups interested in volunteering for the annual spring cleanup on the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River on Saturday, May 17. This is the 16th annual cleanup event, which annually brings people together to beautify the Rogue River. Volunteers pick up trash and clean the riverbanks from Grants Pass to Grave Creek.

“Each year over 250 volunteers work together to clean trash along the Rogue” said Cori Cooper, BLM’s Outdoor Recreation Planner for the Rogue River Program. “It’s a great opportunity to give something back to the defining feature of our valley; families, schools, organizations, and people outside of southern Oregon remove on average 4 to 5 tons of material from the riverbanks every May.”

Registration begins at 9:00 AM at the Hog Creek Boat Ramp, located five miles west of Merlin. Cleanup will take place rain or shine, so come prepared and dressed for the weather. Volunteers are encouraged to bring snacks and extra drinking water. Trash bags, gloves and volunteer t-shirts will be provided to those who register.

At the end of the day, the BLM hosts a free barbeque at Josephine County Griffin Park. For registered volunteers, a random drawing will also be held for donated items such as t-shirts, mugs and gift certificates to local businesses.

As part of keeping our river and recreation sites clean and thriving, this will be the fourth consecutive year BLM is sponsoring a noxious weed cleanup group. Please join us in keeping our native plant riparian communities along the river corridor clean and healthy.

The cleanup project is part of a state and national effort to clean and enhance waterways. This fun, annual event is sponsored by the Bureau of Land Management’s Medford District, Grants Pass Resource Area and in partnership with Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism’s “Down by the Riverside,” and Josephine County Parks.

For more information, contact Cori Cooper, Project Coordinator, at 541-471-6556.

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 Bureau, with a budget of about \$1.8 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface 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 Bureau 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.

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