

NEWS RELEASE
Bureau of Land Management
Salem District Office of Public Affairs
1717 Fabry Rd. SE, Salem, OR 97306
503-375-5657

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Contact: Laura Dowlan, Recreation Planner
503-375-5638
Trish Hogervorst, PAO
503-375-5657

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND THREE
SANDY RIVER BASIN RECREATION AND STEWARDSHIP OPEN HOUSES

SALEM--The public is invited to share their ideas about recreation and stewardship opportunities on Sandy River Basin public lands at three open house sessions in June. In the past 10 years, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has acquired 5,900 acres of public land in the Sandy River Basin. "These lands, when added to the existing Sandy River Basin public lands, offer a great opportunity for the BLM to work in partnership with others on identifying public use opportunities and enhancing long term stewardship in the Basin," said Cindy Enstrom, BLM Cascades Field Manager. For more information about the open houses go to BLM's website at <http://www.blm.gov/or>, or contact Laura Dowlan by phone at (503) 315-5908 or by email at Laura_Dowlan@blm.gov.

Participants are encouraged to attend any of the sessions scheduled for 6:00-8:30 pm on:

Thursday	June 15	Mt. Hood Lions Club in Welches
Tuesday	June 20	Mt. Hood National Forest Headquarters in Sandy
Wednesday	June 21	Sam Cox Building, Glenn Otto Park, in Troutdale

The open houses will focus on three topics:

- 1) river access and recreation
- 2) community and trail connectivity
- 3) stewardship of the river and adjacent lands

The open houses are hosted jointly by the BLM, U.S. Forest Service, the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council, the Barlow Trail Association, the Department of State Lands and the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, with the assistance of the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program. The hope is that these open houses will generate ideas and interest from the people who enjoy and live in the Sandy River Basin about the type of projects that the BLM and other agencies and interested entities should explore in future planning efforts.

The Western Rivers Conservancy, in partnership with BLM, has been acquiring new public lands along the Sandy, Little Sandy and Salmon Rivers in an effort to enhance long term fish and wildlife conservation and as a public resource for hikers, floaters, anglers and viewers of salmon and wildlife. A key upcoming acquisition includes approximately 1,500 acres that Portland General Electric will be donating to BLM, via

Western Rivers Conservancy, following the removal of the Marmot and Little Sandy Dams.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR EDITORS

This document can be downloaded from the BLM's web site at <http://www.blm.gov/or> Paper or electric copies can be requested from the BLM's Salem District Office at 1717 Fabry Road SE, Salem, Oregon 97306; Laura Dowlan (503) 315-5908 or via email at Laura_Dowlan@blm.gov.

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The BLM, an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, manages 261 million surface acres of public land— more 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.