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BLM Announces Stimulus Investment in Douglas County to Restore Landscapes, Develop Renewable Energy, and Create Jobs

ROSEBURG, OR – **May 6, 2009** – The U.S. Bureau of Land Management has announced that Douglas County will receive \$4.116 million for the following projects:

- 1) Biomass utilization for energy production as a by-product of hazardous fuels reduction,
- 2) Umpqua Basin fish passage restoration for endangered Coho salmon and other important fish species,
- 3) Recreation Site Comfort Station Replacements at public campgrounds and recreation sites,
- 4) Crushed Rock Stockpiles to resurface high priority public roads in the Roseburg District.
- 5) HVAC (Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning) System Retrofit for energy efficiency in BLMs Roseburg District Office

The funding is part of \$32.9 million awarded to BLM to fund 60 projects throughout Oregon and Washington under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Nationally, BLM was awarded \$305 million that will fund more than 650 projects across the country. Overall, the Department of the Interior will manage \$3 billion in investments as part of the recovery plan signed by the President to jumpstart our economy, create or save jobs, and put a down payment on addressing long-neglected challenges so our country can thrive in the 21st century. The BLM investments include the following types of projects:

- Renewable Energy Authorization
- Habitat Restoration
- Construction and Deferred Maintenance
- Administrative Support
- Abandoned Mines
- Capital Improvements
- Roads and Bridges Maintenance and Construction and
- Trails Maintenance and Construction

Project areas will meet all federal environmental requirements and have been through the National Environmental Policy Act process.

The public will be able to follow the progress of each project on www.recovery.gov and on <u>www.interior.gov/recovery</u>. The Department of the Interior Secretary Ken Salazar has appointed a Senior Advisor for Economic Recovery, Chris Henderson, and an Interior Economic Recovery Task Force. Henderson and the Task Force will work closely with the Department of the Interior's Inspector General to ensure that the recovery program is meeting the high standards for accountability, responsibility, and transparency that President Obama has set.





About the BLM:

The BLM manages more land – 256 million acres – than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1 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, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

