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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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For Immediate Release

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BLM RAISING DAY USE FEES AT YAQUINA HEAD OUTSTANDING NATURAL AREA

SALEM— On Monday July 21st, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) at Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area will be raising the fee for day use of the site and associated facilities from \$5 to \$7, and will be raising the annual pass fee from \$10 to \$15. Three day passes for motorcycles will go up from \$2 to \$3, and the cost of private and commercial large capacity vans (10 to 20 passengers) will go up from \$20 to \$25. Commercial tour buses will pay a \$50 one-time fee, (up from \$40). Other than commercial vehicles, the fees allow the passengers of a private vehicle to enter the park and utilize all of the facilities for three consecutive days. Activities include viewing exhibits in the interpretive center, tours of the 134 year-old lighthouse, and access to the tidepools and hiking trails in the park. One hundred percent of the money collected from fees is used to help operate and maintain the site and to pay for programs that directly benefit Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area visitors.

All non-vehicular access and access for school and education-related groups will remain free. The BLM will also continue to offer periodic free days. The BLM has managed Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area since 1980. In 1997, BLM began charging a fee to visit the lighthouse and the newly constructed interpretive center. In 1999, the per vehicle fee structure was initiated. Since 1999, the fees have raised enough revenue annually to cover approximately fifty percent of Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area's operating expenses.

“An estimated \$75,000 in additional revenue raised from charging a higher fee would remain on site,” said Yaquina Head Manager Joe Ashor. “The revenue would be used to continue the existing level of high quality services and interpretive and educational experiences offered to visitors, help protect the areas sensitive natural resources, and help maintain the lighthouse. None of the fee revenue would be used to pay for administrative overhead costs,” said Ashor.

For more information about Yaquina Head activities, contact the BLM at 541-574-3100 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. daily, or visit the Yaquina Head web site at: www.blm.gov/or/resources/recreation/yaquina/index.htm.

About the 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.

Salem District Office

BLM

