## SALEM DISTRICT NEWS BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS-503-375-5657 1717 Fabry Rd. SE, Salem, Oregon 97306 http://www.or.blm.gov/salem

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## Come Celebrate National Public Lands Day By Volunteering at the Upper Nestucca Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Riding Area on September 22, 2007-- 8:30 AM-Noon

SALEM- The Salem District of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Oregon Department of Forestry, Applegate Rough Riders Motorcycle Club, and Oregon State Parks and Recreation are looking for volunteers to help clean up the Upper Nestucca Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Riding Area.

On Saturday, September 22 at 8:30 AM, volunteers will meet at Elk Flat Staging Area to register, receive an overview of the projects and then spend the morning assisting in maintenance (digging, brush cutting, debris removal), construction, and decommissioning of OHV trails. Volunteers should bring sturdy boots, gloves, eye protection, and drinking water. Those who spend the morning volunteering will receive a free T-shirt and lunch at Elk Flat Staging Area at noon. The Oregon State Parks and Recreation OHV educational trailer will be on site for all who are interested in learning more about OHV safety.

This event is in celebration of National Public Lands Day which takes place on Saturday, September 29, 2007.

This year marks the 14th annual National Public Lands Day in what has become the largest volunteer hands-on effort of its kind in the country. Participants will come together to lend a hand to the very lands they use to hike, bike, climb, fish, swim, explore, picnic, or just plain relax. All tools, safety equipment, and materials needed for the projects will be furnished by the BLM.

All volunteers who pitch in on a National Public Lands Day Project will be rewarded with a coupon good for a "fee-free" entry day during the next year at any public land site managed by the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Forest Service.

"The BLM is committed to promoting awareness about citizen stewardship and increasing volunteer opportunities for the public, said Ed Shepard, BLM State Director. For more information visit <a href="www.publiclandsday.org">www.publiclandsday.org</a> or for BLM specific events <a href="www.blm.gov/or.">www.blm.gov/or</a>. Remember....."It's your land, lend a hand."

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 subsurface 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.

