

NEWS Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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Vale District Office

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News Release
For Immediate Release

OR-038-2009-14
April 24, 2009

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Interpretive Center Offering 19th Century Activities Day

Baker City, Oregon: Interpretive staff, volunteers, and guest interpreters will be demonstrating typical pioneer era trade skills in a special day long presentation Saturday May 9th at the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center.

Crafts and skills familiar to the life and times of Oregonians in the 1800s will be demonstrated both inside and outdoors. Domestic skills of butter making, spinning, quilting, and cooking will provide insights into earlier technology and how it affected women's workdays. Frontier skills such as orienteering, black powder firearm demonstrations, wood carving, and a display of mountain man gear will help visitors understand how everyday tasks were accomplished with more primitive tools and equipment. Blacksmiths from White Hart Forge of Portland will demonstrate 19th century metal working techniques, from a time when village blacksmiths played a critical role in local economies.

The 19th Century Activities Day is one of several Oregon 150 events scheduled for the Interpretive Center through summer 2009, and is especially designed for families. Some of the activities will include visitor participation. Activities begin at 10:00 am and continue through 4:00 pm.

The National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center is 5 miles east of Baker City, Oregon on Highway 86. Take Exit 302 from I-84. The Center is open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily. For more information call (541) 523-1843 or visit the web at oregontrail.blm.gov. The Interpretive Center is operated by the Bureau of Land Management and is a federal fee site. Admission for adults is \$8 and seniors are \$4.50. Free fee days are offered. Federal recreation passes are accepted.

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