



NEWS RELEASE

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Public Invited to “Meet Your BLM Neighbor” on May 30

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Medford, OR, May 9, 2007 – The BLM Grants Pass Resource Area invites the public to attend a casual “meet your neighbor” open house on May 30, 2007 to introduce the “how and why” of managing BLM public lands. The open house will be held from 5-8 pm at the Grants Pass Interagency Office, 2164 NE Spalding Ave., Grants Pass.

“We are excited to meet our public who have interest in, or live near, BLM lands to share land management ideas, challenges, and opportunities while also encouraging them to be a part of the management process,” said Abbie Jossie, Field Manager for the Grants Pass Resource Area. A wide variety of public land management functions will be showcased through displays and handouts at the open house. BLM resource specialists will be on hand to introduce management objectives for timber harvest, cultural resource protection, wildlife habitat, riparian restoration, Wild and Scenic Rivers, silviculture, fire and fuels, recreation, roads, stewardship and biomass, noxious weeds, watersheds, and off highway vehicle usage.

“This is a relationship building endeavor to learn directly from each other what is beneficial for both the BLM and the communities surrounding BLM public lands” stated Katie Wetzel, Community Planner. “We are very excited to have this opportunity, and look forward to the outcome of this type of interaction with our communities”

For more information about the open house, please contact Katie Wetzal or Max Yager at 541-471-6500.

About 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.

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