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New Carissa Removal Right of Way Document Available for Public Review

North Bend, OR – The Bureau of Land Management is releasing an environmental assessment for the use of BLM lands during the New Carissa removal operations. The document, which also includes a new proposal for public access on the North Spit, is available for public review starting March 15.

The document contains an analysis of the potential environmental impacts of BLM granting Titan Marine a right-of-way on the North Spit for the construction and operation of a staging area to support the removal operations.

Based on the environmental analysis, BLM determined that issuing Titan the right of way will result in no significant environmental impacts (Finding of No Significant Impact). With this finding, the BLM proposes to grant Titan Maritime, LLC a temporary right of way for the construction of the .23 acre staging area and allow the use of BLM managed sand roads in support of the New Carissa stern removal operation.

“Public access on the North Spit, including travel on Foredune Road, was a significant issue analyzed in the EA,” said Dennis Turowski, Umpqua Field Manager with the BLM.

The proposal outlined in the EA would allow continued public access to the North Spit for the duration of the removal operations. In the proposal, Titan will build a temporary bypass road east of the staging area to provide a continuous north-south route on the North Spit for pedestrian, equestrian, and vehicle traffic.

“The bypass will ensure people have safe and reliable access to the North Spit during the removal,” said Turowski. “The original proposal to route traffic onto the beach and around the staging area was changed because of public safety concerns. Routing traffic on the beach would have been difficult during high tide.”

Titan will still restrict public access to the staging area and its immediate surroundings to protect public and Titan employee safety. The restricted access area would extend 50 to 100 feet around the staging area.

Public comments on the EA and the Finding of No Significant Impact will be accepted from March 15 to March 30, 2008. Once the public comment period ends, the BLM will issue a final decision on the right of way. Titan Maritime estimates the staging area construction will begin around April 15, 2008.



NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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Copies of the EA and the Finding of No Significant Impact are available online at www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay or by request to Carol Snead at HDR, Inc. at csnead@hdrinc.com. Comments can be sent to Carol Snead at her email address or to 1001 SW 5th Avenue, Suite 1800, Portland, OR 97204. Additional information on the New Carissa removal is available from the Oregon Department of State Lands at <http://oregonstatelands.us/DSL/lw/carissa.shtml>

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 BLM, 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 BLM 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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