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Funding Available for Natural Resource Restoration & Maintenance Projects

North Bend, Ore. – The public is invited to submit applications for funding to complete projects designed to benefit the land and resources of the Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) Coos Bay District, and the rural economies of Douglas, Coos, and Curry Counties. Applications must be submitted to the Coos Bay District Office by January 24, 2014.

Title II of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, as reauthorized by the Helium Stewardship Act of 2013, provides funds for projects that are on Federal land or that benefit Federal lands. Money is available for projects that improve existing infrastructure, enhance forest ecosystems or restore and improve land health and water quality. Individuals, non-profit organizations, organized groups and local governments are all eligible to receive funding for Title II projects.

The Coos Bay District Resource Advisory Committee, comprised of citizens that represent a wide range of interests, will review the Title II project applications in 2014 and recommend to the BLM which projects should be funded. Funding for approved projects is expected to be available in fiscal year 2014.

Applicants should be aware that the applicant is responsible for the completion of any National Environmental Policy Act documentation unless otherwise negotiated with the BLM. This requirement extends to projects conducted on privately-managed lands that are funded with Title II dollars.

Completed applications may be submitted at the Coos Bay District Office at 1300 Airport Lane, North Bend, Ore., or via email to m1harper@blm.gov. Email submissions are preferred. A copy of the project submission form and additional information on the Coos Bay Resource Advisory Committee is available online at: www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay/rac/index.php

For questions on the application process or to obtain additional information, please contact Glenn Harkleroad, Assistant Field Manager or Megan Harper, Public Affairs Officer, at 541-756-0100.

About BLM

The BLM manages more land – 245 million surface acres – than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western States, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about $1 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, cultural, and other resources on public lands.