

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Portion of Blue Ridge Trails Close for Timber Sale

COOS BAY, Ore. – A section of the Blue Ridge Trail System will close this week while logging occurs in the area. The closure will affect approximately 1 mile of the Jigiiyat Trail, part of the 12 mile trail system on Blue Ridge, for the next three months.

A Bureau of Land Management contractor will thin 45 acres in the area as part of the Blue Retro Thinning Study, an on-going research project studying the effect of thinning on older forest development. The timber sale was analyzed in the North Soup and Blue Retro Density Management Study Environmental Assessment in 2008. The analysis concluded in a Finding of No Significant Impact. The timber sale fully complies with the management objectives and direction of the Northwest Forest Plan and the 1995 Coos Bay District Resource Management Plan.

Visitors are asked to be extra cautious when recreating in the Blue Ridge area while the project is active. Signs will warn visitors of closed areas.

For additional information on the project, contact Rick Schultz at 541-756-0100.

About BLM

The BLM manages more land – 256 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.

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