Funding Available for Natural Resource Restoration/Maintenance Projects

COOS BAY, Ore. – The public is invited to submit funding applications for Title II natural resource 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 July 8, 2011.

The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, as reauthorized by the Emergency and Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, provides funds for Title II projects that are on Federal land or that benefit Federal lands. Individuals, non-profit organizations, organized groups and local governments are all candidates to receive funding for Title II projects. Approximately $429,000 is available to fund beneficial projects that improve existing infrastructure, enhance forest ecosystems or restore and improve land health and water quality.

The Coos Bay District Resource Advisory Committee will review the Title II project applications and recommend to BLM which projects should be funded in late August 2011. Funding for approved projects is expected to be available March 2012.

Applicants should be aware that the completion of National Environmental Policy Act documentation will be the responsibility of the applicant 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 glenn_harkleroad@blm.gov. A copy of the project funding application 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.