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BLM
Roseburg District Office

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BLM Encourages Volunteers to Lend A Hand on National River Cleanup Week June 2-10

ROSEBURG, OR. – Volunteers are needed to help clean and beautify Douglas County waterways during National River Cleanup Week, June 2-10. The Bureau of Land Management is currently recruiting volunteers to clean rivers and streams. Litter bags and other needed supplies will be provided. Anyone interested in helping out should call Joe Ross, BLM's Roseburg District volunteer program coordinator, at (541)464-3248. Organized events are listed on-line at <http://www.americaoutdoors.org/nrcw/natao10.htm>

Nationwide, over 400 cleanups are registered for the 2007 event with an expected 60,000 volunteers. "A healthy river is a valuable asset to any community, and we're encouraging everyone to be a part of a program that has removed over 1,000 tons of litter and debris from beloved rivers and streams all over the nation," said Rebecca Wodder, President of American Rivers. "A cleaner river is a healthier one, and healthy rivers benefit all the communities through which they flow." Not just a worthy cause, the cleanups also are fun for everyone. That explains why so many environmental organizations, civic clubs, paddle-sports groups, federal and state agencies, and schools organize these events in their local communities. "You can't find a more hands-on way to get people directly involved in protecting the rivers they love," added Wodder.

Charles Kuralt, a former American Rivers board member, said that "America is a great story and there's a river on every page." I'm sure he would agree that trashing our rivers is trashing our American story.

There are various National River Cleanup Week contests that offer great prizes ranging from fishing rods and paddles to canoes and kayaks. Photo, Publicity, YouTube Video, and Essay contests are being hosted. The 300-word essay competition for youth called "How can we reduce the trash in our rivers?" The deadline for all contests is July 1, 2007. Submit your entries via email or mail your entries to: American Rivers, Attn: Outreach, 1101 14th Street, NW, Suite 1400, Washington, DC 20005-5637 See <http://www.nationalrivercleanup.org/center/contests.php>

Green Mountain Coffee Roasters is the presenting sponsor for 2007. Subaru is the official vehicle for National River Cleanup Week 2007. They are joined by Tom's Natural Care of Maine, Thule, Old Town Canoes & Kayaks, and other corporate supporters. America Outdoors, a national association of outfitters and guides, originated the event and donates the operational support for NRCW. National River Cleanup Week, Inc. is a 501(c) (3) non profit corporation.

National River Cleanup Week's mission is to raise public awareness of the magnitude of trash accumulating in our nation's waterways and to develop a constituency for clean waterways. Since its inception in 1992, more than 500,000 volunteers have participated in nearly 5,000 cleanups covering about 100,000 miles of U.S. waterways.

