May 28, 2003

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Information Bulletin No. OR-2003-163

To: All State Office Employees
From: Deputy State Director for Resource Planning, Use and Protection

Subject: Environmental Education Opportunity

For the fourth year, you have a great opportunity to lead an environmental education activity for underserved youth. Urban Nature Overnights (UNO) is recruiting volunteers to lead pre-developed activities for children, ages 8-11, in groups of 10. The commitment is for Tuesday mornings from 9:00-11:30 at the Oregon Zoo. You may select two or more Tuesdays between June 24 and August 12. Training will be provided. You may select from one of two training sessions: Tuesday, June 3, 8:00-11:00 a.m. or Wednesday, June 4, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

UNO operates from 4:30 Monday afternoon until Tuesday noon. On Tuesday mornings, the campers will hike into Washington Park. There they will encounter, among other things, three different activity stations: one will be a quiet, contemplative station where campers will learn to use maps and engage in poetry and journaling; one will be a more active station with activities such as animal tracking and scavenger hunts; finally, there will be an investigative station where skills such as plant identification are developed.

The UNO program is a partnership between the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Oregon Zoo and Portland Parks and Recreation. This program strives to provide inner city youth a safe, hands-on experience with the natural world, to foster an appreciation of public lands and resources, and to build awareness of conservation and stewardship issues. Participants learn recreation skills and basic environmental education concepts while camping overnight at the Oregon Zoo.

If you would like to participate in this program, or if you would like more information, please contact Angel Dawson at 503-808-6095 by May 30, 2003.

Oregon/Washington BLM is committed to working with the Oregon Zoo and other partners to encourage our community’s youth in the active enjoyment, and a deeper understanding of the wonders of the natural world. This is a fantastic way to spend a sunny summer morning!

Districts with Unions are reminded to notify their unions of this Information Bulletin and satisfy any bargaining obligations before implementation. Your servicing Human Resources Office or Labor Relations Specialist can provide you assistance in this matter.

Signed by

Authenticated by