

NEWS Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

100 Oregon Street • Vale, Oregon 97918 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/vale>

Vale District Office

BLM

News Release OR-038-2009-31
For Immediate Release August 7, 2009
News Contact: Jonathan Richardson 541-523-1835

Interpretive Center hosting author of new book about Tim Goodale

Baker City, Oregon: The author of a newly published historical biography about prominent Idaho-Oregon trail blazer Tim Goodale will present a lecture and book signing at the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center on August 15th at 12:30 in the Leo Adler Theater.

James W. McGill has exhaustively studied Timothy Goodale's 39 years in the West and written "Rediscovered Frontiersman: Timothy Goodale". The book includes information about the lives of Goodale and his family, and the routes he established through Idaho and Oregon. One of the trail sections includes more than 50 miles pioneered by a train he guided in 1862 from Brownlee Ferry on the Snake River to the Baker Valley in Oregon. The route was used for over thirty years by early settlers and contributed to the development of Baker County.

In his lecture, using photographs and maps, McGill will recount the ten years of intensive research that he and his wife Patti undertook searching for trail segments, and finding much new information about Goodale's family and their contributions. Their research included exploring, mapping, and marking the trail route. He will focus on two sections of Goodale's Trail including a section that came around near Ruckles Creek, passed over Virtue Flat, went westerly (where trail swales still stand out), and under the south side of Flagstaff Hill. It joined the Oregon Trail for a distance toward Baker before turning south toward Auburn.

McGill will be available after his talk for questions from visitors, and signing his book which is available for sale in the Oregon Trail Shop. He will show copies of maps and research, and point out nearby locations of the trail route. Also on August 15, a wagon train reenactment will be moving along Ruckles Creek Road on Virtue Flat, closely following the Goodale Route.

The National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, operated by the Bureau of Land Management, is located 5 miles east of Baker City, Oregon on Highway 86. Take Exit 302 from I-84. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Admission for adults is \$8. Seniors are \$4.50, and fee is good for two days. Children 15 and under are free. Federal passes are accepted. Visit oregontrail.blm.gov for more information about the Center, or call 541-523-1843 for updates on programs and events. For information on other events in Baker County, Oregon, call 1-800-523-1235.

-BLM-

