

# NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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Burns District Office

## Annual Free Fishing Day Set for June 7 at Burns Pond

*HINES, Ore.* – The Annual Kids’ Free Fishing Day event in Harney County is set for Saturday, June 7, at Burns Pond. Everyone is encouraged to start their summer off outdoors with this fun family event.

“Free Fishing Day is a great time for everyone to share in one of the nation’s favorite pastimes,” said Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Biologist and event coordinator Shannon Hurn. “Participants can fish, practice casting, and share in an all-around good time with family and friends.” Planning these activities in a single organized event creates a great atmosphere for passing the fishing tradition to Harney County’s youth.

The first 100 youth participants will receive an “I’d Rather Be Fishing” t-shirt, and there will be several free raffle drawings for adults throughout the day. The Biggest Fish Caught contest starts at 7:00 a.m. sharp and ends around 11:00 a.m. with contest prizes awarded shortly thereafter.

Those planning to attend should bring lawn chairs, fishing gear, sun block, a hat, insect repellent, and their favorite lure or bait. Drinking water will be on hand and extra fishing gear will be available for anyone who might not have their own. The Blue Ribbon Livestock 4-H club will sell donuts, coffee, hot chocolate and other snack-food items.

Free Fishing Day is held in combination with National Fishing and Boating Week and is supported by local agencies and businesses including ODFW, the Bureau of Land Management, the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Steens Mountain Outdoors, Inc., B&B Sporting Goods, Sportsman’s Warehouse, and William Foster Construction, Inc. Special thanks to the Burns Butte Sportsmen’s Club and the Harney County Watershed Council for their generous contributions to this annual event.

To reach Burns Pond, travel two miles east of Burns on Highway 78 toward Crane. The pond is on the south side of the road. For more information on Free Fishing Day, contact the ODFW at (541) 573-6582.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM’s mission is to manage and conserve the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations under our mandate of multiple-use and sustained yield. In Fiscal Year 2013, the BLM generated \$4.7 billion in receipts from public lands.

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