

NEWS Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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BLM
Burns District Office

Annual Free Fishing Day Set for June 12 at Burns Pond

HINES, Ore. – Annual Free Fishing Day activities for Harney County have been set for Saturday, June 12, at Burns Pond. Local organizations and agencies are planning for good weather, hungry fish, lots of participants and all kinds of excitement. Seniors, kids, and parents are encouraged to come out and make Free Fishing Day a fun family event.

Casting and fishing contests for those 3-16 or over 65 will take place from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. with a free picnic lunch for everyone to follow. Prizes will be awarded to top finishers in various age groups for the biggest fish caught, first fish caught, saddest fishing story, ‘caught cleaning up,’ and casting accuracy. Other prizes may be presented and all participants will receive a “Fishing-is-Fun” kit during registration. Fishers are encouraged to come prepared for the day, arrive early and register before the contests start.

“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 Hunn.

“Participants can fish, practice casting and tying fishing knots, 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.”

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. To reach Burns Pond, travel 2 miles east of Burns on Highway 78 toward Crane. The pond is on the south side of the road.

Free Fishing Day is held in combination with National Fishing and Boating Week and is supported by local agencies and businesses with generous food and prize donations. This annual event is organized and sponsored in part by BLM, ODFW, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, USFS, Harney County Chamber of Commerce, and the Burns Paiute Fish and Wildlife Department. Special thanks Safeway and the Burns Butte Sportsmen’s Club for their generous contributions to Free Fishing Day this year.

For more information on Harney County’s Free Fishing Day, contact the Burns District BLM Office at (541) 573-4400 or the ODFW Office at (541) 573-6582.

About the BLM: The BLM manages more land – 253 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.

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