

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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Contact: Tara Martinak (541) 573-4400 • Release No. OR-020-09-32 • July 22, 2009

ANNUAL STEENS RIM RUN & WALK SET FOR AUGUST 1

HINES, Oregon – The 27th Annual Chris Miller Memorial Steens Rim Run and Walk (Rim Run) is set for Saturday, August 1. With limited race day registration this year, those interested are encouraged to sign-up as soon as possible. Registration forms and race information can be found online at www.steensrimrun.com or by visiting the Harney County Chamber of Commerce in Burns or the local Bureau of Land Management (BLM) office in Hines.

The Rim Run starts on the Steens Mountain Loop Road near Jackman Park Campground and finishes at the East Rim Overlook. The 10K course follows the east rim of the Steens Mountain, passing the headwaters of both Fish Creek and the Little Blitzen. As you run along the rim's edge, a number of high mountain views will make the run a memorable experience. The race offers a tremendous challenge starting at an elevation of 7,835 feet and finishing above 9,700 feet. The Rim Run is often noted as the toughest 10K in Oregon.

The walk and run races will begin at 9:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m., respectively. Participants should come dressed in attire appropriate for varying climates – weather conditions can range from hot and dry to snowy and windy, even in August, and especially at higher elevations. Complimentary fruit and beverages will be available at the finish line, and prizes will be awarded to top finishers in each age category as soon as the race is over.

A portion of the Steens Mountain Loop Road will be closed temporarily during the event. The area between Jackman Park Campground and the East Rim Overlook will be closed from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., preventing travel around the entire Loop Road for the period. Visitors are encouraged to be cautious of event participants and expect increased traffic in the area throughout the day.

Race sponsors for 2009 include Ruthie Miller and In His Image Photography, Hines Market, Gary and Jill Miller, Safeway, Emery and Sons Construction of Stayton, Oregon, Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative, the Harney County Chamber of Commerce, Jake Glerup Woodworks, and the Burns District BLM. All race proceeds will be donated to Hilander sports programs.

For more information, call Nick Miller at (541) 413-1997 or visit www.steensrimrun.com.

