

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: OR120-10-08**  
**April 20, 2010**

**Contact: Megan Harper (541) 751-4353**

## **Funding for Natural Resources Restoration/Maintenance Projects Available**

COOS BAY, Ore. – The public is invited to submit funding applications for Title II natural resources projects designed to benefit the land and resources of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Coos Bay District, and the rural economies of Douglas, Coos, and Curry Counties. Project applications should be submitted to Glenn Harkleroad at the BLM Coos Bay District Office by **June 4, 2010**.

The Coos Bay Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) is made up of citizens representing a wide variety of interests. They will meet later this summer to review the submitted projects and recommend to BLM which projects should be funded. Approximately \$3 million is available to fund beneficial projects. The RAC is expected to advise the Secretary of the Interior of their funding priorities by mid August, and the BLM will approve projects for funding by September 30, 2010. Funding for approved projects is expected to be available in January 2011.

The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, as reauthorized by the Emergency and Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, established a multi-year payment schedule to local counties in lieu of funds derived from the harvest of timber on federally-managed lands. The Act provides a mechanism for local community collaboration with Federal land management activities in the selection of projects to be conducted on federally managed lands using O&C/County funds under Title II of the Act. Projects on other lands that will benefit resources on federally-managed lands are also eligible for funding under the Act.

Applicants should be aware that the completion of National Environmental Policy Act documentation will be the responsibility of the applicant unless otherwise negotiated with the BLM. This requirement extends to projects conducted on privately-managed lands that are funded with Title II dollars. Questions about these documentation requirements should be directed to Steven Fowler, Coos Bay District Planner, at (541) 751-4475.

A copy of the Enabling Act of 2000, project submission forms, and additional information can be obtained at the Coos Bay RAC webpage at: [www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay/rac/index.php](http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay/rac/index.php) or by calling Glenn Harkleroad, Assistant Field Manager, at (541) 751-4361 or Megan Harper, District Public Affairs Officer, at (541) 751-4353.

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.

