

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: OR120-13-9**  
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**Contact: Megan Harper (541) 751-4353**

## **Public Invited to Visit Historic Rhododendron Garden**

**Reedsport, Ore.** – The historic O.H. Hinsdale Rhododendron Garden, east of Reedsport along Highway 38, will be open to the public on April 26, May 10 and May 24, 2014 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Coos Bay District staff and Friends of the Hinsdale Garden members will be on hand to answer questions and give tours.

“It will be a great opportunity for people to walk through the garden while it is in full bloom. It is very unique and pretty spectacular,” said Todd Buchholz, the BLM’s Umpqua Field Manager. The BLM, along with the American Rhododendron Society and the Friends group, have been working to restore the garden over the past several years. Visitors will be able to use new walking paths throughout the garden this year.

Those interested in visiting the garden should check-in at the interpretive kiosk at the Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area. Parking is limited at the garden and visitors will be shuttled to the garden.

The BLM acquired the rhododendron garden and Spruce Reach Island, across Highway 38 from the Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area, in 1994. The unique woodland garden is a historic resource that is potentially eligible for inclusion on the Natural Register of Historic Places. The garden contains hundreds of rhododendrons and azalea plants, some over 100 years old.

The open days are co-sponsored by the Friends of Hinsdale Garden, Douglas County CERT and the City of Reedsport.

Additional information about the public tours can be obtained by calling Mike Kelly or Megan Harper of the BLM at 541-756-0100, or by contacting the Friends of the Hinsdale Garden at [forhinsdalegarden@charter.net](mailto:forhinsdalegarden@charter.net)

### About BLM

The BLM manages more land – 245 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.

